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**SENATE BILL 5509**

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**State of Washington 66th Legislature 2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Zeiger, Hunt, and Kuderer; by request of Secretary of State

AN ACT Relating to names used by candidates in elections; and amending RCW 29A.24.060.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

**Sec.**  RCW 29A.24.060 and 2003 c 111 s 606 are each amended to read as follows:

When filing for office, a candidate shall file using the name appearing on the candidate's voter registration. A candidate may, separately indicate the manner in which ((~~he or she~~)) the candidate desires ((~~his or her~~)) the first, or given, name to be printed on the ballot. For ((~~filing purposes~~)) the ballot, a candidate may use a nickname by which ((~~he or she is~~)) the candidate is commonly known ((~~as his or her first name, but the last name shall be the name under which he or she is registered to vote~~)).

No candidate may:

(1) Use a nickname that denotes present or past occupation, including military rank;

(2) Use a nickname that denotes the candidate's position on issues or political affiliation;

(3) Use a nickname designed intentionally to mislead voters;

(4) Use a last name or surname that is different from the last name or surname that appears on the candidate's voter registration.

**--- END ---**