
HOUSE BILL 1032

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2019 Regular Session

By Representatives Walsh and Rude

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1 AN ACT Relating to amendatory format requirements for text of
2 initiatives; and amending RCW 29A.72.010, 29A.72.020, 29A.72.100, and
3 29A.72.170.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.72.010 and 2015 c 72 s 10 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 If any legal voter of the state, either individually or on behalf
8 of an organization, desires to petition the legislature to enact a
9 proposed measure, or submit a proposed initiative measure to the
10 people, or order that a referendum of all or part of any act, bill,
11 or law, passed by the legislature be submitted to the people, he or
12 she shall file with the secretary of state:

13 (1) A legible copy of the measure proposed in the amendatory
14 format required under RCW 29A.72.100, or the act or part of such act
15 on which a referendum is desired;

16 (2) A signed affidavit, or electronic submission, that the
17 sponsor is a registered voter; and

18 (3) A filing fee prescribed under RCW 43.07.120.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.72.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1803 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

1 Upon receipt of a proposed initiative measure, and before giving
2 it a serial number, the secretary of state shall submit a copy
3 thereof to the office of the code reviser and give notice to the
4 sponsor of such transmittal. Upon receipt of the measure, the
5 assistant code reviser to whom it has been assigned may confer with
6 the sponsor and shall within seven working days from its receipt,
7 review the proposal and recommend to the sponsor such revision or
8 alteration of the measure as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.
9 Except for recommendations directly relating to the amendatory format
10 required under RCW 29A.72.100, the recommendations of the code
11 reviser's office are advisory only, and the sponsor may accept or
12 reject them in whole or in part. The sponsor must accept the
13 recommendations of the code reviser's office that directly relate to
14 the amendatory format required under RCW 29A.72.100. The code reviser
15 shall issue a certificate of review certifying that he or she has
16 reviewed the measure and that any recommendations have been
17 communicated to the sponsor. The certificate must be issued whether
18 or not the sponsor accepts such recommendations. Within fifteen
19 working days after notification of submittal of the proposed measure
20 to the code reviser's office, the sponsor, if he or she desires to
21 proceed with sponsorship, shall file the measure, in the amendatory
22 format as required under RCW 29A.72.100, together with the
23 certificate of review with the secretary of state for assignment of a
24 serial number, and the secretary of state shall then submit to the
25 code reviser's office a certified copy of the measure filed. Upon
26 submission of the proposal to the secretary of state for assignment
27 of a serial number, the secretary of state shall refuse to make such
28 assignment unless the proposal is accompanied by a certificate of
29 review.

30 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.72.100 and 2003 c 111 s 1811 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1) The person proposing the measure shall print blank petitions
33 upon single sheets of paper of good writing quality (including but
34 not limited to newsprint) not less than eleven inches in width and
35 not less than fourteen inches in length. Each petition at the time of
36 circulating, signing, and filing with the secretary of state must
37 consist of not more than one sheet with numbered lines for not more
38 than twenty signatures, with the prescribed warning and title, be in
39 the form required by RCW 29A.72.110, 29A.72.120, or 29A.72.130, and

1 have a readable, full, true, and correct copy of the proposed measure
2 printed on the reverse side of the petition consistent with the
3 amendatory format required under subsection (2) of this section.

4 (2) The proposed measure printed on the reverse side of the
5 petition must be in the following format:

6 (a) Language proposed for deletion enclosed by double parentheses
7 with a line through the language proposed for deletion.

8 (b) Proposed new language underlined, except for new sections as
9 described under (c) of this subsection.

10 (c) Proposed new sections preceded by the caption "NEW SECTION."
11 typed in capital letters and underlined, including the period. The
12 language of these proposed new sections is not underlined.

13 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.72.170 and 2003 c 111 s 1818 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 The secretary of state may refuse to file any initiative or
16 referendum petition being submitted upon any of the following
17 grounds:

18 (1) That the petition does not contain the information required
19 by RCW 29A.72.110, 29A.72.120, or 29A.72.130.

20 (2) That the petition clearly bears insufficient signatures.

21 (3) That the time within which the petition may be filed has
22 expired.

23 (4) That the proposed measure printed on the reverse side of the
24 petition pursuant to RCW 29A.72.100 does not follow the amendatory
25 format required under RCW 29A.72.100.

26 In case of such refusal, the secretary of state shall endorse on
27 the petition the word "submitted" and the date, and retain the
28 petition pending appeal.

29 If none of the grounds for refusal exists, the secretary of state
30 must accept and file the petition.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** If any provision of this act or its
32 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
33 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
34 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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