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**SENATE BILL 5078**

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**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2019 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Kuderer, Hunt, Darneille, Saldaña, Conway, Frockt, Palumbo, Wellman, Pedersen, Mullet, and Van De Wege

Prefiled 01/04/19. Read first time 01/14/19. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring disclosure of federal income tax  
2 returns of presidential and vice presidential candidates prior to  
3 appearing on the ballot; and adding a new section to chapter 29A.56  
4 RCW.

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

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.56  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 (1) By sixty-three days before the presidential preference  
9 primary held under RCW 29A.56.020, all candidates for presidential  
10 nomination shall:

11 (a) Publicly release a copy of their federal income tax returns,  
12 as defined in 26 U.S.C. Sec. 6103(b)(1), for at least the five most  
13 recent taxable years for which a return has been filed with the  
14 internal revenue service; or

15 (b)(i) File with the secretary of state their federal income tax  
16 returns as described in (a) of this subsection; and

17 (ii) Provide written consent to the secretary of state, in a  
18 manner to be prescribed by the secretary of state by rule, for the  
19 public disclosure of such returns pursuant to this section.

20 (2) The secretary of state shall make federal income tax returns  
21 filed or released under this section publicly available on the

1 secretary of state's web site within seven days of receipt or  
2 release. The secretary of state may make additional schedules or  
3 forms filed under this section publicly available upon request. Prior  
4 to making any federal income tax returns public, the secretary of  
5 state shall redact such information contained in the returns as  
6 deemed needed in consultation with the director of the department of  
7 revenue.

8 (3) Presidential candidates who do not comply with the  
9 requirements of subsection (1) of this section may not appear on the  
10 presidential preference primary ballot.

11 (4) By sixty-three days before a general presidential election,  
12 all candidates for president and vice president shall comply with the  
13 requirements of subsection (1) of this section. Candidates for  
14 president or vice president who do not comply with the requirements  
15 of this subsection may not appear on the general election ballot.

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