

SENATE BILL 5144

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senator Metcalf.

Read first time January 22, 1991. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to presidential electors; amending RCW 29.71.020
2 and 29.71.040; and providing an effective date.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.71.020 and 1990 c 59 s 69 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 In the year in which a presidential election is held, each major
7 political party and each minor political party or independent candidate
8 convention held under chapter 29.24 RCW that nominates candidates for
9 president and vice-president of the United States shall nominate
10 presidential electors for this state. Each party shall nominate one
11 elector from each of the congressional districts of this state and two
12 electors at large to represent the whole state. The party or
13 convention shall file with the secretary of state a certificate signed
14 by the presiding officer of the convention at which the presidential

1 electors were chosen, listing the names and addresses of the
2 presidential electors. Each presidential elector shall execute and
3 file with the secretary of state a pledge that, as an elector, he or
4 she will vote for the candidates nominated by that party. The names of
5 presidential electors shall not appear on the ballots. The votes cast
6 for candidates for president and vice-president of each political party
7 shall be counted for the candidates for presidential electors of that
8 political party and tabulated both by congressional district and state-
9 wide.

10 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.71.040 and 1977 ex.s. c 238 s 2 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 The electors of the president and vice president shall convene at
13 the seat of government on the day fixed by federal statute, at the hour
14 of twelve o'clock noon of that day. If there is any vacancy in the
15 office of an elector occasioned by death, refusal to act, neglect to
16 attend, or otherwise, the electors present shall immediately proceed to
17 fill it by viva voce, and plurality of votes. When all of the electors
18 have appeared and the vacancies have been filled they shall constitute
19 the college of electors of the state of Washington, and shall proceed
20 to perform the duties required of them by the Constitution and laws of
21 the United States. The electors representing the congressional
22 districts shall each vote for the candidates who won the popular vote
23 in their individual districts, and the electors at large shall vote for
24 the candidates who won the popular vote on a state-wide basis. Any
25 elector who votes for a person or persons not nominated by the party of
26 which he or she is an elector shall be subject to a civil penalty of up
27 to a fine of one thousand dollars.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 1992.