
SENATE BILL 6110

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 1st Special Session

By Senator Prentice

Read first time 05/18/1999. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to timing of the presidential primary; and amending
2 RCW 29.19.020.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.19.020 and 1995 1st sp.s. c 20 s 1 are each amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) On the fourth Tuesday in May of each year in which a president
7 of the United States is to be nominated and elected, a presidential
8 primary shall be held at which voters may vote for the nominee of a
9 major political party for the office of president. ~~((The secretary of
10 state may propose an alternative date for the primary))~~ No later than
11 the first day of August of the year before the year in which a
12 president is to be nominated and elected, the secretary of state may
13 propose an alternative date for the presidential primary that is no
14 earlier than the first Tuesday in March of the year in which a
15 president is to be nominated and elected.

16 (2) No later than the first day of September of the year before the
17 year in which a presidential nominee is selected, the state committee
18 of any major political party that will use the primary results for
19 candidates of that party may propose an alternative date for that

1 primary that is no earlier than the first Tuesday in March of the year
2 in which a president is to be nominated and elected.

3 (3) If an alternative date is proposed under subsection (1) or (2)
4 of this section, a committee consisting of the chair and the vice-chair
5 of the state committee of each major political party, the secretary of
6 state, the majority leader and minority leader of the senate, and the
7 speaker and the minority leader of the house of representatives shall
8 meet and, if affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the
9 committee, the date of the primary shall be changed to the proposed
10 alternative date. The committee shall meet and decide on the proposed
11 alternate date not later than the first day of October of the year
12 before the year in which a presidential nominee is selected. The
13 secretary of state shall convene and preside over the meeting of the
14 committee. A committee member other than a legislator may appoint, in
15 writing, a designee to serve on his or her behalf. A legislator who is
16 a member of the committee may appoint, in writing, another legislator
17 to serve on his or her behalf.

18 (4) If an alternate date is approved under this section, the
19 secretary of state shall adopt rules under RCW 29.19.070 to adjust the
20 deadlines in RCW 29.19.030 and related provisions of this chapter to
21 correspond with the date that has been approved.

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