S-1707.1 _____

SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5746
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State of Washington   **59th Legislature**   **2005 Regular Session**

By Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Kastama, Berkey, Fairley, Benson, Prentice, Sheldon, Haugen, McAuliffe, Kline, Schmidt, Mulliken and Kohl-Welles; by request of Secretary of State)

READ FIRST TIME 02/21/05.

1   AN ACT Relating to requiring the state to assume a share of the
2 costs of state primary and general elections; and amending RCW
3 29A.04.216, 29A.04.420, 29A.04.430, and 29A.64.081; and adding a new
4 section to chapter 29A.64 RCW.

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

6   **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.04.216 and 2004 c 271 s 104 are each amended to
7 read as follows:
8   The county auditor of each county shall be ex officio the
9 supervisor of all primaries and elections, general or special, and it
10 shall be the county auditor's duty to provide places for holding such
11 primaries and elections; to appoint the precinct election officers and
12 to provide for their compensation; to provide the supplies and
13 materials necessary for the conduct of elections to the precinct
14 election officers; and to publish and post notices of calling such
15 primaries and elections in the manner provided by law. The notice of
16 a primary held in an even-numbered year must indicate that the office
17 of precinct committee officer will be on the ballot. The auditor shall
18 also apportion to each city, town, or district, and to the state of
19 Washington ((in the odd-numbered year)), its share of the expense of

1 such primaries and elections. This section does not apply to general
2 or special elections for any city, town, or district that is not
3 subject to RCW 29A.04.321 and 29A.04.330, but all such elections must
4 be held and conducted at the time, in the manner, and by the officials
5 (with such notice, requirements for filing for office, and
6 certifications by local officers) as provided and required by the laws
7 governing such elections.

8   **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.04.420 and 2003 c 111 s 147 are each amended to
9 read as follows:
10   (1) Whenever state officers or measures are voted upon at a state
11 primary or general election ((held in an odd-numbered year)) under RCW
12 ((29A.04.320)) 29A.04.321, the state of Washington shall assume a
13 prorated share of the costs of that state primary or general election.
14   (2) Whenever a primary or vacancy election is held to fill a
15 vacancy in the position of United States senator or United States
16 representative under chapter 29A.28 RCW, the state of Washington shall
17 assume a prorated share of the costs of that primary or vacancy
18 election.
19   (3) The county auditor shall apportion the state's share of these
20 expenses when prorating election costs under RCW 29A.04.410 and shall
21 file such expense claims with the secretary of state.
22   (4) The secretary of state shall include in his or her biennial
23 budget requests sufficient funds to carry out this section.
24 Reimbursements for election costs shall be from appropriations
25 specifically provided by law for that purpose.

26   **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.04.430 and 2003 c 111 s 148 are each amended to
27 read as follows:
28   ((For any reimbursement of election costs under RCW 29A.04.420, the
29 secretary of state shall pay interest at an annual rate equal to two
30 percentage points in excess of the discount rate on ninety-day
31 commercial paper in effect at the federal reserve bank in San Francisco
32 on the fifteenth day of the month immediately preceding the payment for
33 any period of time in excess of thirty days after the receipt of a
34 properly executed and documented voucher for such expenses and the
35 entry of an allotment from specifically appropriated funds for this

1 ~~purpose.~~))   The secretary of state shall promptly notify any county
2 that submits an incomplete or inaccurate voucher for reimbursement
3 under RCW 29A.04.420.

4   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.64 RCW
5 to read as follows:
6   If a mandatory recount is required under RCW 29A.64.021 for an
7 office where a candidate for the office must file the declaration of
8 candidacy with the secretary of state, the county auditor shall
9 determine the expense of conducting the recount and file an expense
10 claim for such costs with the secretary of state. The secretary of
11 state shall reimburse the county an amount equal to seventy-five
12 percent of the cost of the recount.

13   **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.64.081 and 2004 c 271 s 181 are each amended to
14 read as follows:
15   The canvassing board shall determine the expenses for conducting a
16 recount of votes.
17   The cost of the recount shall be deducted from the amount deposited
18 by the applicant for the recount at the time of filing the request for
19 the recount, and the balance shall be returned to the applicant. If
20 the costs of the recount exceed the deposit, the applicant shall pay
21 the difference. No charges may be deducted by the canvassing board
22 from the deposit for a recount if the recount changes the result of the
23 nomination or election for which the recount was ordered.
24   If the recount was requested for an office where a candidate for
25 the office must file the declaration of candidacy with the secretary of
26 state, and the recount changed the results of the primary or election,
27 the canvassing board shall file an expense claim for the costs of that
28 recount with the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall
29 reimburse the county an amount equal to seventy-five percent of the
30 cost of the recount.

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