
SENATE BILL 5392

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Swecker, Fairley and Murray

Read first time 01/18/2007. Referred to Committee on Government Operations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to changing the initiative filing fee; amending RCW
2 29A.72.010; and creating a new section.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that between the years
5 2000 and 2005, three hundred twenty-six initiatives were filed with the
6 secretary of state's office and twenty-one initiatives were certified
7 to the ballot. Each initiative filed requires the state to invest, at
8 a minimum, the time and resources to process the filed initiative in
9 the secretary of state's office, allow the code reviser to review draft
10 initiatives for errors, review for potential conflict with existing
11 statutes, and prepare a certificate of review for the initiative
12 sponsor. Additionally, the secretary of state's office assigns a
13 serial number to all initiatives and forwards the initiative to the
14 attorney general for formulation of the ballot title and summary.
15 After an initiative sponsor obtains and submits signatures, the
16 secretary of state must check the signatures to ascertain whether there
17 are sufficient signatures to qualify the measure for the ballot. The
18 legislature finds that the current initiative filing fee of five
19 dollars, originally set in 1912, is insufficient to offset the

1 administrative costs involved in the initiative process. Therefore, to
2 more adequately provide for the administrative costs involved in the
3 initiative process, it is the intent of the legislature to increase the
4 initiative filing fee to one hundred dollars. The filing fee shall be
5 refunded in full upon the initiative being certified by the secretary
6 of state for the general election ballot.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.72.010 and 2003 c 111 s 1802 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 If any legal voter of the state, either individually or on behalf
10 of an organization, desires to petition the legislature to enact a
11 proposed measure, or submit a proposed initiative measure to the
12 people, or order that a referendum of all or part of any act, bill, or
13 law, passed by the legislature be submitted to the people, he or she
14 shall file with the secretary of state a legible copy of the measure
15 proposed, or the act or part of such act on which a referendum is
16 desired, accompanied by an affidavit that the sponsor is a legal voter
17 and a filing fee (~~((prescribed under RCW 43.07.120))~~) of one hundred
18 dollars. The filing fee shall be refunded in full upon the measure
19 being certified by the secretary of state for the general election
20 ballot.

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