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HOUSE BILL 1470

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Koster, Haler, Griffey, Manweller, and Doglio; by request of Secretary of State

Read first time 01/20/17. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to declaration of candidacy; and amending RCW  
2 29A.24.070 and 29A.24.091.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.24.070 and 2009 c 106 s 1 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 Declarations of candidacy shall be filed with the following  
7 filing officers:

8 (1) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for  
9 statewide offices, United States senate, (~~and~~) United States house  
10 of representatives, and for the state legislature;

11 (2) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for  
12 (~~the state legislature,~~) the court of appeals, and the superior  
13 court when the candidate is seeking office in a district comprised of  
14 voters from two or more counties;

15 (3)(a) The county auditor for all other offices. For any  
16 nonpartisan office, other than judicial offices and school director  
17 in joint districts, where voters from a district comprising more than  
18 one county vote upon the candidates, a declaration of candidacy shall  
19 be filed with the county auditor of the county in which a majority of  
20 the registered voters of the district reside. For school directors in  
21 joint school districts, the declaration of candidacy shall be filed

1 with the county auditor of the county designated by the  
2 superintendent of public instruction as the county to which the joint  
3 school district is considered as belonging under RCW 28A.323.040.

4 (b) Each county auditor must provide access to the state  
5 electronic filing system for candidates filing electronically under  
6 RCW 29A.24.040.

7 Each official with whom declarations of candidacy are filed under  
8 this section, within one business day following the closing of the  
9 applicable filing period, shall transmit to the public disclosure  
10 commission the information required in RCW 29A.24.031 (1) through (4)  
11 for each declaration of candidacy filed in his or her office during  
12 such filing period or a list containing the name of each candidate  
13 who files such a declaration in his or her office during such filing  
14 period together with a precise identification of the position sought  
15 by each such candidate and the date on which each such declaration  
16 was filed. Such official, within three days following his or her  
17 receipt of any letter withdrawing a person's name as a candidate,  
18 shall also forward a copy of such withdrawal letter to the public  
19 disclosure commission.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.24.091 and 2009 c 106 s 2 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 A filing fee of ten dollars shall accompany the declaration of  
23 candidacy for any office with a fixed annual salary of one thousand  
24 dollars or less; a filing fee equal to one percent of the annual  
25 salary of the office at the time of filing shall accompany the  
26 declaration of candidacy for any office with a fixed annual salary of  
27 more than one thousand dollars per annum. No filing fee need  
28 accompany a declaration of candidacy for precinct committee officer  
29 or any office for which compensation is on a per diem or per meeting  
30 attended basis.

31 A candidate who lacks sufficient assets or income at the time of  
32 filing to pay the filing fee required by this section shall submit  
33 with his or her declaration of candidacy a filing fee petition. The  
34 petition shall contain not less than a number of signatures of  
35 registered voters equal to the number of dollars of the filing fee.  
36 The signatures shall be of voters registered to vote within the  
37 jurisdiction of the office for which the candidate is filing.

38 When the candidacy is for:

- 1           (1) A statewide office, the United States senate, or the United  
2 States house of representatives, the fee shall be paid to the  
3 secretary of state;
- 4           (2) A (~~legislative or~~) judicial office that includes territory  
5 from more than one county or a legislative office, the fee shall be  
6 paid to the secretary of state for equal division between the  
7 treasuries of the counties comprising (~~the~~) each district;
- 8           (3) A (~~legislative or~~) judicial office that includes territory  
9 from only one county, the fee shall be paid to the county auditor;
- 10          (4) A city or town office, the fee shall be paid to the county  
11 auditor who shall transmit it to the city or town clerk for deposit  
12 in the city or town treasury.

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