



Referendum Measure 39

CHAPTER 361, LAWS OF 1977, 1st EX. SESS.

Vote cast by the members of the 1977 Legislature on final passage:
HOUSE [98 members]: Yeas, 54; Nays, 34; Absent or not voting, 10.
SENATE [49 members]: Yeas, 25; Nays, 16; Absent or not voting, 8.

Statement for

QUALIFIED CITIZENS SHOULD NOT BE DENIED THEIR RIGHT TO VOTE

The primary goal of this proposal is to eliminate unnecessary obstacles to voting. Present voter registration procedures make voting unreasonably difficult for many citizens, particularly working people, the sick, the aged and the poor — people who do not have easy access to places of registration. According to information received from the Secretary of State's office, more than 400,000 Washington citizens are eligible but are not registered to vote.

REGISTERING TO VOTE NEED NOT BE MORE DIFFICULT THAN REGISTERING A NEW CAR

Passage of Referendum 39 will provide Washington citizens with a simple, efficient and inexpensive method of registering to vote. They will be able to register by mail in much the same way as almost half of the nation's voters in other states. Those who register during the month before an election will be able to vote in that election by absentee ballot. The accuracy and validity of registration applications will be checked and certified exactly as they are now.

THIS SAME SYSTEM IS NOW WORKING IN SEVENTEEN OTHER STATES

Based on a recent Ford Foundation study of mail registration systems used in Maryland and Minnesota, we can expect the following as direct results of passing Referendum 39:

- Registration costs will be cut by more than one-half.
- Frivolous and fraudulent registrations will be virtually nonexistent.
- The accuracy of registration records will be improved.
- The number of registered and participating voters will be increased.

VOTE YES ON REFERENDUM 39

Your "Yes" vote on Referendum 39 will affirm the principle that voting is a fundamental right of American citizens.

Official Ballot Title:

Shall certain changes be made in voter registration laws, including registration by mail and absentee voting on one day's registration?

The Law as it now exists:

Any citizen wishing to register to vote must appear before a registration officer and swear on oath that the information provided on the registration form is correct, that the citizen has not been denied his or her civil rights as a result of being convicted of an infamous crime and that the citizen will be at least 18 years of age

Rebuttal of Statement against

FRAUDULENT VOTER REGISTRATION IS A FELONY

Registering more than once to vote in an election is obviously not worth risking five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

VOTER FRAUD ATTEMPTS WILL BE QUICKLY DETECTED

Safeguards against error, fraud and duplication are stronger than those in present law. For example, a nonforwardable registration card will be mailed to each newly registered voter. If the card cannot be delivered because the name or address is incorrect or nonexistent, its automatic return to the county auditor will indicate possible fraud.

Voters' Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

JOHN R. HAWKINS, State Representative; GARY GRANT, State Senator; MARILYN KNIGHT, President, League of Women Voters of Washington.

Advisory Committee: JOE DAVIS, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO; CHARLES SAUVAGE, Common Cause/Washington State; RON DOTZAUER, Clark County Auditor; RICHARD GRECO, Pierce County Auditor; WILLIAM VOGLER, Grays Harbor County Auditor.

at the time of the next election. A citizen registering to vote may have to establish his or her identity by producing either a social security card, driver's license, Washington state identification card, credit card containing the signature and/or photograph of the applicant, or identification issued by the United States, any state, or any other agency which contains the signature and/or photograph of the applicant. If the registration officer has any doubt as to whether the citizen is at least 18 years of age, or will be at the time of voting, the officer may require the applicant to produce a record which establishes the date of birth. No person may vote in any election unless he or she has been registered for at least 30 days before that election.

The effect of Referendum 39, if approved into Law:

The 1977 legislature added a new method for registering to vote. That new method has been referred to the voters as Referendum No. 39. If the referendum is approved, citizens wishing to register to vote may do so by requesting a voter registration form from the appropriate county auditor and mailing it in, as an alternative to

appearing in person before certain designated registration officers. The voter registration form will require the citizen to give his or her full name, the address of the last former registration of the citizen in the state, the sex, date of birth, place of residence for voting purposes and the daytime telephone number, if any, of the applicant. In order to vote at the regular precinct polling place, the form must be received by the county auditor at least 30 days prior to the primary or other election. If the period between registering to vote and the primary or other election is less than 30 days, the referendum will allow the citizen to vote but only by absentee ballot.

NOTE: The ballot title and explanatory statement were written by the Attorney General as required by state law. The complete text of Referendum Measure 39 begins on Page 34.

Statement against

Referendum 39 will promote an enormous potential for error, fraud, and duplication. Just to cite one example, a voter could easily register 50 times under 50 different names, request 50 absentee ballots, and in the privacy and convenience of his own home fraudulently cast those 50 votes. Keep elections honest. Vote "no" on Referendum 39.

Rebuttal of Statement for

Postcard voter registration will *increase* costs to taxpayers according to many county auditors.

Proponents did not cite even one specific state where postcard registration has improved voter turnout.

County auditors presently utilize numerous deputy registrars, which makes in-person registration easy for all citizens.

Bills have been introduced in some states to *repeal* postcard registration laws, because of charges of fraud and duplicate registrations.

Frivolous registrations will demean and undermine the dignity of our election process.

Voters' Pamphlet Statement Prepared by:

KENT PULLEN, State Senator; S. E. "SID" FLANAGAN, State Representative; R. H. "BOB" LEWIS, State Senator.

Advisory Committee: EARL MILLER, Chelan County Auditor; WILLIAM F. WERTZ, JR., U.S. Labor Party; VERNON W. OHLAND, Spokane County Auditor; ERIC RORHBACH, State Senator; KENNETH O. EIKENBERRY, Republican State Central Committee.

Sec. 18. Section 49, chapter 83, Laws of 1967 ex. sess. as last amended by section 19, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.26.424 are each amended to read as follows:

Bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427 shall distinctly state that they are a general obligation of the state of Washington, shall pledge the full faith and credit of the state to the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon~~(=)~~ and shall contain an unconditional promise to pay such principal and interest as the same shall become due. The principal and interest on such bonds shall be first payable in the manner provided in RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427 from the proceeds of state excise taxes on motor vehicle ~~((and special))~~ fuels imposed by chapter ~~((#))~~ 82.36~~(= 82.37, and 82.38)~~ RCW and chapter 82.40 RCW. The proceeds of such excise taxes are hereby pledged to the payment of any bonds and the interest thereon issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427, and the legislature hereby agrees to continue to impose the same excise taxes on motor vehicle ~~((and special))~~ fuels in amounts sufficient to pay, when due, the principal and interest on all bonds issued under the provisions of RCW 47.26.420 through 47.26.427.

Sec. 19. Section 50, chapter 83, Laws of 1967 ex. sess. and amended by section 20, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.26.425 are each amended to read as follows:

Any funds required to repay ~~((the first authorization of two hundred million dollars of))~~ such bonds ~~((authorized by RCW 47.26.420, as amended by section 18 of this 1977 amendatory act))~~ or the interest thereon when due, subject to the proviso of this section, shall be taken from that portion of the motor vehicle fund which results from the imposition of excise taxes on motor vehicle ~~((and special))~~ fuels and which is distributed to the urban arterial trust account in the motor vehicle fund, and shall never constitute a charge against any allocations of any other such funds in the motor vehicle fund to the state, counties, cities~~(=)~~ and towns unless and until the amount of the motor vehicle fund arising from the excise tax on motor vehicle ~~((and special))~~ fuels and distributed to the urban arterial trust account proves insufficient to meet the requirements for bond retirement or interest on any such bonds.

Sec. 20. Section 14, chapter 83, Laws of 1967 ex. sess. as amended by section 22, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.26.080 are each amended to read as follows:

There is hereby created in the motor vehicle fund the urban arterial trust account. All moneys deposited in the motor vehicle fund to be credited to the urban arterial trust account shall be expended for the construction and improvement of city arterial streets and county arterial roads within urban areas, for expenses of the urban arterial board, or for the payment of principal or interest on bonds issued for the purpose of constructing or improving city arterial streets and county arterial roads within urban areas~~(= or for reimbursement to the state, counties, cities, and towns in accordance with section 21 of this 1977 amendatory act, the amount of any payments made on principal or interest on urban arterial trust account bonds from motor vehicle or special fuel tax revenues which were distributable to the state, counties, cities, and towns))~~.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. The following acts or parts of acts are each hereby repealed:

(1) Section 6, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 82.36.____;

(2) Section 10, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 46.68.____;

(3) Section 21, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. and RCW 47.26.4251;

(4) Section 23, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. (uncodified); and

(5) Section 24, chapter 317, Laws of 1977 1st ex. sess. (uncodified).

of voter registration within the county and shall be the custodian of all official voter registration records for that county.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. The secretary of state shall design a unified voter registration form, compatible with existing records, which will permit the applicant to conveniently prepare, on a single card, an original registration, an initiative signature card as required by section 14 of this 1977 amendatory act, and a cancellation of any prior registration in this state. The applicant shall enter the required information, other than his or her signature, no more than one time. The form shall also contain instructions on its use, a notification of filing deadlines specified by section 16 of this 1977 amendatory act, a warning to the applicant of the penalty for knowingly supplying false information, and space for the county auditor to enter the voter's precinct identification, taxing district identification, and registration number. The reverse side of the form shall be printed to permit mailing to the county auditor.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. Registration forms necessary to carry out the registration of voters as provided by this chapter shall be furnished by the secretary of state without cost to the respective counties.

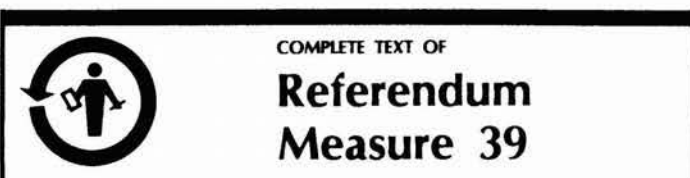
NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. The original voter registration records for all precincts within each county shall be filed alphabetically without regard to precincts in the office of the county auditor and shall not be open to public inspection. The information from such records, with the exception of date of birth, shall be available for public inspection and copying as provided in RCW 29.04.100 and 29.04.110.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 10. Each county auditor shall maintain a computer file on magnetic tape or disk, punched cards, or other form of data storage containing the records of all registered voters within the county. Where it is necessary or advisable, the auditor may provide for the maintenance of such files by private contract or through interlocal agreement as provided by chapter 39.34 RCW, as now or hereafter amended. The computer file shall include, but not be limited to, each voter's name, residence address, sex, date of registration, applicable taxing district and precinct codes, and the last five consecutive dates on which the individual has voted: PROVIDED, That if the voter has not voted at least five times since establishing his or her current registration record, only the available dates shall be included. The county auditor shall subsequently record each consecutive date upon which the individual votes and retain at least the last five such consecutive dates. The computer file of voter registration records shall be arranged so that individual precinct lists of registered voters may be prepared containing only the names, and other information required by this section, listed alphabetically by the surnames of the voters in that precinct.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 11. There is established in the state general fund an account, entitled the voter registration assistance account, to be used to compensate county auditors in counties with fewer than twelve thousand registered voters at the time of the most recent state general election, for unrecoverable costs incident to the maintenance of voter registration records on electronic data processing systems. The secretary of state shall administer the voter registration assistance account and authorize the payments therefrom under such rules as he may prescribe. County auditors in counties entitled to this compensation shall be paid annually an amount equal to thirty cents for each registered voter in that county at the time of the most recent state general election.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 12. The expense of voter registration and the maintenance of voter registration records shall be apportioned between the county and the cities and towns within that county according to the number of voters registered in all rural areas of the county and in each city and town, respectively, at the time of the last state general election.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 13. The county auditor shall be responsible for the distribution of voter registration forms by which a person may register to vote and cancel any previous registration in the state. Registrations submitted on such voter registration forms need not be subscribed to by the county auditor or a deputized registrar. The county auditor shall keep an adequate supply of voter registration forms in his or her office at all times for political parties and others interested in assisting in voter registration, and he or she shall make every effort to make these forms generally available to the public through government offices, businesses, labor union offices, schools, and any other locations necessary to extend registration opportunities to all areas of the county. After the initial distribution of voter registration forms to a given location, it shall be the duty of a representative designated at that location by that office, business, union, school, firm, or other establishment to notify the county auditor of the need for additional supplies of voter registration forms.



NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. In all counties, all voters shall be registered in accordance with the provisions of this chapter. For the purpose of this chapter, "county auditor" shall have the meaning ascribed to that term by RCW 29.04.095(1). The county auditor shall be responsible for the conduct

NEW SECTION. Sec. 14. An applicant for registration shall record on the registration form the following items concerning his or her qualifications as a voter of this state, and of the county, city, town, and precinct in which he or she applies for registration:

(1) The address of his or her last former registration as a voter in this state, if applicable;

(2) His or her full name;

(3) His or her sex;

(4) His or her date of birth;

(5) His or her place of residence for voting purposes, giving the street and number, or post office box and physical description sufficient to determine location; and

(6) His or her daytime telephone number, if any. After completing this information concerning his or her qualifications, the applicant shall sign a statement in the following form: "I, the undersigned, hereby declare that the facts set forth relating to my qualifications as a voter are true. I further declare that I am a citizen of the United States, that I am not presently denied my civil rights as a result of being convicted of an infamous crime, that I will have lived in this state, county, and precinct thirty days immediately preceding the next election at which I offer to vote, and that I will be at least eighteen years of age at the time of voting."

The applicant shall also sign his or her name upon a separate portion of the voter registration card, to be designated as an initiative signature card, which also contains spaces for his or her surname, followed by his or her given name or names, the names of the county and city or town, with post office or street address, the date on which the individual registered, and the name or number of the precinct in which the voter is registered.

The voter registration form shall provide, in a conspicuous place, the following warning: "Any person who knowingly supplies false information on this voter registration form or who knowingly makes a false declaration as to his or her qualifications for registration shall be guilty of a class C felony."

NEW SECTION. Sec. 15. Upon receipt of a completed voter registration form, the county auditor shall immediately examine the form to see that the applicant for registration is not currently registered in that county and shall record on the form the precinct identification, taxing district identification, and other information required by law. Except as provided in section 16 of this 1977 amendatory act, the county auditor, within thirty days of receipt of a voter registration form, shall send to the applicant by first class mail a voter registration card identifying his or her current precinct and containing such other information as may be prescribed by the secretary of state. If the voter registration form is incomplete or incorrect the county auditor, within fifteen days of receipt of such form, shall so notify the applicant, and if necessary, send him or her a new voter registration form. The post office shall be instructed not to forward this form or any voter registration card to any other address and to return to the county auditor all undelivered forms and voter registration cards.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 16. To be included among the records of a given precinct for any primary or election, the applicant's voter registration form must be received not later than thirty days prior to that primary or election. An applicant for voter registration whose otherwise complete and correct application is received less than thirty days prior to a primary or election shall be notified by the county auditor that he or she is not eligible to vote in such primary or election at a regular precinct polling place, explaining that he or she may vote an absentee ballot for said primary or election under section 19 of this 1977 amendatory act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 17. At least thirty-five days prior to each primary or election, the county auditor shall give notice that, in order to be eligible to vote in that election at a regular precinct polling place, an original voter registration form or a request for transfer must be received not later than thirty days prior to that primary or election.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 18. Any qualified elector temporarily residing outside of the county of his or her permanent residence but within the state of Washington, may submit a registration form to the auditor of the county in which he or she is temporarily residing in the manner provided in this chapter. The county auditor receiving the voter registration forms as provided in section 15 of this 1977 amendatory act shall transmit the forms to the county auditor of the county where the applicant permanently resides. A voter registration form received from another county shall be processed immediately by the county auditor of the place of permanent residence of the applicant in the manner provided in sections 15 and 16 of this 1977 amendatory act.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 19. Any otherwise qualified elector whose otherwise complete and correct application for voter registration is received by the county auditor less than thirty days prior to a primary or election, general or special, may apply prior to the day of any such primary or election in person to the office of the county auditor of the county of his or her residence for a special absentee ballot for such election or primary. The auditor shall register the individual in the manner provided in this chapter, but the registration shall not be effective until thirty days after its execution. The auditor, after the twenty-first day before the election in which the individual intends to vote, shall issue the individual an absentee ballot for any election which occurs before the effectiveness of the individual's registration. This absentee ballot shall be of the same form and shall be processed and canvassed in the same manner as other absentee ballots under chapter 29.36 RCW, as now or hereafter amended.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. On the first Monday of each calendar month the county auditor shall transmit all initiative signature cards which have been received in his or her office during the prior month to the secretary of state for filing in his office. Each lot must be accompanied by the certificate of the county auditor that the cards so transmitted are the original cards, and that the voters are registered in the precincts and from the addresses shown thereon.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. The initiative signature cards shall be kept on file in the office of the secretary of state in such manner as will be most convenient for, and for the sole purpose of, checking initiative and referendum petitions. They shall not be open to public inspection or be used for any other purpose.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. Prior to each primary or election, the county auditor shall prepare a precinct list of registered voters for each precinct in which that primary or election is to be conducted and a certificate as to the authenticity of those records. He or she shall deliver the precinct list of registered voters and the certificate to the inspector or one of the judges of the appropriate precinct at the proper polling place as provided by RCW 29.48.030, as now or hereafter amended.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. The precinct list of registered voters for each precinct, delivered to the precinct election officers for use on the day of a primary or an election held in that precinct, shall be returned by them to the county auditor upon the closing of the polling place or at the completion of the count of the votes cast in that precinct at the primary or election. The lists shall be retained by the county auditor for a period of at least one year following the election. These records shall be open to public inspection under such rules as the county auditor may prescribe.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 24. The secretary of state, as chief election officer, shall adopt rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter to:

(1) Provide the specifications, including style, form, color, quality, and dimensions of the cards, records, forms, lists, and other supplies to be used in recording and maintaining voter registration records;

(2) Establish standards and procedures for the maintenance of voter registration records on electronic data processing systems and the use of voter registration information in the conduct of elections; and

(3) Facilitate the registration of voters in an orderly manner and assist county auditors in the performance of their responsibilities under this chapter.

He or she shall provide planning, coordination, training, and other assistance to county auditors to facilitate the maintenance of voter registration records on electronic data processing systems and the use of voter registration in the conduct of elections.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 25. Sections 6 through 24 of this 1977 amendatory act shall constitute a new chapter in Title 29 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 111. *The following acts or parts of acts are each hereby repealed:*

(NOTE: The material in italics is not part of the text of the referendum; it is printed here only to clarify the effect of the remaining portion of this section.)

(1) Section 29.07.010, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 4, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.010;

(2) Section 29.07.020, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 5, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.020;

(3) Section 29.07.030, chapter 9, Laws of 1965 and RCW 29.07.030;

(4) Section 29.07.040, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 6, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.040;

(5) Section 29.07.050, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 7, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.050;

(6) Section 29.07.060, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 8, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 1, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess.

and RCW 29.07.060;

(7) Section 2, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.065;

(8) Section 29.07.070, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 9, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 3, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.070;

(9) Section 29.07.080, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 10, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 4, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.080;

(10) Section 29.07.090, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 11, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 5, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.090;

(11) Section 2, chapter 153, Laws of 1973, section 1, chapter 184, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.092;

(12) Section 29.07.095, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 12, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 6, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.095;

(13) Section 29.07.100, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 13, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.100;

(14) Section 29.07.105, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 14, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.105;

(15) Section 29.07.110, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 15, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.110;

(16) Section 23, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.115;

(17) Section 29.07.120, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 16, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.120;

(18) Section 29.07.130, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 17, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.130;

(19) Section 29.07.140, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 18, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 7, chapter 21, Laws of 1973 1st ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.140;

(20) Section 29.07.150, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 19, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.150;

(21) Section 29.07.160, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 20, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess., section 4, chapter 127, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.160;

(22) Section 29.07.170, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 21, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.170;

(23) Section 29.07.180, chapter 9, Laws of 1965, section 22, chapter 202, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.180;

(24) Section 12, chapter 127, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.220;

(25) Section 13, chapter 127, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.230;

(26) Section 14, chapter 127, Laws of 1974 ex. sess. and RCW 29.07.240;

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is established a Washington state women's commission in the office of the governor. Upon the effective date of this act, the Washington state women's commission shall replace the Washington state women's council, and all equipment, files, and records of the council shall be transferred to the commission.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. (1) The commission shall consist of fourteen members appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. Two members of the senate, not of the same political party, appointed by the president of the senate, and two members of the house of representatives, not of the same political party, appointed by the speaker of the house, shall serve as advisory members. The governor shall consider nominations for membership based upon maintaining a balanced distribution of ethnic, geographic, sex, age, and occupational representation, where practicable.

(2) All women's commission members shall serve at the pleasure of the governor, but in no case shall any member serve more than three years without formal reappointment by the governor. All legislative advisory members shall serve for a two year term, and the position of any legislative advisory member shall be deemed vacated whenever such member ceases to be a member of the house from which he or she was appointed. Of the persons initially appointed by the governor to the women's commission, five shall be appointed to serve one year, five to serve two years, and four to serve three years. Upon expiration of such terms, subsequent appointments shall be for three years. Any vacancies occurring in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointments.

(3) Members shall be reimbursed for subsistence, lodging, and transportation expenses incurred in the performance of their duties in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060 as now existing or hereafter amended.

(4) Fifty percent of the membership plus one shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business.

(5) The governor shall appoint an executive director of the commission.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. The executive director shall appoint a staff who shall be state employees pursuant to Title 41 RCW.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. The commission shall adopt, pursuant to chapter 34.04 RCW, the Administrative Procedure Act, rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. (1) The commission shall examine and define issues pertaining to the rights and needs of all women and make recommendations to the governor, the legislature, and state agencies with respect to desirable changes in programs, laws, and administrative practices.

(2) The commission shall further advise such state agencies on the development and implementation of comprehensive and coordinated policies, plans, and programs focusing on the special problems and needs of women.

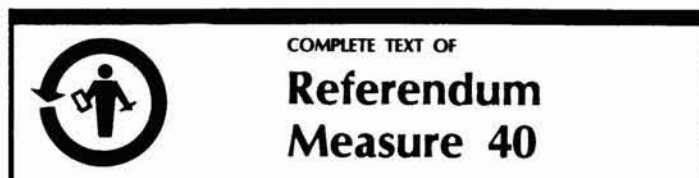
(3) The commission is authorized to gather data and disseminate information to the public in order to implement the purposes of this chapter.

(4) Each state department and agency shall provide appropriate and reasonable assistance to the commission as needed in order that the commission may carry out the purposes of this chapter.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. In carrying out its duties the commission may establish such relationships with public and private institutions, local governments, private industry, community organizations, and other segments of the general public as may be needed to promote equal opportunity for women in government, education, economic security, employment, and services.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. The commission shall have authority to receive such gifts, grants, and endowments from private sources as may be made from time to time in trust or otherwise for the use and benefit of the purposes of the commission and to expend the same or any income therefrom according to the terms of said gifts, grants, or endowments, and the purposes of this chapter. The executive director shall make a report of such funds received from private sources to the legislative budget committee on a current basis. Such funds received from private sources shall not be applied to reduce or substitute for the commission's budget as appropriated by the legislature, but, shall be applied and expended toward projects and functions authorized by this chapter which were not funded by the legislature.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 9. If any provision of this act, or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act, or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.



AN ACT Relating to state government; creating the Washington state women's commission; creating a new chapter in Title 43 RCW; making an appropriation; and providing an expiration date for the Washington state women's commission.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. The legislature reaffirms that the public policy of this state is to insure equal opportunity for all of its citizens. The legislature finds that women have unique and special problems. It is the purpose of this chapter to improve the status and well-being of women by insuring their full and equal participation in government, business and education and recognizing their contribution to the home, family, and community. The legislature further finds that it is desirable to direct a continuing evaluation and study of state laws and rules as they affect women; and further, to encourage the education of the citizens of this state in respect to public policy as it relates to the diverse pursuits of women, and to encourage the promotion of equality. Therefore, the legislature deems it necessary to create a commission to carry out the purposes of this chapter.