

Initiative Measure No. 1639, filed May 2, 2018

AN ACT Relating to creating and funding citizen's initiatives.

adding new sections to chapter 29A.72 RCW; creating new sections; prescribing penalties; and providing effective dates.

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

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** INTENT. Initiatives are inherently designed to benefit the citizens of Washington State. When the Legislature fails to provide legal and lawful safety standards for the citizens, the citizens have the legal recourse to address this legislative failure through the initiative process. Just as the elected Legislature has the right to create and pass laws, the citizens of Washington State also retain this right.

In order to prevent non-resident person, persons, and/or outside organizations and special interest groups to promote and fund initiatives that are not desired, nor supported by a grass roots effort by the legal residents and voters of Washington State, Washington State residents and registered voters demand the right to be the sole source in promoting, funding or seeking any citizen sponsored initiative.

Washington State residents and voters possess sufficient knowledge and expertise to know what's good for themselves without relying on outside entities promoting and buying new laws that benefit those same outside interests because said entities, public or private, have unlimited funding to essentially buy a new law that benefits those same outside entities yet provides no benefits to the states residents.

Therefore, to increase public safety for all Washingtonians,

this measure would, among other things: Define who may fund a citizens sponsored initiative, place limits on where funding for said initiatives may be derived from and the amount of funding by any single individual or entity.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** SHORT TITLE. This act may be known and cited as the public initiative act.

**Sec. 3.** REGISTERED VOTER AND RESIDENT DEFINED. A registered voter and lawful resident of Washington State shall meet one or more of the following requirements in order to be qualified to submit an initiative to the State under chapter 29A.72 RCW;

- 1) Maintains a residence in Washington for personal use
- 2) Lives in a motor home or vessel which is not permanently attached to any property if the person previously lived in this state and does not have a permanent residence in any other state
- 3) Is registered to vote in this state
- 4) Receives benefits under one of Washington's public assistance programs
- 5) Has a state professional or business license in this state
- 6) Is attending school in this state and paying tuition as a Washington resident
- 7) Uses a Washington address for federal or state taxes
- 8) Has a Washington State driver's license

**Sec. 4.** CITIZEN SPONSORED INITIATIVES. Any Washington State legally registered voter or resident of Washington State, as defined under Sec. 3, may create an initiative and submit it to the proper agencies to be placed on the ballot as prescribed by laws under Chapter 29A.72 RCW; STATE INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

- 1) Any and all citizen sponsored initiatives must be sponsored by a current registered voter and resident in and of Washington State as defined per Sec. 3.

**Sec. 5. DRAFTING OF ANY CITIZEN CREATED OR SPONSORED INITIATIVE.**

Any Washington State legally registered voter and resident of Washington State, creating an initiative for submission to the State per chapter 29A.72 RCW, must be created by any of the following;

- 1) A Washington State registered voter
- 2) A lawful Washington State resident
- 3) Companies that have a legal and lawful business presence in Washington State for the previous 5 years
  - i. The company must have filed and reported state taxes in the state for the same period of time.
  - ii. The company may not and shall not be a shell company.
  - iii. The company must be licensed to do business in the State of Washington and said license must be current.
  - iv. The company must be registered with the State of Washington.
  - v. The company must possess a UBC number???

**Sec. 6. FUNDING OF INITIATIVES.** Any and all funding of any Washington State initiative shall be only from Washington State registered voters, current residents and businesses that are properly licensed to conduct business in the State of Washington under Section 5 subsection 3, i. through v. only. No in state political action committees, political parties, organization(s), out of state businesses, out of state political action committees, out of state political parties, out of state organizations may contribute any funds in any form or manner.

**SEC. 7. Funding Limits**

- 1) Any Washington State registered voter, current resident,

and businesses that are properly and currently licensed to conduct business in the State of Washington under Section 5 subsection 3, i. through v. may contribute funds to an initiative in amounts not to exceed as described below for any single initiative.

- i. Each individual Washington State registered voter, or current resident, may contribute up to and including one-thousand dollars per initiative.
- ii. Each individual Washington State registered voter, or current resident, may contribute to different numbered initiatives for the same one-thousand dollars amount.
- iii. No Washington State registered voter, or current resident, may contribute more than once to any initiative in the year the initiative is on the ballot.
- iv. Each Washington State licensed business may contribute up to and including five-thousand dollars per initiative provided the business meets the defined conditions in Section 5 subsection 3, i. through v.
- v. Each Washington State licensed business may contribute up to and including five-thousand dollars to different numbered initiatives for the same five-thousand dollars amount.
- vi. No Washington State licensed business may contribute more than once to any initiative in the year the initiative is on the ballot.