

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Barnhart, Berger, Beyer, Esquivel, Freeman, Garrett, Holvey, Wingard, Kotek, Olson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Cheyenne Ross, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/21, 2/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Permits printing names of political parties and word ‘incumbent,’ if applicable, *with* candidate name on ballot, instead of specifying printing *opposite* or *following* candidate name. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Cost of ballot preparation
- Differences in complexity, accounting for all the various parts of ballots
- Concern about use of abbreviations becoming norm, instead of exception
- Process for determining abbreviation for political party name
- Potential for voter confusion

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Current law requires that the names of political parties and the word “incumbent,” if applicable, be printed in particular places on ballots – opposite a candidate’s name, and following a candidate’s name. House Bill 4173 requires the same information be printed *with* a candidate’s name.