

SB 670 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 3/13, 5/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Prohibits name of Secretary of State, county clerk or other filing officer from appearing in official capacity in voters' pamphlet or on return identification envelope, secrecy envelope or any instructions or materials included with ballot, if Secretary, clerk or officer is candidate in election.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Level playing field; fairness
- Elected vs. appointed county clerks

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Authorizes Secretary of State to include name, office and signature on cover of voters' pamphlet.

BACKGROUND:

In 2016, Washington state prohibited state and local elections officials from including their name, in an official capacity as the elections official, in the voters' pamphlet or on the security envelope, return envelope or any voting instructions or materials included with the ballot, if the official is a candidate for office during the same year. See, e.g. R.C.W. 29A.32.070. Senate Bill 670 A applies a similar rule to Oregon's state and local election officials.