

INITIATIVE 313

I, Sam Reed, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 313 to the Legislature is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

1 AN ACT Relating to definitions of major and minor political
2 parties; amending RCW 29.01.090, 29.01.100, 29A.04.085, and 29A.04.097;
3 providing an effective date; and providing an expiration date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.01.090 and 1977 ex.s. c 329 s 9 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 "Major political party" means a political party (~~(of which at least~~
8 ~~one nominee for president, vice president, United States senator, or a~~
9 ~~statewide office received at least five percent of the total vote cast~~
10 ~~at the last preceding state general election in an even-numbered year:~~
11 ~~PROVIDED, That any political party qualifying as a major political~~
12 ~~party under the previous subsection (2) or subsection (3) of this~~
13 ~~section prior to its 1977 amendment shall retain such status until~~
14 ~~after the next state general election following June 30, 1977)) other~~
15 than a minor political party. A major political party remains a major
16 political party until it qualifies under RCW 29.01.100 as a minor
17 political party.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.01.100 and 1965 c 9 s 29.01.100 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) "Minor political party" means (~~(a political organization other~~
4 ~~than a major political party)~~) either:

5 (a) A political party of which no nominee for president, vice
6 president, United States senator, or a statewide office has received at
7 least five percent of the total vote cast at the last preceding state
8 general election in an even-numbered year; or

9 (b) Any political party that has filed a written declaration of
10 minor party status with the secretary of state: PROVIDED, Such
11 declaration is filed within six months after an election in which the
12 party fails to qualify for minor party status under RCW 29.01.100(1);
13 or

14 (c) Any political party that files a written declaration of minor
15 party status with the secretary of state before May 30, 2004.

16 (2) A written declaration of minor party status is effective only
17 until the following state general election in an even-numbered year.

18 (3) Only a party's chair, with the consent of a majority of the
19 members of its state central committee, is authorized to file a valid
20 declaration of minor party status.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.04.085 and 2003 c 111 s 115 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 "Major political party" means a political party (~~(of which at least~~
24 ~~one nominee for president, vice president, United States senator, or a~~
25 ~~statewide office received at least five percent of the total vote cast~~
26 ~~at the last preceding state general election in an even-numbered year.~~
27 ~~A political party qualifying as a major political party under this~~
28 ~~section retains such status until the next even-year election at which~~
29 ~~a candidate of that party does not achieve at least five percent of the~~
30 ~~vote for one of the previously specified offices. If none of these~~
31 ~~offices appear on the ballot in an even-year general election, the~~
32 ~~major party retains its status as a major party through that election))~~
33 other than a minor political party. A major political party remains a
34 major political party until it qualifies under RCW 29A.04.097 as a
35 minor political party.

36 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.04.097 and 2003 c 111 s 116 are each amended to
37 read as follows:

1 "Minor political party" means (~~a political organization other than~~
2 ~~a major political party~~) either:

3 (a) A political party of which no nominee for president, vice
4 president, United States senator, or a statewide office has received at
5 least five percent of the total vote cast at the last preceding state
6 general election in an even-numbered year; or

7 (b) Any political party that has filed a written declaration of
8 minor party status with the secretary of state: PROVIDED, Such
9 declaration is filed within six months after an election in which the
10 party fails to qualify for minor party status under RCW 29A.04.097(1);
11 or

12 (c) Any political party that files a written declaration of minor
13 party status with the secretary of state before May 30, 2004.

14 (2) A written declaration of minor party status is effective only
15 until the following state general election in an even-numbered year.

16 (3) Only a party's chair, with the consent of a majority of the
17 members of its state central committee, is authorized to file a valid
18 declaration of minor party status.

19 NEW SECTION. Sec. 5. Sections 1 and 2 of this act expire July 1,
20 2004.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. Sections 3 and 4 of this act take effect
22 July 1, 2004.

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