

S.F. No. 0128 Election runoffs.

Sponsored By: Senator(s) Meier and Representative(s) Clem,
Jaggi and Madden

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring a runoff election after a primary election for specified statewide offices when no candidate receives a majority of the vote; requiring that runoff elections be conducted by mail ballot; changing the date for primary elections; amending election related time lines; specifying procedures; conforming existing statutes; and providing for an effective date.

1/26/2015 Bill Number Assigned
1/28/2015 S Received for Introduction
1/28/2015 S Introduced and Referred to S07 - Corporations
2/5/2015 Corporations:Recommend Amend and Do Pass 5-0-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Senator(s) Case, Hicks, Meier, Pappas, Scott
Ayes 5 **Nays** 0 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/5/2015 S Placed on General File
2/5/2015 S COW Rerefer to S02 - Appropriations
2/6/2015 Appropriations:Do Pass Failed 2-3-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Senator(s) Burns, Hastert
Nays: Senator(s) Perkins, Ross, Wasserburger
Ayes 2 **Nays** 3 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0

2/6/2015 S Placed on General File

SF0128SS001/ADOPTED

Page 1-line 1 After "elections;" delete balance of line and insert "creating a task force; providing task force duties; providing for a report; providing appropriations;".

Page 1-lines 2 through 6 Delete.

Page 1-line 7 Delete through "statutes;".

Page 1-line 12 through page 17-line 20 Delete and insert:

"Section 1.

(a) There is created a task force on special runoff elections consisting of the following members:

(i) The secretary of state or the secretary's designee;

(ii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming senate appointed by the president of the senate, one (1) of whom shall be designated as cochairman;

(iii) Two (2) members of the Wyoming house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house, one (1) of whom shall be designated as cochairman;

(iv) Five (5) members appointed by the governor. Three (3) of the governor's appointees shall be currently serving county clerks, one (1) of whom is from a county having a municipality with a population greater than fifteen thousand (15,000) people and one (1) of whom is from a county having a largest municipality with a population of fifteen thousand (15,000) or fewer people. Two (2) of the

governor's appointees shall be members of the public at large who represent the interests of the public in maintaining the integrity of the electoral process.

(b) The task force shall study and develop recommendations for an effective, secure and cost efficient method of conducting runoff elections or alternatives to runoff elections, including systems where the primary is nonpartisan with the top two (2) candidates advancing to the general election, for either the five (5) statewide elected officials or the three (3) United States congressional offices, or both. The task force may consider extending a similar or other system to legislative elections and separately to local partisan elections.

(c) The task force shall report its recommendations, including any recommended statutory changes, to the joint corporations, elections and political subdivisions interim committee before its last scheduled meeting before the 2016 budget session.

(d) The task force shall be staffed by the governor's office. The University of Wyoming shall serve in an advisory capacity to the task force and shall provide technical and other relevant information and assistance to the task force as requested.

(e) The task force shall exist until December 31, 2015. Members of the task force who are not state employees or legislators shall not receive a salary but shall receive reimbursement for mileage and per diem expenses at the rate provided for legislators under W.S. 28-5-101. Members of the task force who are legislators shall be paid salary, per diem and mileage as provided in W.S. 28-5-101 for their official duties as members of the task force.

(h) There is appropriated from the general fund for the calendar year 2015:

(i) Twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) to the legislative service office for payment of salary, per diem and mileage for legislative task force members;

(ii) Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) to the governor's office for payment of authorized per diem and mileage for nonlegislative task force members.

Section 2. This act is effective immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming Constitution." CASE, CHAIRMAN

2/9/2015 S COW Failed 10-20-0-0-0

ROLL CALL

Ayes: Senator(s) Case, Craft, Esquibel, Geis, Hastert, Hicks, Meier, Pappas, Rothfuss, Scott

Nays: Senator(s) Anderson, J.D.(SD02), Anderson, J.L.(SD28), Barnard, Bebout, Burns, Christensen, Coe, Cooper, Dockstader, Driskill, Emerich, Johnson, Kinskey, Landen, Nicholas Pres, Perkins, Peterson, Ross, Von Flatern, Wasserburger

Ayes 10 **Nays** 20 **Excused** 0 **Absent** 0 **Conflicts** 0