

**SB 670 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Carrier:** Sen. Taylor

**Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Action Date:** 05/06/19

**Action:** Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Vote:** 3-0-2-0

**Yeas:** 3 - Burdick, Dembrow, Roblan

**Exc:** 2 - Baertschiger Jr, Boquist

**Fiscal:** No fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No revenue impact

**Prepared By:** Josh Nasbe, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 3/13, 5/6

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**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. Provides exception for statement on cover of voters' pamphlet.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

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

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

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., RCW 29A.32.070. Senate Bill 670 A applies a similar rule to Oregon's state and local election officials.