

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1117

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO INITIATIVE PETITIONS; AMENDING SECTION 34-1812, IDAHO CODE, TO
2 REQUIRE AN UPDATED FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT FROM THE DIVISION OF FINAN-
3 CIAL MANAGEMENT AND TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION; AMENDING SECTION
4 34-1812A, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A FILING DEADLINE; AMENDING SECTION
5 34-1812B, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE A FILING DEADLINE; AND DECLARING AN
6 EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. That Section 34-1812, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
10 amended to read as follows:

11 34-1812. FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENTS. (1) After receiving a copy of an
12 initiative petition from the secretary of state as provided in section
13 34-1804, Idaho Code, the division of financial management, in consultation
14 with any other appropriate state or local agency, shall prepare an unbiased,
15 good faith statement of the fiscal impact of the law proposed by the ini-
16 tiative. The division of financial management shall complete the initial
17 fiscal impact statement and file it with the secretary of state's office
18 within twenty (20) working days of having received the initiative petition
19 from the secretary of state's office. The secretary of state shall immedi-
20 ately transmit a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the person or
21 persons who filed the initiative petition pursuant to section 34-1804, Idaho
22 Code.

23 (2) If the person or persons who filed the initiative petition modify
24 the initiative petition pursuant to section 34-1809(2), Idaho Code, after
25 receiving the certificate of review and initial fiscal impact statement, the
26 secretary of state shall notify the division of financial management of the
27 modified initiative petition. Within ten (10) working days, the division of
28 financial management shall either submit an updated fiscal impact statement
29 to the secretary of state's office reflecting such modifications or notify
30 the secretary of state that the modifications did not alter the fiscal impact
31 of the law proposed by the initiative petition reflected in the initial fis-
32 cal impact statement.

33 ~~(2)~~ (3) A fiscal impact statement shall describe any projected increase
34 or decrease in revenues, costs, expenditures, or indebtedness that the state
35 or local governments will experience if the ballot measure is approved by the
36 voters. ~~The~~ A fiscal impact statement shall include both immediate expected
37 fiscal impacts and an estimate of any state or local government long-term fi-
38 nancial implications. A fiscal impact statement must be written in clear and
39 concise language and shall avoid legal and technical terms whenever possi-
40 ble. Where appropriate, a fiscal impact statement may include both esti-
41 mated dollar amounts and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts
42 into context.

1 ~~(3)~~ (4) A fiscal impact statement must include both a summary of the
 2 fiscal impact statement, not to exceed one hundred (100) words, and a more
 3 detailed statement of fiscal impact that includes the assumptions that were
 4 made to develop the fiscal impact statement. When collecting signatures,
 5 a signature gatherer shall offer a copy of the fiscal impact statement sum-
 6 mary, along with a copy of the initiative and the sponsor's proposed funding
 7 source information, to the elector for review before signing.

8 (5) No later than July 20 in the year an initiative petition with the
 9 requisite number of signatures attached has been properly filed with the
 10 secretary of state pursuant to section 34-1802(4), Idaho Code, the division
 11 of financial management shall file with the secretary of state a final fiscal
 12 impact statement, updated with the most accurate and up-to-date information
 13 concerning the fiscal impact of the law proposed by such initiative peti-
 14 tion. The secretary of state shall immediately transmit a copy of the final
 15 fiscal impact statement to the person or persons who filed the initiative
 16 petition pursuant to section 34-1804, Idaho Code.

17 (6) The final fiscal impact statement summary and the sponsor's pro-
 18 posed funding source information shall also be published in the state vot-
 19 ers' pamphlet and on the official ballot. The final fiscal impact statement
 20 summary, and the detailed fiscal impact statement, pursuant to subsection
 21 (4) of this section and the sponsor's proposed funding source information
 22 shall be made available to the public on the secretary of state's website no
 23 later than August 1.

24 ~~(4)~~ (7) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a city or
 25 county ballot initiative.

26 SECTION 2. That Section 34-1812A, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
 27 amended to read as follows:

28 34-1812A. ARGUMENTS CONCERNING INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM MEA-
 29 SURES. Any voter or group of voters may on or before July ~~20~~ 31 prepare and
 30 file an argument, not to exceed five hundred (500) words, for or against any
 31 measure. Such argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the name
 32 and address or names and addresses of the person or persons submitting it,
 33 or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name and address of the
 34 organization and the names and addresses of at least two (2) of its principal
 35 officers.

36 If more than one (1) argument for or more than one (1) argument against
 37 any measure is filed within the time prescribed, the secretary of state shall
 38 select one (1) of the arguments for printing in the voters' pamphlets. In se-
 39 lecting the argument the secretary of state shall be required to give prior-
 40 ity in the order named to the arguments of the following:

- 41 (1) The proponent of the initiative or referendum petition.
- 42 (2) Bona fide associations of citizens.
- 43 (3) Individual voters.

44 SECTION 3. That Section 34-1812B, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
 45 amended to read as follows:

46 34-1812B. SUBMISSION OF REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS. When the secretary of
 47 state has received the arguments which will be printed in the voters' pam-

1 phlet, the secretary of state shall immediately send copies of the arguments
2 in favor of the proposition to the authors of the arguments against and
3 copies of the arguments against to the authors of the arguments in favor. The
4 authors may prepare and submit rebuttal arguments not exceeding two hundred
5 and fifty (250) words. The rebuttal arguments must be filed no later than
6 August ± 10. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the
7 direct arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the di-
8 rect argument which it seeks to rebut.

9 SECTION 4. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
10 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
11 July 1, 2025.