

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1047

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) A fiscal impact statement shall describe any projected increase or  
24 decrease in revenues, costs, expenditures, or indebtedness that the state or  
25 local governments will experience if the ballot measure is approved by the  
26 voters. ~~The~~ A fiscal impact statement shall include both immediate expected  
27 fiscal impacts and an estimate of any state or local government long-term fi-  
28 nancial implications. A fiscal impact statement must be written in clear and  
29 concise language and shall avoid legal and technical terms whenever possi-  
30 ble. Where appropriate, a fiscal impact statement may include both esti-  
31 mated dollar amounts and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts  
32 into context.

33 (3) A fiscal impact statement must include both a summary of the fis-  
34 cal impact statement, not to exceed one hundred (100) words, and a more de-  
35 tailed statement of fiscal impact that includes the assumptions that were  
36 made to develop the fiscal impact statement. When collecting signatures,  
37 a signature gatherer shall offer a copy of the fiscal impact statement sum-  
38 mary, along with a copy of the initiative and the sponsor's proposed funding  
39 source information, to the elector for review before signing.

40 (4) No later than July 20 in the year an initiative petition with the  
41 requisite number of signatures attached has been properly filed with the  
42 secretary of state pursuant to section 34-1802(4), Idaho Code, the division

1 of financial management shall file with the secretary of state a final fiscal  
 2 impact statement, updated with the most accurate and up-to-date information  
 3 concerning the fiscal impact of the law proposed by such initiative peti-  
 4 tion. The secretary of state shall immediately transmit a copy of the final  
 5 fiscal impact statement to the person or persons who filed the initiative  
 6 petition pursuant to section 34-1804, Idaho Code.

7 (5) The final fiscal impact statement summary and the sponsor's pro-  
 8 posed funding source information shall also be published in the state vot-  
 9 ers' pamphlet and on the official ballot. The final fiscal impact statement  
 10 summary, and the detailed fiscal impact statement, pursuant to subsection  
 11 (4) of this section and the sponsor's proposed funding source information  
 12 shall be made available to the public on the secretary of state's website no  
 13 later than August 1.

14 ~~(4)~~ (6) The provisions of this section shall not apply to a city or  
 15 county ballot initiative.

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

18 34-1812A. ARGUMENTS CONCERNING INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM MEA-  
 19 SURES. Any voter or group of voters may on or before July ~~20~~ 31 prepare and  
 20 file an argument, not to exceed five hundred (500) words, for or against any  
 21 measure. Such argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the name  
 22 and address or names and addresses of the person or persons submitting it,  
 23 or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name and address of the  
 24 organization and the names and addresses of at least two (2) of its principal  
 25 officers.

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

- 31 (1) The proponent of the initiative or referendum petition.
- 32 (2) Bona fide associations of citizens.
- 33 (3) Individual voters.

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

36 34-1812B. SUBMISSION OF REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS. When the secretary of  
 37 state has received the arguments which will be printed in the voters' pam-  
 38 phlet, the secretary of state shall immediately send copies of the arguments  
 39 in favor of the proposition to the authors of the arguments against and  
 40 copies of the arguments against to the authors of the arguments in favor. The  
 41 authors may prepare and submit rebuttal arguments not exceeding two hundred  
 42 and fifty (250) words. The rebuttal arguments must be filed no later than  
 43 August ~~±~~ 10. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the  
 44 direct arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the di-  
 45 rect argument which it seeks to rebut.

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