

2025 SENATE STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SCR 4016

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

State and Local Government Committee
Room JW216, State Capitol

SCR 4016
2/21/2025

Directing the Legislative Management to consider studying primary election procedures applying to partisan races and whether the use of a separate ballot based on political party would enrich the primary election held in the state.

9:47 a.m. Chair Roers called the hearing to order.

Members Present: Chairman Roers; Vice Chair Castaneda; Senators: Barta, Braunberger, Lee and Walen.

Discussion Topics:

- Political party primary ballot
- Costs involved
- Spoiled ballots

9:47 a.m. Senator Walen, District 4, introduced the concurrent resolution and submitted testimony #38326.

9:56 a.m. Senator Barta moved Do Pass.

9:56 a.m. Senator Walen seconded the motion.

Senators	Vote
Senator Kristin Roers	Y
Senator Jose L. Castaneda	Y
Senator Jeff Barta	Y
Senator Ryan Braunberger	Y
Senator Judy Lee	Y
Senator Chuck Walen	Y

Motion Passed 6-0-0

Senator Walen will carry the bill.

10:00 a.m. Chair Roers closed the hearing.

Susan Helbling, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
SCR 4016 ([25.3081.01000](#))

State and Local Government Committee (Sen. Roers, Chairman) recommends **DO PASS** (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). SCR 4016 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar. This resolution does not affect workforce development.

Testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution

Februaury 21, 2025

Sponsor Chuck Walen, Senator D4

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701-421-2262

Chairman Roers and members of the committee

For the record my name is Chuck Walen Senator for District 4

I am here to sponsor and introduce SCR 4016

Senate Concurrent Resolution 4016 is a study based on my SB 2178 that we voted DO Not Pass and we killed it on the floor by my request to have separate ballots by political party for the primary elections.

SB 2178 stated A Voter must request the political party primary ballot of their choice from the election officials. The official would mark on the record which party they gave to the voter.

One side of the ballot would be the political party the individual requested and the reverse side may include non-partisan races, ballot issues and other measures.

The purpose was to help prevent spoiled ballots of cross party voting in a primary election.

2nd it was to allow those who are allowed by current law to request the primary voters record to see which party ballot has been requested. This would help political parties and candidates to identify potential members of their party and help target those individuals who they may contact for advertising, recruitment and other needs. This bill was not intended to create any type of party voter registration.

I do request I do pass on a study of this issue with SCR 4016

Chairman Roers and members of the committee this concludes my testimony.
I stand for any questions you may have