# Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research



## **State Government & Tribal Affairs Committee**

### **HB 2495**

**Brief Description**: Modifying provisions relating to the tabulation of ballots.

**Sponsors**: Representatives White, Roberts, Dickerson, Carlyle, Springer, Miloscia, Nelson, Simpson and Dunshee.

#### **Brief Summary of Bill**

- Allows for tabulation of ballots to commence beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the Monday before the primary or election.
- Requires tabulation results to be secret until after 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary or election.

Hearing Date: 1/12/10

Staff: Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

#### Background:

County auditors may begin opening and processing absentee ballots as soon as the ballots are received. Tabulation of ballots may not begin until after 8:00 p.m. on election day. Returned absentee ballots must be placed in secure storage until tabulation begins.

#### **Summary of Bill:**

Tabulation of absentee ballots may begin at 8:00 am on the Monday immediately before the day of the primary or election. Results must be kept secret until after 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

**Appropriation**: None.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

**Effective Date**: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.