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SENATE BILL 5165

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State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2011 Regular Session

By Senators Schoesler, Pridemore, and Holmquist Newbry

Read first time 01/17/11. Referred to Committee on Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to limiting changes to commissioner districts  
2 during commissioner elections and election filing periods; and amending  
3 RCW 36.32.020.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.32.020 and 1982 c 226 s 4 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7 The board of county commissioners of each county shall divide their  
8 county into three commissioner districts so that each district shall  
9 comprise as nearly as possible one-third of the population of the  
10 county: PROVIDED, That the territory comprised in any voting precincts  
11 of such districts shall remain compact, and shall not be divided by the  
12 lines of said districts.

13 However, the commissioners of any county composed entirely of  
14 islands and with a population of less than thirty-five thousand may  
15 divide their county into three commissioner districts without regard to  
16 population, except that if any single island is included in more than  
17 one district, the districts on such island shall comprise, as nearly as  
18 possible, equal populations.

1       The lines of the districts shall not be changed (~~oftener~~) more  
2 than once in four years and only when a full board of commissioners is  
3 present. The lines of the districts shall not be changed during the  
4 period beginning the earlier of either thirty days prior to the mail-in  
5 filing period or any portion of the filing period of the county's  
6 commissioner election, and ending the day after the certification of  
7 the county's commissioner election, during the calendar year. The  
8 districts shall be designated as districts numbered one, two, and  
9 three.

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