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HOUSE BILL 1927

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Representatives Costa, Radcliff, Jacobsen, Scott, Blanton, Cole, Dickerson and Cairnes

Read first time 02/15/95. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to electing precinct committee officers; and  
2 amending RCW 29.42.050 and 29.36.030.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.42.050 and 1991 c 363 s 34 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 The statutory requirements for filing as a candidate at the  
7 primaries shall apply to candidates for precinct committee officer  
8 except that the filing period for this office alone shall be extended  
9 to and include the Friday immediately following the last day for  
10 political parties to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW  
11 29.18.150, and the office shall not be voted upon at the primaries, but  
12 the names of all candidates must appear under the proper party and  
13 office designations on the ballot for the general November election for  
14 each even-numbered year and the one receiving the highest number of  
15 votes shall be declared elected(~~(:—PROVIDED, That to be declared~~  
16 ~~electd, a candidate must receive at least ten percent of the number of~~  
17 ~~votes cast for the candidate of the candidate's party receiving the~~  
18 ~~greatest number of votes in the precinct)). Any person elected to the  
19 office of precinct committee officer who has not filed a declaration of~~

1 candidacy shall pay the fee of one dollar to the county auditor for a  
2 certificate of election. The term of office of precinct committee  
3 officer shall be for two years, commencing upon completion of the  
4 official canvass of votes by the county canvassing board of election  
5 returns. Should any vacancy occur in this office by reason of death,  
6 resignation, or disqualification of the incumbent, or because of  
7 failure to elect, the respective county chair of the county central  
8 committee shall be empowered to fill such vacancy by appointment:  
9 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in legislative districts having a majority of  
10 its precincts in a county with a population of one million or more,  
11 such appointment shall be made only upon the recommendation of the  
12 legislative district chair: PROVIDED, That the person so appointed  
13 shall have the same qualifications as candidates when filing for  
14 election to such office for such precinct: PROVIDED FURTHER, That when  
15 a vacancy in the office of precinct committee officer exists because of  
16 failure to elect at a state general election, such vacancy shall not be  
17 filled until after the organization meeting of the county central  
18 committee and the new county chair selected as provided by RCW  
19 29.42.030.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.36.030 and 1991 c 81 s 31 are each amended to read  
21 as follows:

22 If the information contained in a request for an absentee ballot  
23 received by the county auditor is complete and correct and the  
24 applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state law, the county  
25 auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the primary or election for  
26 which the absentee ballot was requested. Otherwise, the county auditor  
27 shall notify the applicant of the reason or reasons why the request  
28 cannot be accepted.

29 At each general election in an even-numbered year, each absentee  
30 voter shall also be given a separate ballot containing the names of the  
31 candidates that have filed for the office of precinct committee officer  
32 (~~unless fewer than two candidates have filed for the same political~~  
33 ~~party in the absentee voter's precinct)). The ballot shall provide~~  
34 space for writing in the name of additional candidates.

35 When mailing an absentee ballot to a registered voter temporarily  
36 outside the state or to an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or  
37 service voter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the state  
38 voters' and candidates' pamphlet with the absentee ballot. The county

1 auditor shall mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters  
2 outside the territorial limits of the United States and the District of  
3 Columbia under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

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