

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

## Bill Analysis

Bill No. HB 1288

Determining candidates on primary ballots.

Brief title

Hearing Date 2/2/99

Reps D. Schmidt and Romero

Sponsor(s)

Staff Steve Andin

State Government Committee

Phone 786-7127

### BACKGROUND:

The order of names of candidates on any election ballot for a primary or general election is selected by lot. All ballots printed with a single order of candidates for each position. However, candidate names are rotated on any partisan office, the office of superintendent of instruction, and judicial office ballots primaries.

This rotation of names for these offices is accomplished by taking the first name on the list of candidates for the position and moving it to the last position and moving each other name up to the position immediately prior to it. This rotation occurs as many times as there are candidates for a position. As nearly as possible the same number of ballots are printed with each different order of candidates. However, if the ballot presented voters from the same precinct do not vote at a polling place, they appear in the same order.

### SUMMARY:

The rotation of names of candidates for partisan offices, superintendent of instruction, and judicial office ballots primaries is eliminated. A single order of names of candidates for those positions appearing on ballots is determined by lot.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Not requested.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session which bill passed.