

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bill Analysis

Bill No. HB 1950

Facilitating the transfer of voter registration information.

Brief title

Hearing Date 2/26/99

Reps McMorris and Miloscia

Sponsor(s)

Staff Steve Andin

State Government Committee

Phone 786-7127

BACKGROUND:

Several different procedures exist to maintain voter registration lists.

Each county auditor must use a general maintenance program to remove names from the lists using change-of-address mail, direct return mail, or other methods. Each registered voter and other methods.

Names are removed from the inactive voter list within two years after being notified of being placed on the inactive list. The voter fails to vote, fails to notify the auditor of a change of address, fails to confirm the address still lives at the registered address, fails to sign a petition that includes signatures verified by the auditor.

Deceased registered voters are removed from voter registration lists using information from newspaper obituaries signed by registered voters. Other registered voters are deceased and compared to voter registration lists with the names of persons who have died that are supplied by registrars from the state's death certificates.

SUMMARY:

The Secretary of State is required to create a standard electronic format for voter registration information to be transferred between counties and the Secretary of State. Every county is required to convert voter registration data into this format by January 2000 and bill reasonable programming costs to the office of the Secretary of State by June 2000.

FISCAL NOTE: Not requested.

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