

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SENATE BILL 6529**

Chapter 108, Laws of 2002

57th Legislature  
2002 Regular Session

ELECTIONS--VACANCIES IN OFFICE

EFFECTIVE DATE: 6/13/02

Passed by the Senate February 13, 2002  
YEAS 48 NAYS 0

BRAD OWEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House March 6, 2002  
YEAS 93 NAYS 0

FRANK CHOPP

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Speaker of the  
House of Representatives**

CERTIFICATE

I, Tony M. Cook, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SENATE BILL 6529** as passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

TONY M. COOK

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Secretary**

Approved March 22, 2002

FILED

March 22, 2002 - 1:05 p.m.

GARY LOCKE

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**Governor of the State of Washington**

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SENATE BILL 6529**

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Passed Legislature - 2002 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2002 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Gardner and Haugen

Read first time 01/21/2002. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to holding or lapsing elections due to vacancies in  
2 public office; and amending RCW 29.15.190 and 42.12.040.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.15.190 and 1975-'76 2nd ex.s. c 120 s 12 are each  
5 amended to read as follows:

6 A scheduled election shall be lapsed, the office deemed stricken  
7 from the ballot, no purported write-in votes counted, and no candidate  
8 certified as elected, when:

9 (1) In an election for judge of the supreme court or superintendent  
10 of public instruction, a void in candidacy occurs on or after the  
11 (~~fourth~~) sixth Tuesday prior to a primary, public filings and the  
12 primary being an indispensable phase of the election process for such  
13 offices;

14 (2) Except as otherwise specified in RCW 29.15.180, as now or  
15 hereafter amended, a nominee for judge of the superior court entitled  
16 to a certificate of election pursuant to Article 4, section 29,  
17 Amendment 41 of the state Constitution dies or is disqualified on or  
18 after the (~~fourth~~) sixth Tuesday prior to a primary;

1       (3) In other elections for nonpartisan office a void in candidacy  
2 occurs or a vacancy occurs involving an unexpired term to be filled on  
3 or after the ((fourth)) sixth Tuesday prior to an election.

4       **Sec. 2.** RCW 42.12.040 and 1981 c 180 s 1 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6       If a vacancy occurs in any partisan elective office in the  
7 executive or legislative branches of state government or in any  
8 partisan county elective office before the ((fourth)) sixth Tuesday  
9 prior to the primary for the next general election following the  
10 occurrence of the vacancy, a successor shall be elected to that office  
11 at that general election. Except during the last year of the term of  
12 office, if such a vacancy occurs on or after the ((fourth)) sixth  
13 Tuesday prior to the primary for that general election, the election of  
14 the successor shall occur at the next succeeding general election. The  
15 elected successor shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired  
16 term. This section shall not apply to any vacancy occurring in a  
17 charter county which has charter provisions inconsistent with this  
18 section.

Passed the Senate February 13, 2002.

Passed the House March 6, 2002.

Approved by the Governor March 22, 2002.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 22, 2002.