

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1222

Chapter 110, Laws of 2003

58th Legislature
2003 Regular Session

VOTER ACCESSIBILITY

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/27/03

Passed by the House March 11, 2003
Yeas 93 Nays 0

FRANK CHOPP

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed by the Senate April 15, 2003
Yeas 46 Nays 0

BRAD OWEN

President of the Senate

Approved May 7, 2003.

GARY LOCKE

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Cynthia Zehnder, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1222** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

CYNTHIA ZEHNDER

Chief Clerk

FILED

May 7, 2003 - 2:24 p.m.

**Secretary of State
State of Washington**

SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1222

Passed Legislature - 2003 Regular Session

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2003 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Dickerson, Ruderman, Lovick, Romero, Schual-Berke, Hunt, Nixon, Wood, Conway, Simpson, Chase and Haigh)

READ FIRST TIME 02/25/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to voter accessibility; and adding a new section to
2 chapter 29.33 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29.33 RCW
5 to read as follows:

6 (1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules and establish
7 standards for voting technology and systems used by the state or any
8 political subdivision to be accessible for individuals with
9 disabilities, including nonvisual accessibility for the blind and
10 visually impaired, in a manner that provides the same opportunity for
11 access and participation, including privacy and independence, as other
12 voters.

13 (2) At each polling location, at least one voting unit certified by
14 the secretary of state shall provide access to individuals who are
15 blind or visually impaired.

16 (3) Compliance with this provision in regard to voting technology
17 and systems purchased prior to the effective date of this section shall
18 be achieved at the time of procurement of an upgrade of technology

1 compatible with nonvisual voting methods or replacement of existing
2 voting equipment or systems.

3 (4) Compliance with subsections (2) and (3) of this section is
4 contingent on available funds to implement this provision.

5 (5) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

6 (a) "Accessible" includes receiving, using, selecting, and
7 manipulating voter data and controls.

8 (b) "Nonvisual" includes synthesized speech, Braille, and other
9 output methods.

10 (c) "Blind and visually impaired" excludes persons who are both
11 deaf and blind.

12 (6) This section does not apply to voting by absentee ballot.

Passed by the House March 11, 2003.

Passed by the Senate April 15, 2003.

Approved by the Governor May 7, 2003.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 7, 2003.