

SHB 1567 - H AMD 231

By Representative Koster

NOT CONSIDERED 01/05/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

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4 "Sec. 1. RCW 29A.16.040 and 2011 c 349 s 5 and 2011 c 10 s 26
5 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 (1) The county legislative authority of each county in the state
7 shall divide the county into election precincts and establish the
8 boundaries of the precincts. The auditor of each county may
9 recommend in writing any adjustment to the division of election
10 precincts or precinct boundaries to the county legislative authority
11 at least forty-five days prior to the date found in subsection (2)
12 of this section. If the county legislative authority does not
13 formally reject or adopt a modification to the auditor's
14 recommendation within forty-five days, the auditor's recommendation
15 is adopted.

16 ~~((1))~~ (2) Precinct boundaries may be altered at any time as
17 long as sufficient time exists prior to a given election for the
18 necessary procedural steps to be honored. Except as permitted under
19 subsection ~~((3))~~ (4) of this section, no precinct changes may be
20 made during the period starting ~~((fourteen))~~ seven days prior to the
21 first day for candidates to file for the primary election and ending
22 with the day of the general election.

23 ~~((2))~~ (3) The county ~~((legislative authority may establish by~~
24 ~~ordinance a limitation on the))~~ maximum number of active registered
25 voters in each precinct ~~((within its jurisdiction. The number may be~~
26 ~~less than the number established by law, but in no case may the~~

27

1 ~~number exceed~~) is one thousand five hundred active registered
2 voters.

3 ~~((3))~~ (4) The county auditor shall temporarily adjust precinct
4 boundaries when a city or town annexes unincorporated territory to
5 the city or town, or whenever unincorporated territory is
6 incorporated as a city or town. The adjustment must be made as soon
7 as possible after the approval of the annexation or incorporation.
8 The temporary adjustment must be limited to the minimum changes
9 necessary to accommodate the addition of the territory to the city
10 or town, or to establish the eligible voters within the boundaries
11 of the new city or town, and remains in effect only until precinct
12 boundary modifications reflecting the annexation or incorporation
13 are officially adopted by the county legislative authority as set
14 forth in subsection (1) of this section.

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16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.16.050 and 2003 c 111 s 405 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 (1) Every voting precinct must be wholly within a single
19 congressional district, a single legislative district, a single
20 district of a county legislative authority(~~(, and, if applicable, a~~
21 ~~single city)~~). Every voting precinct must be either wholly outside
22 of any city or town, or wholly within a single city or town and,
23 where applicable, a single council district or ward of that city or
24 town.

25 (2) Every voting precinct shall be composed, as nearly as
26 practicable, of contiguous and compact areas. Subject to the
27 restrictions on precinct boundaries in subsection (1) of this
28 section and the maximum registered voter count established in RCW
29 29A.16.040(2), (a) an unincorporated area entirely surrounded by one
30 or more cities or towns, or an unincorporated area lying between the
31 boundaries of one or more cities or towns and the boundary of a
32 county, congressional district, legislative district, or county
33 legislative authority district, may be included in a single precinct
34 with other such areas or with nearby unincorporated territory, and

1 (b) incorporated areas that are not contiguous with the remainder of
2 the city or town of which they are a part may be included in the
3 geographically nearest precinct belonging to that city or town.

4 ~~(3) ((Except as provided in this subsection, changes to the~~
5 ~~boundaries of any)) Precinct ((shall)) boundaries must~~
6 ~~preferentially follow local jurisdiction and electoral district~~
7 ~~boundaries and visible, physical features ((delineated on the most~~
8 ~~current maps provided by the United States census bureau. A change~~
9 ~~need not follow such visible, physical features if (a) it is~~
10 ~~necessitated by an annexation or incorporation and the proposed~~
11 ~~precinct boundary is identical to an exterior boundary of the~~
12 ~~annexed or incorporated area which does not follow a visible,~~
13 ~~physical feature; or (b) doing so would substantially impair~~
14 ~~election administration in the involved area)).~~

15 ~~(4) ((After a change to precinct boundaries is adopted by the~~
16 ~~county legislative authority, if the change does not follow visible~~
17 ~~physical features, the county auditor shall send to the secretary of~~
18 ~~state an electronic or paper copy of the description, a map or maps~~
19 ~~of the changes, and a statement of the applicable exception under~~
20 ~~subsection (3) of this section. For boundary changes made pursuant~~
21 ~~to subsection (3)(b) of this section, the auditor shall include a~~
22 ~~statement of the reasons why following visible, physical features~~
23 ~~would have substantially impaired election administration.~~

24 ~~(5))~~ Every voting precinct within each county shall be
25 designated by number for the purpose of preparation of maps and the
26 tabulation of population for apportionment purposes. These precincts
27 may be identified with names or other numbers for other election
28 purposes.

29 ~~((6) After a change to precinct boundaries in a city or town,~~
30 ~~the county auditor shall send one copy of the map or maps~~
31 ~~delineating the new precinct boundaries within that city or town to~~
32 ~~the city or town clerk.~~

33 ~~(7))~~ (5) Precinct maps are public records and shall be
34 available for inspection by the public during normal office hours in

1 the offices where they are kept. Copies shall be made available to
2 the public for a fee necessary to cover the cost of reproduction."

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4 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Restores submission and adoption deadlines for
redistricting plans.

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