

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SSB 5472

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Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Requiring ballot drop boxes in all communities.

**Sponsors:** Senate Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Senator Pearson).

**Senate Committee on State Government**

**House Committee on State Government, Elections & Information Technology**

**Background:** Each county auditor must establish a voting center that must remain open during business hours 18 days before an election and until 8:00 p.m. on election day. The voting center must provide voter registration materials, replacement ballots, provisional ballots, disability access voting devices, sample ballots, instructions on how to vote using the ballot, a ballot drop box, and voters' pamphlets—if published. The voting center must be accessible to persons with disabilities and must provide at least one voting unit that provides access to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

County auditors are permitted to provide election services at locations in addition to the required voting center, including additional ballot drop boxes. The services provided at the additional locations, and the days and hours the additional locations are open, are at the county auditor's discretion. Ballots must be removed according to statutory procedures and all ballot drop boxes must be secured at 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election.

**Summary:** The county auditor must establish a minimum of one ballot drop box for each 15,000 registered voters in the county and in each city, town, and census-designated place in the county that has a post office.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	49	0
House	52	45

**Effective:** July 23, 2017

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*