

SHB 1534 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on Government Operations & Elections

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

3 "Sec. 1. RCW 29A.20.111 and 2004 c 271 s 188 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 ~~((A "convention" for the purposes of this chapter, is an organized
6 assemblage of registered voters representing an independent candidate
7 or candidates or a new or minor political party, organization, or
8 principle.))~~ As used in this chapter, ~~((the term))~~ "~~((election))~~
9 jurisdiction" ~~((shall))~~ means the state or any political subdivision or
10 jurisdiction of the state from which partisan officials are elected.
11 ~~((This term shall include county commissioner districts or council
12 districts for members of a county legislative authority,))~~
13 "Jurisdiction" includes counties for county officials ~~((who are
14 nominated and elected on a county wide basis))~~, legislative districts
15 for members of the legislature, congressional districts for members of
16 Congress, and the state for president and vice president, members of
17 the United States senate, and state officials who are elected on a
18 statewide basis.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.20.121 and 2006 c 344 s 4 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 (1) Any nomination of a candidate for partisan public office by
22 other than a major political party may be made only~~((:—(a) In a
23 convention held not earlier than the first Saturday in May and not
24 later than the second Saturday in May or during any of the seven days
25 immediately preceding the first day for filing declarations of
26 candidacy as fixed in accordance with RCW 29A.28.041; (b) as provided
27 by RCW 29A.60.021; or (c))~~ by ballot qualifying petition filed during
28 the regular filing period with the declaration of candidacy pursuant to

1 RCW 29A.24.050, or as otherwise provided in this section. Minor
2 political party and independent candidates may appear only on the
3 general election ballot.

4 (2) Nominations of candidates for president and vice president of
5 the United States other than by a major political party may be made
6 ~~((either at a convention conducted under subsection (1) of this~~
7 ~~section, or at a similar convention taking place not earlier than the~~
8 ~~first Saturday in June and not later than the fourth Saturday in July.~~
9 ~~Conventions held during this time period may not nominate candidates~~
10 ~~for any public office other than president and vice president of the~~
11 ~~United States, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section))~~
12 by ballot qualifying petition filed no later than the first Monday in
13 August.

14 (3) If a special filing period for a partisan office is opened
15 under RCW 29A.24.211 or 29A.28.041, candidates of minor political
16 parties and independent candidates may file for office during that
17 special filing period. The names of those candidates may not appear on
18 the general election ballot unless they are nominated by ~~((convention~~
19 ~~held))~~ petition filed no later than ~~((five))~~ seven days after the close
20 of the special filing period ~~((and a certificate of nomination is filed~~
21 ~~with the filing officer no later than three days after the convention.~~
22 ~~The requirements of RCW 29A.20.131 do not apply to such a convention)).~~

23 (4) Ballot qualifying petitions must be filed with the appropriate
24 filing officer as provided in RCW 29A.24.070.

25 (5) A minor political party may ~~((hold more than one convention but~~
26 ~~in no case shall any such party))~~ not nominate more than one candidate
27 for any one partisan public office or position. ~~((For the purpose of~~
28 ~~nominating candidates for the offices of president and vice president,~~
29 ~~United States senator, United States representative, or a statewide~~
30 ~~office, a minor party or independent candidate holding multiple~~
31 ~~conventions may add together the number of signatures of different~~
32 ~~individuals from each convention obtained in support of the candidate~~
33 ~~or candidates in order to obtain the number required by RCW 29A.20.141.~~
34 ~~For all other offices for which nominations are made, signatures of the~~
35 ~~requisite number of registered voters must be obtained at a single~~
36 ~~convention.))~~

1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.20.151 and 2004 c 271 s 112 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 A (~~nominating~~) ballot qualifying petition submitted under this
4 chapter shall (~~clearly identify the name of the minor party or~~
5 ~~independent candidate convention as it appears on the certificate of~~
6 ~~nomination as required by RCW 29A.20.161(3).~~ The petition shall also
7 contain a statement that the person signing the petition is a
8 registered voter of the state of Washington and shall have a space for
9 the voter to sign his or her name and to print his or her name and
10 address)) include:

11 (1) The name and residential address of the candidate;

12 (2) The name of the minor political party or the fact that the
13 candidate is independent if not affiliated with a political party;

14 (3) The year and office for which the candidate is nominated;

15 (4) A statement that each person signing the petition is a
16 registered voter of the state of Washington and the jurisdiction of the
17 office;

18 (5) A space for each voter to sign his or her name and print his or
19 her name and address;

20 (6)(a) Valid signatures of at least one thousand registered voters
21 of the jurisdiction of the office if the nomination is for president
22 and vice president of the United States, United States senator, or
23 statewide office;

24 (b) Valid signatures of at least two hundred fifty registered
25 voters of the jurisdiction of the office if the nomination is for
26 United States representative; or

27 (c) Valid signatures of at least one hundred registered voters of
28 the jurisdiction of the office if the nomination is for any other
29 partisan office; and

30 (7) If the nomination is for president and vice president of the
31 United States, a sworn statement from both nominees consenting to the
32 nomination.

33 No person may sign more than one (~~nominating~~) ballot qualifying
34 petition under this chapter for an office for an election.

35 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.20.171 and 2004 c 271 s 155 are each amended to
36 read as follows:

37 (1) If two or more (~~valid certificates of nomination~~) ballot

1 qualifying petitions are filed purporting to nominate different
2 candidates for the same position using the same party name, the filing
3 officer must give effect to both certificates. If conflicting claims
4 to the party name are not resolved either by mutual agreement or by a
5 judicial determination of the right to the name, the candidates must be
6 treated as independent candidates. Disputes over the right to the name
7 must not be permitted to delay the printing of either ballots or a
8 voters' pamphlet. Other candidates nominated by the same
9 (~~conventions~~) political party may continue to use the partisan
10 affiliation unless a court of competent jurisdiction directs otherwise.

11 (2) A person affected may petition the superior court of the county
12 in which the filing officer is located for a judicial determination of
13 the right to the name of a minor political party, either before or
14 after documents are filed with the filing officer. The court shall
15 resolve the conflict between competing claims to the use of the same
16 party name according to the following principles: (a) The prior
17 established public use of the name during previous elections by a party
18 composed of or led by the same individuals or individuals in documented
19 succession; (b) prior established public use of the name earlier in the
20 same election cycle; (c) the nomination of a more complete slate of
21 candidates for a number of offices or in a number of different regions
22 of the state; (d) documented affiliation with a national or statewide
23 party organization with an established use of the name; (e) the first
24 date of filing of a (~~certificate of nomination~~) ballot qualifying
25 petition; and (f) such other indicia of an established right to use of
26 the name as the court may deem relevant. If more than one filing
27 officer is involved, and one of them is the secretary of state, the
28 petition must be filed in the superior court for Thurston county. Upon
29 resolving the conflict between competing claims, the court may also
30 address any ballot designation for the candidate who does not prevail.

31 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.20.181 and 2004 c 271 s 156 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 ((A)) Minor political party or independent (~~candidate convention~~
34 ~~nominating~~) candidates for the offices of president and vice president
35 of the United States, or their designees, shall, not later than ten
36 days after the (~~adjournment of the convention~~) filing of ballot
37 qualifying petitions, submit a list of presidential electors to the

1 office of the secretary of state. The list shall contain the names and
2 the mailing addresses of the persons selected (~~and shall be verified~~
3 ~~by the presiding officer of the convention~~)).

4 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.20.191 and 2004 c 271 s 157 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Upon the receipt of the (~~certificate of nomination~~) ballot
7 qualifying petitions, the officer with whom it is filed shall check the
8 (~~certificate~~) petitions and canvass the signatures (~~on the~~
9 ~~accompanying nominating petitions~~) to determine if the requirements of
10 RCW (~~29A.20.141~~) 29A.20.151 have been met. Once the determination
11 has been made, the filing officer shall notify the (~~presiding officer~~
12 ~~of the convention and any other persons requesting the notification,~~)
13 candidate of his or her decision regarding the sufficiency of the
14 (~~certificate or the nominating~~) ballot qualifying petitions. Any
15 appeal regarding the filing officer's determination must be filed with
16 the superior court of the county in which the (~~certificate or~~)
17 petitions were filed not later than five days from the date the
18 determination is made, and shall be heard and finally disposed of by
19 the court within five days of the filing. (~~Nominating~~) Ballot
20 qualifying petitions shall not be available for public inspection or
21 copying.

22 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.24.031 and 2004 c 271 s 158 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 A candidate who desires to have his or her name printed on the
25 ballot for election to an office other than president of the United
26 States, vice president of the United States, or an office for which
27 ownership of property is a prerequisite to voting shall complete and
28 file a declaration of candidacy. The secretary of state shall adopt,
29 by rule, a declaration of candidacy form for the office of precinct
30 committee officer and a separate standard form for candidates for all
31 other offices filing under this chapter. Included on the standard form
32 shall be:

33 (1) A place for the candidate to declare that he or she is a
34 registered voter within the jurisdiction of the office for which he or
35 she is filing, and the address at which he or she is registered;

1 (2) A place for the candidate to indicate the position for which he
2 or she is filing;

3 (3) A place for the candidate to indicate a party designation, if
4 applicable;

5 (4) A place for the candidate to indicate the amount of the filing
6 fee accompanying the declaration of candidacy or for the candidate to
7 indicate that he or she is (~~filing a nominating~~) submitting a filing
8 fee petition in lieu of the filing fee under RCW 29A.24.091;

9 (5) A place for the candidate to sign the declaration of candidacy,
10 stating that the information provided on the form is true and swearing
11 or affirming that he or she will support the Constitution and laws of
12 the United States and the Constitution and laws of the state of
13 Washington.

14 In the case of a declaration of candidacy filed electronically,
15 submission of the form constitutes agreement that the information
16 provided with the filing is true, that he or she will support the
17 Constitutions and laws of the United States and the state of
18 Washington, and that he or she agrees to electronic payment of the
19 filing fee established in RCW 29A.24.091.

20 The secretary of state may require any other information on the
21 form he or she deems appropriate to facilitate the filing process.

22 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29A.24.070 and 2006 c 263 s 614 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 Declarations of candidacy shall be filed with the following filing
25 officers:

26 (1) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for
27 statewide offices, United States senate, and United States house of
28 representatives;

29 (2) The secretary of state for declarations of candidacy for the
30 state legislature, the court of appeals, and the superior court when
31 the candidate is seeking office in a district comprised of voters from
32 two or more counties(~~(. The secretary of state and the county auditor~~
33 ~~may accept declarations of candidacy for candidates for the state~~
34 ~~legislature, the court of appeals, and the superior court when the~~
35 ~~candidate is seeking office in a district comprised of voters from one~~
36 ~~county));~~

1 (3) The county auditor for all other offices. For any nonpartisan
2 office, other than judicial offices and school director in joint
3 districts, where voters from a district comprising more than one county
4 vote upon the candidates, a declaration of candidacy shall be filed
5 with the county auditor of the county in which a majority of the
6 registered voters of the district reside. For school directors in
7 joint school districts, the declaration of candidacy shall be filed
8 with the county auditor of the county designated by the superintendent
9 of public instruction as the county to which the joint school district
10 is considered as belonging under RCW 28A.323.040((+

11 ~~(4) For all other purposes of this title, a declaration of~~
12 ~~candidacy for the state legislature, the court of appeals, and the~~
13 ~~superior court filed with the secretary of state shall be deemed to~~
14 ~~have been filed with the county auditor when the candidate is seeking~~
15 ~~office in a district composed of voters from one county)).~~

16 Each official with whom declarations of candidacy are filed under
17 this section, within one business day following the closing of the
18 applicable filing period, shall transmit to the public disclosure
19 commission the information required in RCW 29A.24.031 (1) through (4)
20 for each declaration of candidacy filed in his or her office during
21 such filing period or a list containing the name of each candidate who
22 files such a declaration in his or her office during such filing period
23 together with a precise identification of the position sought by each
24 such candidate and the date on which each such declaration was filed.
25 Such official, within three days following his or her receipt of any
26 letter withdrawing a person's name as a candidate, shall also forward
27 a copy of such withdrawal letter to the public disclosure commission.

28 **Sec. 9.** RCW 29A.24.091 and 2006 c 206 s 3 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 A filing fee of one dollar shall accompany each declaration of
31 candidacy for precinct committee officer; a filing fee of ten dollars
32 shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a
33 fixed annual salary of one thousand dollars or less; a filing fee equal
34 to one percent of the annual salary of the office at the time of filing
35 shall accompany the declaration of candidacy for any office with a
36 fixed annual salary of more than one thousand dollars per annum. No

1 filing fee need accompany a declaration of candidacy for any office for
2 which compensation is on a per diem or per meeting attended basis.

3 A candidate who lacks sufficient assets or income at the time of
4 filing to pay the filing fee required by this section shall submit with
5 his or her declaration of candidacy a filing fee petition. The
6 petition shall contain not less than a number of signatures of
7 registered voters equal to the number of dollars of the filing fee.
8 The signatures shall be of voters registered to vote within the
9 jurisdiction of the office for which the candidate is filing.

10 When the candidacy is for:

11 (1) A statewide office, the fee shall be paid to the secretary of
12 state;

13 (2) A legislative or judicial office that includes territory from
14 more than one county, the fee shall be paid to the secretary of state
15 for equal division between the treasuries of the counties comprising
16 the district((-));

17 ((+2)) (3) A legislative or judicial office that includes
18 territory from only one county(+

19 (a)), the fee shall be paid to the county auditor ((if the
20 candidate filed his or her declaration of candidacy with the county
21 auditor;

22 (b) ~~The fee shall be paid to the secretary of state if the~~
23 ~~candidate filed his or her declaration of candidacy with the secretary~~
24 ~~of state. The secretary of state shall then promptly transmit the fee~~
25 ~~to the county auditor of the county in which the legislative or~~
26 ~~judicial office is located.));~~

27 ((+3)) (4) A city or town office, the fee shall be paid to the
28 county auditor, who shall transmit it to the city or town clerk for
29 deposit in the city or town treasury.

30 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29A.24.131 and 2004 c 271 s 115 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 A candidate may withdraw his or her declaration of candidacy at any
33 time before the close of business on the Thursday following the last
34 day for candidates to file under RCW 29A.24.050 by filing, with the
35 officer with whom the declaration of candidacy was filed, a signed
36 request that his or her name not be printed on the ballot. There shall
37 be no withdrawal period for declarations of candidacy filed during

1 special filing periods held under this title. (~~The filing officer may~~
2 ~~permit the withdrawal of a filing for the office of precinct committee~~
3 ~~officer at the request of the candidate at any time if no absentee~~
4 ~~ballots have been issued for that office and the ballots for that~~
5 ~~precinct have not been printed.)) The filing officer may permit the
6 withdrawal of a filing for any elected office of a city, town, or
7 special district at the request of the candidate at any time before a
8 primary if the primary ballots for that city, town, or special district
9 have not been ordered. No filing fee may be refunded to any candidate
10 who withdraws under this section. Notice of the deadline for
11 withdrawal of candidacy and that the filing fee is not refundable shall
12 be given to each candidate at the time he or she files.~~

13 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29A.24.320 and 2003 c 111 s 623 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 The secretary of state shall notify each county auditor of any
16 declarations filed with the secretary under RCW (~~29A.24.310~~)
17 29A.24.311 for offices appearing on the ballot in that county. The
18 county auditor shall ensure that those persons charged with counting
19 the ballots for a primary or election are notified of all valid write-
20 in candidates before the tabulation of those ballots.

21 **Sec. 12.** RCW 29A.28.041 and 2006 c 344 s 12 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the United States house of
24 representatives or the United States senate from this state, the
25 governor shall order a special election to fill the vacancy. Minor
26 political party candidates and independent candidates may be nominated
27 through the (~~convention~~) petition procedures provided in chapter
28 29A.20 RCW.

29 (2) Within ten days of such vacancy occurring, he or she shall
30 issue a writ of election fixing a date for the special vacancy election
31 not less than ninety days after the issuance of the writ, fixing a date
32 for the primary for nominating major political party candidates for the
33 special vacancy election not less than thirty days before the day fixed
34 for holding the special vacancy election, fixing the dates for the
35 special filing period, and designating the term or part of the term for

1 which the vacancy exists. If the vacancy is in the office of United
2 States representative, the writ of election shall specify the
3 congressional district that is vacant.

4 (3) If the vacancy occurs less than six months before a state
5 general election and before the second Friday following the close of
6 the filing period for that general election, the special primary((~~τ~~))
7 and special vacancy election(~~(~~τ~~ and minor party and independent~~
8 ~~candidate nominating conventions~~)) must be held in concert with the
9 state primary and state general election in that year.

10 (4) If the vacancy occurs on or after the first day for filing
11 under RCW 29A.24.050 and on or before the second Friday following the
12 close of the filing period, a special filing period of three normal
13 business days shall be fixed by the governor and notice thereof given
14 to all media, including press, radio, and television within the area in
15 which the vacancy election is to be held, to the end that, insofar as
16 possible, all interested persons will be aware of such filing period.
17 The last day of the filing period shall not be later than the sixth
18 Tuesday before the primary at which major political party candidates
19 are to be nominated. The names of major political party candidates who
20 have filed valid declarations of candidacy during this three-day period
21 shall appear on the approaching primary ballot. (~~(The requirements of~~
22 ~~RCW 29A.20.131 do not apply to a minor political party or independent~~
23 ~~candidate convention held under this subsection.)~~)

24 (5) If the vacancy occurs later than the second Friday following
25 the close of the filing period, a special primary((~~τ~~)) and special
26 vacancy election(~~(~~τ~~ and the minor party and independent candidate~~
27 ~~conventions~~)) to fill the position shall be held after the next state
28 general election but, in any event, no later than the ninetieth day
29 following the November election.

30 **Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.32.031 and 2008 c 1 s 12 (Initiative Measure No.
31 960) are each amended to read as follows:

32 The voters' pamphlet must contain:

33 (1) Information about each measure for an advisory vote of the
34 people and each ballot measure initiated by or referred to the voters
35 for their approval or rejection as required by RCW 29A.32.070;

36 (2) In even-numbered years, statements, if submitted, advocating
37 the candidacies of nominees for the office of president and vice

1 president of the United States, United States senator, United States
2 representative, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state,
3 state treasurer, state auditor, attorney general, commissioner of
4 public lands, superintendent of public instruction, insurance
5 commissioner, state senator, state representative, justice of the
6 supreme court, judge of the court of appeals, or judge of the superior
7 court. Candidates may also submit a campaign mailing address and
8 telephone number and a photograph not more than five years old and of
9 a size and quality that the secretary of state determines to be
10 suitable for reproduction in the voters' pamphlet;

11 (3) In odd-numbered years, if any office voted upon statewide
12 appears on the ballot due to a vacancy, then statements and photographs
13 for candidates for any vacant office listed in subsection (2) of this
14 section must appear;

15 (4) In even-numbered years, a section explaining how voters may
16 participate in the election campaign process; the address and telephone
17 number of the public disclosure commission established under RCW
18 42.17.350; and a summary of the disclosure requirements that apply when
19 contributions are made to candidates and political committees;

20 (5) In even-numbered years the name, address, and telephone number
21 of each political party with nominees listed in the pamphlet, if filed
22 with the secretary of state (~~((by the state committee of a major
23 political party or the presiding officer of the convention of a minor
24 political party))~~);

25 (6) In each odd-numbered year immediately before a year in which a
26 president of the United States is to be nominated and elected,
27 information explaining the precinct caucus and convention process used
28 by each major political party to elect delegates to its national
29 presidential candidate nominating convention. The pamphlet must also
30 provide a description of the statutory procedures by which minor
31 political parties are formed and the statutory methods used by the
32 parties to nominate candidates for president;

33 (7) An application form for an absentee ballot;

34 (8) A brief statement explaining the deletion and addition of
35 language for proposed measures under RCW 29A.32.080;

36 (9) Any additional information pertaining to elections as may be
37 required by law or in the judgment of the secretary of state is deemed
38 informative to the voters.

1 **Sec. 14.** RCW 29A.36.121 and 2004 c 271 s 129 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1)(a) The positions or offices on a primary consolidated ballot
4 shall be arranged in substantially the following order: United States
5 senator; United States representative; governor; lieutenant governor;
6 secretary of state; state treasurer; state auditor; attorney general;
7 commissioner of public lands; superintendent of public instruction;
8 insurance commissioner; state senator; state representative; county
9 officers; justices of the supreme court; judges of the court of
10 appeals; judges of the superior court; and judges of the district
11 court. For all other jurisdictions on the primary consolidated ballot,
12 the offices in each jurisdiction shall be grouped together and be in
13 the order of the position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

14 (b)(i) The positions or offices on a primary party ballot must be
15 arranged in substantially the following order: United States senator;
16 United States representative; governor; lieutenant governor; secretary
17 of state; state treasurer; state auditor; attorney general;
18 commissioner of public lands; insurance commissioner; state senator;
19 state representative; and partisan county officers. For all other
20 jurisdictions on the primary party ballot, the offices in each
21 jurisdiction must be grouped together and be in the order of the
22 position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

23 (ii) The positions or offices on a primary nonpartisan ballot must
24 be arranged in substantially the following order: Superintendent of
25 public instruction; justices of the supreme court; judges of the court
26 of appeals; judges of the superior court; and judges of the district
27 court. For all other jurisdictions on the primary nonpartisan ballot,
28 the offices in each jurisdiction must be grouped together and be in the
29 order of the position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

30 (2) The order of the positions or offices on an election ballot
31 shall be substantially the same as on a primary consolidated ballot
32 except that state ballot issues must be placed before all offices. The
33 offices of president and vice president of the United States shall
34 precede all other offices on a presidential election ballot. The
35 positions on a ballot to be assigned to ballot measures regarding local
36 units of government shall be established by the secretary of state by
37 rule.

1 (3) The political party or independent candidacy of each candidate
2 for partisan office shall be indicated (~~((next to the name of the~~
3 ~~candidate))~~) on the primary and election ballot. A candidate shall file
4 a written notice with the filing officer within three business days
5 after the close of the filing period designating the political party to
6 be indicated next to the candidate's name on the ballot if either: (a)
7 The candidate has been nominated by two or more minor political
8 (~~((parties))~~) party or independent (~~((conventions))~~) candidacy petitions;
9 or (b) the candidate has both filed a declaration of candidacy
10 declaring an affiliation with a major political party and been
11 nominated by a minor political party or independent (~~((convention))~~)
12 candidacy petition. If no written notice is filed the filing officer
13 shall give effect to the party designation shown upon the first
14 document filed. A minor political party or independent candidate may
15 be deemed nominated (~~((by a minor party or independent convention))~~) only
16 if all documentation required by chapter 29A.20 RCW has been timely
17 filed.

18 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29A.36.191 and 2004 c 271 s 133 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The name of a candidate for a partisan office for which a primary
21 was conducted shall not be printed on the ballot for that office at the
22 subsequent general election unless, at the preceding primary, the
23 candidate receives (~~((a number of votes equal to at least one percent of~~
24 ~~the total number of votes cast for all candidates for that office~~
25 ~~and))~~):

26 (1) A plurality of the votes cast ((by voters affiliated with that
27 party)) for candidates for ((that)) the same office ((affiliated with
28 that)) of the same party; and

29 (2) At least:

30 (a) One thousand votes if the nomination is for United States
31 senate or a statewide office;

32 (b) Two hundred fifty votes if the nomination is for United States
33 house of representatives; or

34 (c) One hundred votes if the nomination is for any other partisan
35 office.

1 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29A.40.061 and 2004 c 271 s 134 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) The county auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the
4 primary or election for which it was requested, or for the next
5 occurring primary or election when ongoing absentee status has been
6 requested if the information contained in a request for an absentee
7 ballot or ongoing absentee status received by the county auditor is
8 complete and correct and the applicant is qualified to vote under
9 federal or state law. Otherwise, the county auditor shall notify the
10 applicant of the reason or reasons why the request cannot be accepted.
11 Whenever ~~((two or more candidates have))~~ a candidate has filed for the
12 position of precinct committee officer ~~((for the same party in the same
13 precinct, the contest for))~~, that position must be presented to
14 absentee voters from that precinct by either including the contest on
15 the regular absentee ballot or a separate absentee ballot. The ballot
16 must provide space designated for writing in the name of additional
17 candidates.

18 (2) A registered voter may obtain a replacement ballot if the
19 ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the voter. The
20 voter may obtain the ballot by telephone request, by mail,
21 electronically, or in person. The county auditor shall keep a record
22 of each replacement ballot provided under this subsection.

23 (3) A copy of the state voters' pamphlet must be sent to registered
24 voters temporarily outside the state, out-of-state voters, overseas
25 voters, and service voters along with the absentee ballot if such a
26 pamphlet has been prepared for the primary or election and is available
27 to the county auditor at the time of mailing. The county auditor shall
28 mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters outside the
29 territorial limits of the United States and the District of Columbia
30 under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

31 **Sec. 17.** RCW 29A.52.321 and 2004 c 271 s 146 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 No later than the day following the certification of the returns of
34 any primary, the secretary of state shall certify to the appropriate
35 county auditors the names of all persons nominated for offices at a
36 primary, or ~~((at))~~ by an independent candidate or minor party
37 ~~((convention))~~ petition.

1 **Sec. 18.** RCW 29A.56.320 and 2003 c 111 s 1425 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 In the year in which a presidential election is held, each major or
4 minor political party that nominates candidates for president and vice
5 president of the United States and each ((~~minor political party or~~))
6 independent candidate ((~~convention held under chapter 29A.20 RCW that~~
7 ~~nominates candidates~~)) nominated for president and vice president of
8 the United States shall nominate presidential electors for this state.
9 The party or ((~~convention~~)) independent candidate shall file with the
10 secretary of state a certificate ((~~signed by the presiding officer of~~
11 ~~the convention at which the presidential electors were chosen,~~))
12 listing the names and addresses of the presidential electors. Each
13 presidential elector shall execute and file with the secretary of state
14 a pledge that, as an elector, he or she will vote for the candidates
15 nominated by that party. The names of presidential electors shall not
16 appear on the ballots. The votes cast for candidates for president and
17 vice president of each political party shall be counted for the
18 candidates for presidential electors of that political party.

19 **Sec. 19.** RCW 29A.80.051 and 2004 c 271 s 149 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 In an even-numbered year, the statutory requirements for filing as
22 a candidate at the primaries apply to candidates for precinct committee
23 officer. The office must be voted upon at the ((~~primaries, and~~))
24 primary. The names of all candidates must appear under the proper
25 party and office designations on the ballot ((~~for the primary for each~~
26 ~~even-numbered year~~)), and the one receiving the highest number of votes
27 will be declared elected. ((~~However, to be declared elected, a~~
28 ~~candidate must receive at least ten percent of the number of votes cast~~
29 ~~for the candidate of the candidate's party receiving the greatest~~
30 ~~number of votes in the precinct.~~)) The term of office of precinct
31 committee officer is two years, commencing the first day of December
32 following the primary.

33 **Sec. 20.** RCW 35.02.086 and 2006 c 344 s 20 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 Each candidate for a city or town elective position shall file a
36 declaration of candidacy with the county auditor of the county in which

1 all or the major portion of the city or town is located not more than
2 forty-five nor less than thirty days prior to the primary election at
3 which the initial elected officials are nominated(~~(, according to RCW~~
4 ~~29A.24.050)~~). The elective positions shall be as provided in law for
5 the type of city or town and form or plan of government specified in
6 the petition to incorporate, and for the population of the city or town
7 as determined by the county legislative authority or boundary review
8 board where applicable. Any candidate may withdraw his or her
9 declaration (~~(according to RCW 29A.24.131)~~) at any time within five
10 days after the last day allowed for filing declarations of candidacy.
11 All names of candidates to be voted upon shall be printed upon the
12 ballot alphabetically in groups under the designation of the respective
13 titles of offices for which they are candidates. Names of candidates
14 printed upon the ballot need not be rotated.

15 NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. RCW 29A.28.011 and 29A.28.021 are each
16 recodified as sections in chapter 29A.24 RCW.

17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 22. The following acts or parts of acts are
18 each repealed:

- 19 (1) RCW 29A.20.201 (Declarations of candidacy required,
20 exceptions--Payment of fees) and 2004 c 271 s 113;
21 (2) RCW 29A.20.131 (Convention--Notice) and 2004 c 271 s 189;
22 (3) RCW 29A.20.141 (Convention--Requirements for validity) and 2004
23 c 271 s 111; and
24 (4) RCW 29A.20.161 (Certificate of nomination--Requisites) and 2004
25 c 271 s 154.

26 NEW SECTION. Sec. 23. This act is necessary for the immediate
27 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
28 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
29 immediately."

1 On page 1, line 1 of the title, after "office;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 29A.20.111, 29A.20.121,
3 29A.20.151, 29A.20.171, 29A.20.181, 29A.20.191, 29A.24.031, 29A.24.070,
4 29A.24.091, 29A.24.131, 29A.24.320, 29A.28.041, 29A.32.031, 29A.36.121,
5 29A.36.191, 29A.40.061, 29A.52.321, 29A.56.320, 29A.80.051, and
6 35.02.086; adding new sections to chapter 29A.24 RCW; recodifying RCW
7 29A.28.011 and 29A.28.021; repealing RCW 29A.20.201, 29A.20.131,
8 29A.20.141, and 29A.20.161; and declaring an emergency."

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