
HOUSE BILL 2081

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, Pollet, Santos, and Macri

Read first time 02/13/17. Referred to Committee on State Govt,
Elections & IT.

1 AN ACT Relating to equalizing access to permanent ballot drop
2 boxes; and adding a new section to chapter 29A.40 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 29A.40
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Whereas more than half of the state's counties provide at
7 least one permanent ballot drop box for every fifteen thousand county
8 residents, the legislature intends to standardize this practice
9 across counties. Therefore, by November 1, 2017, the county auditor
10 of each county must ensure that a minimum of one permanent ballot
11 drop box for every fifteen thousand county residents is available for
12 the secure deposit of paper ballots. The auditor may round down to
13 the nearest fifteen thousand county residents when determining the
14 number of drop boxes needed.

15 (2) The county auditor may determine, in consultation with the
16 advisory committee established under RCW 29A.04.223(2), the location
17 of each ballot drop box within the county in order to maximize
18 accessibility for all county residents.

19 (3) County officials are encouraged to purchase permanent ballot
20 drop boxes produced or provided in whole or in part from class II

1 inmate work programs operated by the department of corrections as
2 identified in chapter 72.60 RCW.

3 (4) Permanent ballot drop boxes must comply with all applicable
4 state and federal requirements as adopted in rule by the secretary of
5 state.

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