

SHB 1520 - H AMD 1016

By Representative Morgan

ADOPTED 01/27/2020

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

3 **"Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.40.091 and 2019 c 161 s 3 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The county auditor shall send each voter a ballot, a security
6 envelope in which to conceal the ballot after voting, a larger
7 envelope in which to return the security envelope, a declaration that
8 the voter must sign, and instructions on how to obtain information
9 about the election, how to mark the ballot, and how to return the
10 ballot to the county auditor. The calendar date of the election must
11 be prominently displayed in bold type, twenty-point font or larger,
12 on the envelope sent to the voter containing the ballot and other
13 materials listed in this subsection:

- 14 (a) For all general elections in 2020 and after;
15 (b) For all primary elections in 2021 and after; and
16 (c) For all elections in 2022 and after.

17 (2) The voter must swear under penalty of perjury that he or she
18 meets the qualifications to vote, and has not voted in any other
19 jurisdiction at this election. The declaration must clearly inform
20 the voter that it is illegal to vote if he or she is not a United
21 States citizen; it is illegal to vote if he or she has been convicted
22 of a felony and has not had his or her voting rights restored; and it
23 is illegal to cast a ballot or sign a ballot declaration on behalf of
24 another voter. The ballot materials must provide space for the voter
25 to sign the declaration, indicate the date on which the ballot was
26 voted, and include a telephone number.

27 (3) For overseas and service voters, the signed declaration
28 constitutes the equivalent of a voter registration. Return envelopes
29 for overseas and service voters must enable the ballot to be returned
30 postage free if mailed through the United States postal service,
31 United States armed forces postal service, or the postal service of a
32 United States foreign embassy under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

1 (4) The voter must be instructed to either return the ballot to
2 the county auditor no later than 8:00 p.m. the day of the election or
3 primary, or mail the ballot to the county auditor with a postmark no
4 later than the day of the election or primary. Return envelopes for
5 all election ballots must include prepaid postage. Service and
6 overseas voters must be provided with instructions and a privacy
7 sheet for returning the ballot and signed declaration by fax or
8 email. A voted ballot and signed declaration returned by fax or email
9 must be received by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election or primary.

10 (5) The county auditor's name may not appear on the security
11 envelope, the return envelope, or on any voting instructions or
12 materials included with the ballot if he or she is a candidate for
13 office during the same year.

14 (6) For purposes of this section, "prepaid postage" means any
15 method of return postage paid by the county or state."

16 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Updates the bill to incorporate changes made to
underlying provisions by legislation that passed in the 2019 session.

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