

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT
ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1571

52nd Legislature
1991 Regular Session

Passed by the House March 13, 1991
Yeas 97 Nays 0

**Speaker of the
House of Representatives**

Passed by the Senate April 11, 1991
Yeas 45 Nays 0

President of the Senate

Approved

Governor of the State of Washington

CERTIFICATE

I, Alan Thompson, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1571** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

Chief Clerk

FILED

Secretary of State
State of Washington

ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1571

Passed Legislature - 1991 Regular Session

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By House Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Jones, McLean, Anderson, Hargrove, Ferguson, Phillips and Jacobsen).

Read first time February 22, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to recounting votes; amending RCW 29.64.015; adding
2 a new section to chapter 29.64 RCW; creating a new section; and
3 repealing RCW 29.64.050.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that it is in the
6 public interest to determine the winner of close contests for elective
7 offices as expeditiously and as accurately as possible. It is the
8 purpose of this act to provide procedures which promote the prompt and
9 accurate recounting of votes for elective offices and which provide
10 closure to the recount process.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.64.015 and 1987 c 54 s 4 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) If the official canvass of all of the returns for any office at
14 any primary or election reveals that the difference in the number of

1 votes cast for a candidate apparently nominated or elected to any
2 office and the number of votes cast for the closest apparently defeated
3 opponent is not more than one-half of one percent of the total number
4 of votes cast for both candidates, the county canvassing board shall
5 conduct(~~(, or the secretary of state shall direct the appropriate~~
6 ~~county canvassing boards to conduct,~~) a recount of all votes cast on
7 that position.

8 (a) Whenever such a difference occurs in the number of votes cast
9 for candidates for a position which appears on the ballot in more than
10 one county, the secretary of state shall, within three business days of
11 the day that the returns of the primary or election are first certified
12 by the canvassing boards of those counties, direct those boards to
13 recount all votes cast on the position.

14 (b) Whenever the difference in the number of votes cast for such
15 candidates is less than one-fourth of one percent of the total number
16 of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted
17 manually.

18 (2) A mandatory recount shall be conducted in the manner provided
19 by RCW 29.64.020, 29.64.030, and 29.64.040. No cost of a mandatory
20 recount may be charged to any candidate.

21 NEW SECTION. Sec. 3. A new section is added to chapter 29.64 RCW
22 to read as follows:

23 After being counted, the votes cast in any single precinct may not
24 be recounted more than twice.

25 NEW SECTION. Sec. 4. RCW 29.64.050 and 1990 c 59 s 67 & 1965
26 c 9 s 29.64.050 are each repealed.