
HOUSE BILL 1164

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Representatives Silver, Brown, Mielke, Dellwo, Schoesler, Orr, Padden, Sheahan, Linville, Talcott, Springer, Dyer and Foreman

Read first time 01/20/93. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to elections; and amending RCW 29.64.015.

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

3 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.64.015 and 1991 c 90 s 2 are each amended to read
4 as follows:

5 (1) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, if the
6 official canvass of all of the returns for any office at any primary or
7 election reveals that the difference in the number of votes cast for a
8 candidate apparently nominated or elected to any office and the number
9 of votes cast for the closest apparently defeated opponent is not more
10 than one-half of one percent of the total number of votes cast for both
11 candidates, the county canvassing board shall conduct a recount of all
12 votes cast on that position.

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

1 (b) Whenever the difference in the number of votes cast for such
2 candidates is less than one-fourth of one percent of the total number
3 of votes cast for both candidates, the votes shall be recounted
4 manually or by such alternative method of conducting the recount as may
5 be agreed to, in writing, by the candidates involved in the recount.
6 To be a valid alternative, any alternative method of conducting such a
7 recount which is selected by candidates under this subsection shall be
8 suited to the balloting system that was used for casting votes for the
9 candidates.

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

13 (3) A recount shall not be conducted for the office under this
14 section if the candidate who was apparently nominated or elected to the
15 office and the closest apparently defeated opponent each file a signed
16 statement requesting that the recount not be conducted. Such a
17 statement shall be filed with the elections officer with whom
18 declarations of candidacy for the office must be filed.

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