
SENATE BILL 5643

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1993 Regular Session

By Senators Cantu, Snyder and Winsley

Read first time 02/08/93. Referred to Committee on Government Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to voting precinct boundaries; amending RCW
2 29.04.050; and adding a new section to chapter 29.04 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.04.050 and 1989 c 278 s 1 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) Every voting precinct must be wholly within a single
7 congressional district, a single legislative district, and a single
8 district of a county legislative authority.

9 (2) Every voting precinct shall be composed, as nearly as
10 practicable, of contiguous and compact areas.

11 (3) Except as provided in this subsection, changes to the
12 boundaries of any precinct shall follow visible, physical features
13 delineated on the most current maps provided by the United States
14 census bureau. A change need not follow such visible, physical
15 features if ~~((a))~~ it is necessitated by an annexation or
16 incorporation and the proposed precinct boundary is identical to an
17 exterior boundary of the annexed or incorporated area which does not
18 follow a visible, physical feature ~~((; or (b) doing so would~~
19 ~~substantially impair election administration in the involved area))~~.

1 (4) After a change to precinct boundaries is adopted by the county
2 legislative authority, the county auditor shall send to the secretary
3 of state a copy of the legal description and a map or maps of the
4 changes and, if all or part of the changes do not follow visible,
5 physical features, a statement of the applicable exception under
6 subsection (3) of this section. (~~For boundary changes made pursuant
7 to subsection (3)(b) of this section, the auditor shall include a
8 statement of the reasons why following visible, physical features would
9 have substantially impaired election administration.~~)

10 (5) Every voting precinct within each county shall be designated
11 consecutively by number for the purpose of preparation of maps and the
12 tabulation of population for apportionment purposes. These precincts
13 may be identified with names or other numbers for other election
14 purposes.

15 (6) After a change to precinct boundaries in a city or town, the
16 county auditor shall send one copy of the map or maps delineating the
17 new precinct boundaries within that city or town to the city or town
18 clerk.

19 (7) Precinct maps are public records and shall be available for
20 inspection by the public during normal office hours in the offices
21 where they are kept. Copies shall be made available to the public for
22 a fee necessary to cover the cost of reproduction.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29.04 RCW
24 to read as follows:

25 The county legislative authority of every county shall redraw the
26 boundaries of every precinct not conforming to the standards of RCW
27 29.04.050 (1), (2), and (3) by June 1, 1996.

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