

SENATE BILL 5640

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By Senators Gardner and McCaslin; by request of Secretary of State

Read first time 02/01/1999. Referred to Committee on State & Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to elections; amending RCW 29.13.010, 29.13.020,
2 29.13.070, 29.15.020, 29.24.020, 29.24.035, 29.30.075, 29.36.010,
3 29.36.045, 29.36.060, 29.36.122, 14.08.304, 17.28.090, 27.12.370,
4 29.13.023, 29.13.024, 29.13.060, 29.36.121, 29.81A.010, 35.02.130,
5 35.13.174, 35.17.400, 35.27.090, 35A.02.050, 52.02.080, 52.04.071,
6 53.04.020, 53.04.080, 54.08.010, 54.08.070, 54.40.070, 57.04.050,
7 57.04.140, 57.24.190, 57.28.090, 68.52.250, 70.44.020, 80.52.050,
8 82.14.036, 82.46.021, and 82.80.090; reenacting and amending RCW
9 29.36.120 and 35.17.020; and repealing RCW 29.01.160.

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

11 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.13.010 and 1994 c 142 s 1 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) All ((state, county, city, town, and district)) general
14 elections ((for the election of federal, state, legislative, judicial,
15 county, city, town, district, and precinct officers, and for the
16 submission)) at which a state-wide measure is submitted to the voters
17 of the state((, county, city, town, or district of any measure for
18 their adoption and approval or rejection, shall)) must be held on the
19 first Tuesday after the first Monday of November((, in the year in

1 which they may be called. A state wide general election shall be held
2 on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November of each year:
3 PROVIDED, That the state wide general election held in odd numbered
4 years shall be limited to (a) city, town, and district general
5 elections as provided for in RCW 29.13.020, or as otherwise provided by
6 law; (b) the election of federal officers for the remainder of any
7 unexpired terms in the membership of either branch of the congress of
8 the United States; (c) the election of state and county officers for
9 the remainder of any unexpired terms of offices created by or whose
10 duties are described in Article II, section 15, Article III, sections
11 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, and Article IV, sections 3 and 5 of the
12 state Constitution and RCW 2.06.080; (d) the election of county
13 officers in any county governed by a charter containing provisions
14 calling for general county elections at this time; and (e) the approval
15 or rejection of state measures, including proposed constitutional
16 amendments, matters pertaining to any proposed constitutional
17 convention, initiative measures and referendum measures proposed by the
18 electorate, referendum bills, and any other matter provided by the
19 legislature for submission to the electorate.

20 (2) A county legislative authority may, if it deems an emergency to
21 exist, call a special county election by presenting a resolution to the
22 county auditor at least forty five days prior to the proposed election
23 date. Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, a special
24 election called by the county legislative authority shall be held on
25 one of the following dates as decided by such governing body:

26 (a) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in February;

27 (b) The second Tuesday in March;

28 (c) The fourth Tuesday in April;

29 (d) The third Tuesday in May;

30 (e) The day of the primary as specified by RCW 29.13.070; or

31 (f) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

32 (3) In addition to the dates set forth in subsection (2)(a) through
33 (f) of this section, a special election to validate an excess levy or
34 bond issue may be called at any time to meet the needs resulting from
35 fire, flood, earthquake, or other act of God. Such county special
36 election shall be noticed and conducted in the manner provided by law.

37 (4) In a presidential election year, if a presidential preference
38 primary is conducted in February, March, April, or May under chapter
39 29.19 RCW, the date on which a special election may be called by the

1 county legislative authority under subsection (2) of this section
2 during the month of that primary is the date of the presidential
3 primary.

4 (5) This section shall supersede the provisions of any and all
5 other statutes, whether general or special in nature, having different
6 dates for such city, town, and district elections, the purpose of this
7 section being to establish mandatory dates for holding elections except
8 for those elections held pursuant to a home rule charter adopted under
9 Article XI, section 4 of the state Constitution. This section shall
10 not be construed as fixing the time for holding primary elections, or
11 elections for the recall of any elective public officer).

12 (2) All federal, state, legislative, judicial, and county general
13 elections for the purpose of electing officers must be held on the
14 first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered years
15 except in the following circumstances:

16 (a) An election to fill an unexpired term is required to be held at
17 the next general election and that election occurs in an odd-numbered
18 year;

19 (b) The election of county officers in a county governed by a
20 charter containing provisions calling for general county elections at
21 a different time;

22 (c) The election for any offices for which the legislature has
23 provided different dates.

24 (3) All city, town, and district general elections for the purpose
25 of electing officers must be held on the first Tuesday after the first
26 Monday in November in odd-numbered years except general elections for
27 the purpose of electing officers of public utility districts or
28 districts in which the ownership of property within those districts is
29 a prerequisite to voting, all of which elections must be held at the
30 times prescribed in the laws specifically applicable to them.

31 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.13.020 and 1994 c 142 s 2 are each amended to read
32 as follows:

33 (1) ~~((All city, town, and district general elections shall be held~~
34 ~~throughout the state of Washington on the first Tuesday following the~~
35 ~~first Monday in November in the odd numbered years.~~

36 This section shall not apply to:

37 (a) ~~Elections for the recall of any elective public officer;~~

1 ~~(b) Public utility districts or district elections at which the~~
2 ~~ownership of property within those districts is a prerequisite to~~
3 ~~voting, all of which elections shall be held at the times prescribed in~~
4 ~~the laws specifically applicable thereto;~~

5 ~~(c) Consolidation proposals as provided for in RCW 28A.315.280 and~~
6 ~~nonhigh capital fund aid proposals as provided for in chapter 28A.540~~
7 ~~RCW)) A county legislative authority may call for a special election by~~
8 ~~presenting a resolution to the county auditor at least sixty days~~
9 ~~before the proposed election date.~~

10 (2) The county auditor, as ex officio supervisor of elections, upon
11 request in the form of a resolution of the governing body of a city,
12 town, or district, presented to the auditor at least ~~((forty-five))~~
13 sixty days prior to the proposed election date, ~~((may, if the county~~
14 ~~auditor deems an emergency to exist,))~~ shall call a special election in
15 such city, town, or district, and for the purpose of such special
16 election he or she may combine, unite, or divide precincts.

17 ~~(3)~~ Except as provided in subsection ~~((+3))~~ (4) of this section,
18 such a special election shall be held on one of the following dates as
19 decided by the governing body:

20 (a) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in February;

21 (b) The second Tuesday in March;

22 (c) The fourth Tuesday in April;

23 (d) The third Tuesday in May;

24 (e) The ~~((day of the primary election as specified by RCW~~
25 ~~29.13.070))~~ third Tuesday in August; or

26 (f) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

27 ~~((+3))~~ (4) In a presidential election year, if a presidential
28 preference primary is conducted in February, March, April, or May under
29 chapter 29.19 RCW, the date on which a special election may be called
30 under subsection ~~((+2))~~ (3) of this section during the month of that
31 primary is the date of the presidential primary.

32 ~~((+4))~~ (5) The resolution calling for a special election may
33 provide for two election dates, not to be held within sixty days of
34 each other, either of which may be canceled at any time if the
35 requesting jurisdiction delivers to the auditor a resolution calling
36 for a cancellation and reimburses the auditor for all costs incurred
37 before the cancellation.

38 (6) In addition to subsection ~~((+2))~~ (3)(a) through (f) of this
39 section, a special election to validate an excess levy or bond issue

1 may be called at any time to meet the needs resulting from fire, flood,
2 earthquake, or other act of God, except that no special election may be
3 held between the first day for candidates to file for public office and
4 the last day to certify the returns of the general election other than
5 as provided in subsection ~~((+2))~~ (3)(e) and (f) of this section. Such
6 special election shall be conducted and notice thereof given in the
7 manner provided by law.

8 ~~((+5))~~ (7) This section shall supersede the provisions of any and
9 all other statutes, whether general or special in nature, having
10 different dates for such city, town, and district elections, the
11 purpose of this section being to establish mandatory dates for holding
12 elections.

13 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29.13.070 and 1977 ex.s. c 361 s 29 are each amended
14 to read as follows:

15 Nominating primaries for general elections to be held in November
16 shall be held at the regular polling places in each precinct on the
17 third Tuesday of the preceding ~~((September or on the seventh Tuesday~~
18 ~~immediately preceding such general election, whichever occurs first))~~
19 August.

20 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29.15.020 and 1990 c 59 s 81 are each amended to read
21 as follows:

22 Except where otherwise provided by this title, declarations of
23 candidacy for the following offices shall be filed during regular
24 business hours with the filing officer no earlier than the ~~((fourth))~~
25 first Monday in ~~((July))~~ June and no later than the following Friday in
26 the year in which the office is scheduled to be voted upon:

27 (1) Offices that are scheduled to be voted upon for full terms or
28 both full terms and short terms at, or in conjunction with, a state
29 general election; and

30 (2) Offices where a vacancy, other than a short term, exists that
31 has not been filled by election and for which an election to fill the
32 vacancy is required in conjunction with the next state general
33 election.

34 This section supersedes all other statutes that provide for a
35 different filing period for these offices.

1 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29.24.020 and 1989 c 215 s 2 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 Any nomination of a candidate for partisan public office by other
4 than a major political party shall only be made either: (1) In a
5 convention held not earlier than the (~~last~~) second Saturday in
6 (~~June~~) May and not later than the (~~first~~) third Saturday in
7 (~~July~~) May or during any of the seven days immediately preceding the
8 first day for filing declarations of candidacy as fixed in accordance
9 with RCW 29.68.080; or (2) as provided by RCW (~~29.51.170~~) 29.62.180.
10 A minor political party may hold more than one convention but in no
11 case shall any such party nominate more than one candidate for any one
12 partisan public office or position. For the purpose of nominating
13 candidates for the offices of president and vice-president, United
14 States senator, or a state-wide office, a minor party or independent
15 candidate holding multiple conventions may add together the number of
16 signatures of different individuals from each convention obtained in
17 support of the candidate or candidates in order to obtain the number
18 required by RCW 29.24.030. For all other offices for which nominations
19 are made, signatures of the requisite number of registered voters must
20 be obtained at a single convention.

21 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29.24.035 and 1989 c 215 s 5 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 A nominating petition submitted under this chapter shall clearly
24 identify the name of the minor party or independent candidate
25 convention as it appears on the certificate of nomination as required
26 by RCW (~~29.24.030(3)~~) 29.24.040(3). The petition shall also contain
27 a statement that the person signing the petition is a registered voter
28 of the state of Washington and shall have a space for the voter to sign
29 his or her name and to print his or her name and address. No person
30 may sign more than one nominating petition under this chapter for an
31 office for a primary or election.

32 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29.30.075 and 1987 c 54 s 1 are each amended to read
33 as follows:

34 Except where a recount or litigation under RCW 29.04.030 is
35 pending, the county auditor shall have sufficient absentee ballots
36 ready to mail to absentee voters of that county at least twenty days
37 before any primary, general election, or special election. All

1 overseas absentee ballots must be mailed forty-five days before any
2 primary, general election, or special election. A request for an
3 overseas absentee ballot received after that day must be processed
4 immediately.

5 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29.36.010 and 1991 c 81 s 29 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Any registered voter of the state or any out-of-state voter,
8 overseas voter, or service voter may vote by absentee ballot in any
9 general election, special election, or primary in the manner provided
10 in this chapter. Out-of-state voters, overseas voters, and service
11 voters are authorized to cast the same ballots, including those for
12 special elections, as a registered voter of the state would receive
13 under this chapter.

14 (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) ~~((and))~~, (3), and (4) of
15 this section, in RCW 29.36.013, and in RCW 29.36.170, a registered
16 voter or elector desiring to cast an absentee ballot ~~((must))~~ may
17 request the absentee ballot from his or her county auditor no earlier
18 than forty-five days nor later than the day before any election or
19 primary. Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section and in
20 RCW 29.36.170, the request may be made orally in person, by telephone,
21 or in writing. An application or request for an absentee ballot made
22 under the authority of any federal statute or regulation shall be
23 considered and given the same effect as a request for an absentee
24 ballot under this chapter.

25 (2) For any registered voter, a request for an absentee ballot for
26 a primary shall be honored as a request for an absentee ballot for the
27 following general election if the voter so indicates in his or her
28 request. For any out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter,
29 a request for an absentee ballot for a primary election shall also be
30 honored as a request for an absentee ballot for the following general
31 election.

32 (3) A voter admitted to a hospital no earlier than five days before
33 a primary or election and confined to the hospital on election day may
34 apply by messenger for an absentee ballot on the day of the primary or
35 election if a signed statement from the hospital administrator, or
36 designee, verifying the voter's date of admission and status as a
37 patient in the hospital on the day of the primary or election is
38 attached to the voter's written application for an absentee ballot.

1 (4) An overseas voter may request the absentee ballot from his or
2 her county auditor no earlier than sixty days nor later than the day
3 before an election or primary.

4 (5) In a voter's request for an absentee ballot, the voter shall
5 state the address to which the absentee ballot should be sent. A
6 request for an absentee ballot from an out-of-state voter, overseas
7 voter, or service voter shall state the address of that elector's last
8 residence for voting purposes in the state of Washington and either a
9 written application or the oath on the return envelope shall include a
10 declaration of the other qualifications of the applicant as an elector
11 of this state. A request for an absentee ballot from any other voter
12 shall state the address at which that voter is currently registered to
13 vote in the state of Washington or the county auditor shall verify such
14 information from the voter registration records of the county.

15 (~~(5)~~) (6) A request for an absentee ballot from a registered
16 voter who is within this state shall be made directly to the auditor of
17 the county in which the voter is registered. An absentee ballot
18 request from a registered voter who is temporarily outside this state
19 or from an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter may be
20 made either to the appropriate county auditor or to the secretary of
21 state, who shall promptly forward the request to the appropriate county
22 auditor. No person, organization, or association may distribute
23 absentee ballot applications within this state that contain any return
24 address other than that of the appropriate county auditor.

25 (~~(6)~~) (7) A person may request an absentee ballot for use by the
26 person as a registered voter and may request an absentee ballot on
27 behalf of any member of that person's immediate family who is a
28 registered voter for use by the family member. As a means of ensuring
29 that a person who requests an absentee ballot is requesting the ballot
30 for only that person or a member of the person's immediate family, the
31 secretary of state shall adopt rules prescribing the circumstances
32 under which an auditor: May require a person who requests an absentee
33 ballot to identify the date of birth of the voter for whom the ballot
34 is requested; and may deny a request which is not accompanied by this
35 information.

36 **Sec. 9.** RCW 29.36.045 and 1987 c 346 s 12 are each amended to read
37 as follows:

1 The county auditor shall send each absentee voter a ballot, a
2 security envelope in which to seal the ballot after voting, a larger
3 envelope in which to return the security envelope, and instructions on
4 how to mark the ballot and how to return it to the county auditor. The
5 larger return envelope shall contain a declaration by the absentee
6 voter reciting his or her qualifications and stating that he or she has
7 not voted in any other jurisdiction at this election, together with a
8 summary of the penalties for any violation of any of the provisions of
9 this chapter. The return envelope shall provide space (~~((for the voter
10 to indicate the date on which the ballot was voted and))~~) for the voter
11 to sign the oath, along with a statement notifying the voter that the
12 ballot must be received by the auditor no later than 8:00 p.m. on the
13 day of the primary or election. A summary of the applicable penalty
14 provisions of this chapter shall be printed on the return envelope
15 immediately adjacent to the space for the voter's signature. The
16 signature of the voter on the return envelope shall affirm and attest
17 to the statements regarding the qualifications of that voter and to the
18 validity of the ballot. For out-of-state voters, overseas voters, and
19 service voters, the signed declaration on the return envelope
20 constitutes the equivalent of a voter registration for the election or
21 primary for which the ballot has been issued. The voter shall be
22 instructed to either return the ballot to the county auditor by whom it
23 was issued or attach sufficient first class postage, if applicable, and
24 (~~((mail))~~) return the ballot to the appropriate county auditor no later
25 than the day of the election or primary for which the ballot was
26 issued. No absentee ballot is valid if it is received by the county
27 auditor after 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary or election.

28 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29.36.060 and 1991 c 81 s 32 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 The opening and subsequent processing of return envelopes for any
31 primary or election may begin on or after the tenth day prior to such
32 primary or election. The (~~((opening of the security envelopes and))~~)
33 tabulation of absentee ballots shall not commence until after 8:00
34 o'clock p.m. on the day of the primary or election. All absentee
35 ballots must be counted by the end of business on the Friday after the
36 primary or election.

37 (~~((After opening the return envelopes, the county canvassing board~~
38 ~~shall place all of the ballot envelopes in containers that can be~~

1 secured with numbered seals. These sealed containers shall be stored
2 in a secure location until after 8:00 o'clock p.m. of the day of the
3 primary or election. Absentee ballots that are to be tabulated on an
4 electronic vote tallying system may be taken from the inner envelopes
5 and all the normal procedural steps may be performed to prepare these
6 ballots for tabulation before sealing the containers.))

7 Before opening a returned absentee ballot, the canvassing board or
8 its designated representatives shall examine the ((postmark,))
9 statement((,)) and signature on ((each)) the return envelope
10 ((containing)) that contains the security envelope and absentee ballot.
11 They shall verify that the voter's signature on the return envelope is
12 the same as ((that)) the signature in the registration files for that
13 voter and that the ballot was returned before 8:00 p.m. on the day of
14 the primary or election. ((For absentee voters other than out-of-state
15 voters, overseas voters, and service voters, if the postmark is
16 illegible, the date on the return envelope to which the voter attests
17 shall determine the validity, as to the time of voting, of that
18 absentee ballot under this chapter.)) For any absentee voter, a
19 variation between the signature of the voter on the return envelope and
20 that in the registration files due to the substitution of initials or
21 the use of common nicknames is permitted so long as the surname and
22 handwriting are clearly the same.

23 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29.36.122 and 1994 c 57 s 50 are each amended to read
24 as follows:

25 For any special election conducted by mail, the county auditor
26 shall send a mail ballot with a return identification envelope to each
27 active registered voter of the district in which the special election
28 is being conducted ((not sooner than the twenty-fifth day before the
29 date of the election and not later than the fifteenth day before the
30 date of the election)) in the same manner as absentee ballots as
31 provided for by RCW 29.30.075. The envelope in which the ballot is
32 mailed must clearly indicate that the ballot is not to be forwarded and
33 is to be returned to the sender with return postage guaranteed. The
34 auditor shall send an application to receive a ballot to all inactive
35 voters of the district. Upon receipt of a completed application the
36 auditor shall send a ballot and restore the voter's status to active.

1 **Sec. 12.** RCW 14.08.304 and 1994 c 223 s 4 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 The board of airport district commissioners shall consist of three
4 members. The first commissioners shall be appointed by the county
5 legislative authority. At the next general district election, held as
6 provided in RCW ~~((29.13.020))~~ 29.13.010, three airport district
7 commissioners shall be elected. The terms of office of airport
8 district commissioners shall be two years, or until their successors
9 are elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with
10 RCW 29.04.170. Members of the board of airport district commissioners
11 shall be elected at each regular district general election on a
12 nonpartisan basis in accordance with the general election law.
13 Vacancies on the board of airport district commissioners shall occur
14 and shall be filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW. Members of the
15 board of airport district commissioners shall receive no compensation
16 for their services, but shall be reimbursed for actual necessary
17 traveling and sustenance expenses incurred while engaged on official
18 business.

19 **Sec. 13.** RCW 17.28.090 and 1957 c 153 s 9 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 If, from the testimony given before the county commissioners, it
22 appears to that board that the public necessity or welfare requires the
23 formation of the district, it shall, by an order entered on its
24 minutes, declare that to be its finding, and shall further declare and
25 order that the territory within the boundaries so fixed and determined
26 be organized as a district, under an appropriate name to be selected by
27 the county commissioners, subject to approval of the voters of the
28 district as hereinafter provided. The name shall contain the words
29 "mosquito control district."

30 At the time of the declaration establishing and naming the
31 district, the county commissioners shall by resolution call a special
32 election to be held ~~((not less than thirty days and not more than sixty
33 days from the date thereof))~~ as provided in RCW 29.13.020, and shall
34 cause to be published a notice of such election at least once a week
35 for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in
36 the county, setting forth the hours during which the polls will be
37 open, the boundaries of the proposed district as finally adopted, and
38 the object of the election. If any portion of the proposed district

1 lies in another county, a notice of such election shall likewise be
2 published in that county.

3 The election on the formation of the mosquito control district
4 shall be conducted by the auditor of the county in which the greater
5 area of the proposed district is located in accordance with the general
6 election laws of the state and the results thereof shall be canvassed
7 by that county's canvassing board. For the purpose of conducting an
8 election under this section, the auditor of the county in which the
9 greater area of the proposed district is located may appoint the
10 auditor of any county or the city clerk of any city lying wholly or
11 partially within the proposed district as his deputies. No person
12 shall be entitled to vote at such election unless he is a qualified
13 voter under the laws of the state in effect at the time of such
14 election and has resided within the mosquito control district for at
15 least thirty days preceding the date of the election. The ballot
16 proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

17 "Shall a mosquito control district be established for the area
18 described in a resolution of the board of commissioners of
19 county adopted on the day of, 19. . . ?

20 YES 1

21 NO 1 "

22 If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote
23 in favor thereof, the mosquito control district shall thereupon be
24 established and the county commissioners of the county in which the
25 greater area of the district is situated shall immediately file for
26 record in the office of the county auditor of each county in which any
27 portion of the land embraced in the district is situated, and shall
28 also forward to the county commissioners of each of the other counties,
29 if any, in which any portion of the district is situated, and also
30 shall file with the secretary of state, a certified copy of the order
31 of the county commissioners. From and after the date of the filing of
32 the certified copy with the secretary of state, the district named
33 therein is organized as a district, with all the rights, privileges,
34 and powers set forth in this chapter, or necessarily incident thereto.

35 If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote
36 in favor thereof, all expenses of the election shall be paid by the
37 mosquito control district when organized. If the proposition fails to
38 receive a majority of votes in favor, the expenses of the election

1 shall be borne by the respective counties in which the district is
2 located in proportion to the number of votes cast in said counties.

3 **Sec. 14.** RCW 27.12.370 and 1982 c 123 s 14 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 The county legislative authority or authorities shall by resolution
6 call a special election to be held in such city or town at the next
7 date provided in RCW (~~((29.13.010 but not less than forty five days from~~
8 ~~the date of the declaration of such finding))~~ 29.13.020, and shall
9 cause notice of such election to be given as provided for in RCW
10 29.27.080.

11 The election on the annexation of the city or town into the library
12 district shall be conducted by the auditor of the county or counties in
13 which the city or town is located in accordance with the general
14 election laws of the state and the results thereof shall be canvassed
15 by the canvassing board of the county or counties. No person shall be
16 entitled to vote at such election unless he or she is registered to
17 vote in said city or town for at least thirty days preceding the date
18 of the election. The ballot proposition shall be in substantially the
19 following form:

20 "Shall the city or town of be annexed to and be a part
21 of library district?

22 YES 1
23 NO 1 "

24 If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition shall vote
25 in favor thereof, the city or town shall thereupon be annexed and shall
26 be a part of such library district.

27 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29.13.023 and 1981 c 213 s 3 are each amended to read
28 as follows:

29 All regular elections in first class cities having a mayor-council
30 form of government whose charters provide for twelve councilmembers
31 elected for a term of two years, two being elected from each of six
32 wards, and for the election of a mayor, treasurer, and comptroller for
33 terms of two years, shall be held biennially as provided in RCW
34 (~~((29.13.020))~~) 29.13.010. The term of each councilmember, mayor,
35 treasurer, and comptroller shall be four years and until his or her
36 successor is elected and qualified and assumes office in accordance

1 with RCW 29.04.170. The terms of the councilmembers shall be so
2 staggered that six councilmembers shall be elected to office at each
3 regular election.

4 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29.13.024 and 1981 c 213 s 4 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 All regular elections in first class cities having a mayor-council
7 form of government whose charters provide for seven councilmembers, one
8 to be elected from each of six wards and one at large, for a term of
9 two years, and for the election of a mayor, comptroller, treasurer and
10 attorney for two year terms, shall be held biennially as provided in
11 RCW ((~~29.13.020~~)) 29.13.010. The terms of the six councilmembers to be
12 elected by wards shall be four years and until their successors are
13 elected and qualified and the term of the councilmember to be elected
14 at large shall be two years and until their successors are elected and
15 qualified. The terms of the councilmembers shall be so staggered that
16 three ward councilmembers and the councilmember at large shall be
17 elected at each regular election. The term of the mayor, attorney,
18 treasurer, and comptroller shall be four years and until their
19 successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance
20 with RCW 29.04.170.

21 **Sec. 17.** RCW 29.13.060 and 1996 c 202 s 1 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 (1) In each county with a population of two hundred ten thousand or
24 more, first class school districts containing a city of the first class
25 shall hold their elections biennially as provided in RCW ((~~29.13.020~~))
26 29.13.010.

27 (2) Except as provided in RCW 28A.315.460, the directors to be
28 elected may be elected for terms of six years and until their
29 successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance
30 with RCW 29.04.170.

31 (3) If the board of directors of a school district included within
32 the definition in subsection (1) of this section reduces the length of
33 the term of office for school directors in the district from six to
34 four years, the reduction in the length of term must not affect the
35 term of office of any incumbent director without his or her consent,
36 and provision must be made to appropriately stagger future elections of
37 school directors.

1 **Sec. 18.** RCW 29.36.120 and 1994 c 269 s 1 and 1994 c 57 s 48 are
2 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3 (1) At any primary or election, general or special, the county
4 auditor may, in any precinct having fewer than two hundred active
5 registered voters at the time of closing of voter registration as
6 provided in RCW 29.07.160, conduct the voting in that precinct by mail
7 ballot. For any precinct having fewer than two hundred active
8 registered voters where voting at a primary or a general election is
9 conducted by mail ballot, the county auditor shall, not less than
10 fifteen days prior to the date of that primary or general election,
11 mail or deliver to each active and inactive registered voter within
12 that precinct a notice that the voting in that precinct will be by mail
13 ballot, an application form for a mail ballot, and a postage prepaid
14 envelope, preaddressed to the issuing officer. A mail ballot shall be
15 issued to each voter who returns a properly executed application to the
16 county auditor no later than the day of that primary or general
17 election. For all subsequent mail ballot elections in that precinct
18 the application is valid so long as the voter remains active and
19 qualified to vote. In determining the number of registered voters in
20 a precinct for the purposes of this section, persons who are ongoing
21 absentee voters under RCW 29.36.013 shall not be counted. Nothing in
22 this section may be construed as altering the vote tallying
23 requirements of RCW 29.62.090.

24 At any nonpartisan special election not being held in conjunction
25 with a state primary or general election, the county, city, town, or
26 district requesting the election pursuant to RCW ((29.13.010—~~or~~))
27 29.13.020 may also request that the election be conducted by mail
28 ballot. The county auditor may honor the request or may determine that
29 the election is not to be conducted by mail ballot. The decision of
30 the county auditor in this regard is final.

31 In no instance shall any special election be conducted by mail
32 ballot in any precinct with two hundred or more active registered
33 voters if candidates for partisan office are to be voted upon.

34 For all special elections not being held in conjunction with a
35 state primary or state general election where voting is conducted by
36 mail ballot, the county auditor shall, not less than fifteen days prior
37 to the date of such election, mail or deliver to each active registered
38 voter a mail ballot and an envelope, preaddressed to the issuing
39 officer. The auditor shall send each inactive voter either a ballot or

1 an application to receive a ballot. The auditor shall determine which
2 of the two is to be sent. If the inactive voter returns a voted
3 ballot, the ballot shall be counted and the voter's status restored to
4 active. If the inactive voter completes and returns an application, a
5 ballot shall be sent and the voter's status restored to active.

6 (2) For a two-year period beginning on June 9, 1994, and ending two
7 years after June 9, 1994, the county auditor may conduct the voting in
8 any precinct by mail for any primary or election, partisan or
9 nonpartisan, using the procedures set forth in RCW 29.36.120 through
10 29.36.139.

11 **Sec. 19.** RCW 29.36.121 and 1994 c 57 s 49 are each amended to read
12 as follows:

13 (1) At any nonpartisan special election not being held in
14 conjunction with a state primary or general election, the county, city,
15 town, or district requesting the election pursuant to RCW ((29.13.010
16 or)) 29.13.020 may also request that the election be conducted by mail
17 ballot. The county auditor may honor the request or may determine that
18 the election is not to be conducted by mail ballot. The decision of
19 the county auditor in this regard is final.

20 (2) In an odd-numbered year, the county auditor may conduct by mail
21 ballot a primary or a special election concurrently with the primary:

22 (a) For any office or ballot measure of a special purpose district
23 which is entirely within the county;

24 (b) For any office or ballot measure of a special purpose district
25 which lies in the county and one or more other counties if the auditor
26 first secures the concurrence of the county auditors of those other
27 counties to conduct the primary in this manner district-wide; and

28 (c) For any ballot measure or nonpartisan office of a county, city,
29 or town if the auditor first secures the concurrence of the legislative
30 authority of the county, city, or town involved.

31 A primary in an odd-numbered year may not be conducted by mail
32 ballot in any precinct with two hundred or more active registered
33 voters if a partisan office or state office or state ballot measure is
34 to be voted upon at that primary in the precinct.

35 (3) For all special elections not being held in conjunction with a
36 state primary or state general election where voting is conducted by
37 mail ballot, the county auditor shall, not less than fifteen days
38 before the date of such election, mail or deliver to each registered

1 voter a mail ballot and an envelope, preaddressed to the issuing
2 officer. The county auditor shall notify an election jurisdiction for
3 which a primary is to be held that the primary will be conducted by
4 mail ballot.

5 (4) To the extent they are not inconsistent with subsections (1)
6 through (3) of this section, the laws governing the conduct of mail
7 ballot special elections apply to nonpartisan primaries conducted by
8 mail ballot.

9 **Sec. 20.** RCW 29.81A.010 and 1984 c 106 s 3 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 At least ninety days before any primary or general election, or at
12 least forty days before any special election held under RCW ((~~29.13.010~~
13 ~~or~~) 29.13.020, the legislative authority of any county or first-class
14 or code city may adopt an ordinance authorizing the publication and
15 distribution of a local voters' pamphlet. The pamphlet shall provide
16 information on all measures within that jurisdiction and may, if
17 specified in the ordinance, include information on candidates within
18 that jurisdiction. If both a county and a first-class or code city
19 within that county authorize a local voters' pamphlet for the same
20 election, the pamphlet shall be produced jointly by the county and the
21 first-class or code city. If no agreement can be reached between the
22 county and first-class or code city, the county and first-class or code
23 city may each produce a pamphlet. Any ordinance adopted authorizing a
24 local voters' pamphlet may be for a specific primary, special election,
25 or general election or for any future primaries or elections. The
26 format of any local voters' pamphlet shall, whenever applicable, comply
27 with the provisions of chapters 29.80 and 29.81 RCW regarding the
28 publication of the state candidates' and voters' pamphlets.

29 **Sec. 21.** RCW 35.02.130 and 1997 c 361 s 11 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 The city or town officially shall become incorporated at a date
32 from one hundred eighty days to three hundred sixty days after the date
33 of the election on the question of incorporation. An interim period
34 shall exist between the time the newly elected officials have been
35 elected and qualified and this official date of incorporation. During
36 this interim period, the newly elected officials are authorized to
37 adopt ordinances and resolutions which shall become effective on or

1 after the official date of incorporation, and to enter into contracts
2 and agreements to facilitate the transition to becoming a city or town
3 and to ensure a continuation of governmental services after the
4 official date of incorporation. Periods of time that would be required
5 to elapse between the enactment and effective date of such ordinances,
6 including but not limited to times for publication or for filing
7 referendums, shall commence upon the date of such enactment as though
8 the city or town were officially incorporated.

9 During this interim period, the city or town governing body may
10 adopt rules establishing policies and procedures under the state
11 environmental policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW, and may use these rules
12 and procedures in making determinations under the state environmental
13 policy act, chapter 43.21C RCW.

14 During this interim period, the newly formed city or town and its
15 governing body shall be subject to the following as though the city or
16 town were officially incorporated: RCW 4.24.470 relating to immunity;
17 chapter 42.17 RCW relating to open government; chapter 40.14 RCW
18 relating to the preservation and disposition of public records;
19 chapters 42.20 and 42.23 RCW relating to ethics and conflicts of
20 interest; chapters 42.30 and 42.32 RCW relating to open public meetings
21 and minutes; RCW 35.22.288, 35.23.221, 35.27.300, 35A.12.160, as
22 appropriate, and chapter 35A.65 RCW relating to the publication of
23 notices and ordinances; RCW 35.21.875 and 35A.21.230 relating to the
24 designation of an official newspaper; RCW 36.16.138 relating to
25 liability insurance; RCW 35.22.620, 35.23.352, and 35A.40.210, as
26 appropriate, and statutes referenced therein relating to public
27 contracts and bidding; and chapter 39.34 RCW relating to interlocal
28 cooperation. Tax anticipation or revenue anticipation notes or
29 warrants and other short-term obligations may be issued and funds may
30 be borrowed on the security of these instruments during this interim
31 period, as provided in chapter 39.50 RCW. Funds also may be borrowed
32 from federal, state, and other governmental agencies in the same manner
33 as if the city or town were officially incorporated.

34 RCW 84.52.020 and 84.52.070 shall apply to the extent that they may
35 be applicable, and the governing body of such city or town may take
36 appropriate action by ordinance during the interim period to adopt the
37 property tax levy for its first full calendar year following the
38 interim period.

1 The governing body of the new city or town may acquire needed
2 facilities, supplies, equipment, insurance, and staff during this
3 interim period as if the city or town were in existence. An interim
4 city manager or administrator, who shall have such administrative
5 powers and duties as are delegated by the governing body, may be
6 appointed to serve only until the official date of incorporation.
7 After the official date of incorporation the governing body of such a
8 new city organized under the council manager form of government may
9 extend the appointment of such an interim manager or administrator with
10 such limited powers as the governing body determines, for up to ninety
11 days. This governing body may submit ballot propositions to the voters
12 of the city or town to authorize taxes to be collected on or after the
13 official date of incorporation, or authorize an annexation of the city
14 or town by a fire protection district or library district to be
15 effective immediately upon the effective date of the incorporation as
16 a city or town.

17 The boundaries of a newly incorporated city or town shall be deemed
18 to be established for purposes of RCW 84.09.030 on the date that the
19 results of the initial election on the question of incorporation are
20 certified or the first day of January following the date of this
21 election if the newly incorporated city or town does not impose
22 property taxes in the same year that the voters approve the
23 incorporation.

24 The newly elected officials shall take office immediately upon
25 their election and qualification with limited powers during this
26 interim period as provided in this section. They shall acquire their
27 full powers as of the official date of incorporation and shall continue
28 in office until their successors are elected and qualified at the next
29 general municipal election after the official date of incorporation:
30 PROVIDED, That if the date of the next general municipal election is
31 less than twelve months after the date of the first election of
32 councilmembers, those initially elected councilmembers shall serve
33 until their successors are elected and qualified at the next following
34 general municipal election as provided in RCW 29.04.170. For purposes
35 of this section, the general municipal election shall be the date on
36 which city and town general elections are held throughout the state of
37 Washington, pursuant to RCW (~~29.13.020~~) 29.13.010.

38 In any newly incorporated city that has adopted the council-manager
39 form of government, the term of office of the mayor, during the interim

1 period only, shall be set by the council, and thereafter shall be as
2 provided by law.

3 The official date of incorporation shall be on a date from one
4 hundred eighty to three hundred sixty days after the date of the
5 election on the question of incorporation, as specified in a resolution
6 adopted by the governing body during this interim period. A copy of
7 the resolution shall be filed with the county legislative authority of
8 the county in which all or the major portion of the newly incorporated
9 city or town is located. If the governing body fails to adopt such a
10 resolution, the official date of incorporation shall be three hundred
11 sixty days after the date of the election on the question of
12 incorporation. The county legislative authority of the county in which
13 all or the major portion of the newly incorporated city or town is
14 located shall file a notice with the county assessor that the city or
15 town has been authorized to be incorporated immediately after the
16 favorable results of the election on the question of incorporation have
17 been certified. The county legislative authority shall file a notice
18 with the secretary of state that the city or town is incorporated as of
19 the official date of incorporation.

20 **Sec. 22.** RCW 35.13.174 and 1997 c 429 s 38 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Upon receipt by the board of county commissioners of a
23 determination by a majority of the review board favoring annexation of
24 the proposed area that has been initiated by resolution pursuant to RCW
25 35.13.015 by the city or town legislative body, the board of county
26 commissioners, or the city or town legislative body for any city or
27 town within an urban growth area designated under RCW 36.70A.110, shall
28 fix a date on which an annexation election shall be held(~~(, which date~~
29 ~~will be not less than thirty days nor more than sixty days thereafter))~~
30 under RCW 29.13.010.

31 **Sec. 23.** RCW 35.17.020 and 1994 c 223 s 10 and 1994 c 119 s 1 are
32 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

33 (1) All regular elections in cities organized under the statutory
34 commission form of government shall be held quadrennially in the odd-
35 numbered years on the dates provided in RCW (~~(29.13.020)~~) 29.13.010.
36 However, after commissioners are elected at the next general election
37 occurring in 1995 or 1997, regular elections in cities organized under

1 a statutory commission form of government shall be held biennially at
2 municipal general elections.

3 (2) The commissioners shall be nominated and elected at large.
4 Their terms shall be for four years and until their successors are
5 elected and qualified and assume office in accordance with RCW
6 29.04.170. However, at the next regular election of a city organized
7 under a statutory commission form of government, the terms of office of
8 commissioners shall occur with the person who is elected as a
9 commissioner receiving the least number of votes being elected to a
10 two-year term of office and the other two persons who are elected being
11 elected to four-year terms of office. Thereafter, commissioners shall
12 be elected to four-year terms of office.

13 (3) Vacancies on a commission shall occur and shall be filled as
14 provided in chapter 42.12 RCW, except that in every instance a person
15 shall be elected to fill the remainder of the unexpired term at the
16 next general municipal election that occurs twenty-eight or more days
17 after the occurrence of the vacancy.

18 **Sec. 24.** RCW 35.17.400 and 1994 c 223 s 11 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 The first election of commissioners shall be held at the next
21 special election that occurs at least sixty days after the election
22 results are certified where the proposition to organize under the
23 commission form was approved by city voters, and the commission first
24 elected shall commence to serve as soon as they have been elected and
25 have qualified and shall continue to serve until their successors have
26 been elected and qualified and have assumed office in accordance with
27 RCW 29.04.170. The date of the second election for commissioners shall
28 be in accordance with RCW ((29.13.020)) 29.13.010 such that the term of
29 the first commissioners will be as near as possible to, but not in
30 excess of, four years calculated from the first day in January in the
31 year after the year in which the first commissioners were elected.

32 **Sec. 25.** RCW 35.27.090 and 1979 ex.s. c 126 s 23 are each amended
33 to read as follows:

34 All general municipal elections in towns shall be held biennially
35 in the odd-numbered years as provided in RCW ((29.13.020)) 29.13.010.
36 The term of office of the mayor and treasurer shall be four years and
37 until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office in

1 accordance with RCW 29.04.170: PROVIDED, That the term of the
2 treasurer shall not commence in the same biennium in which the term of
3 the mayor commences. Councilmen shall be elected for four year terms
4 and until their successors are elected and qualified and assume office
5 in accordance with RCW 29.04.170; three at one election and two at the
6 next succeeding biennial election.

7 **Sec. 26.** RCW 35A.02.050 and 1994 c 223 s 25 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The first election of officers where required for reorganization
10 under a different general plan of government newly adopted in a manner
11 provided in RCW 35A.02.020, 35A.02.030, 35A.06.030, or 35A.06.060, as
12 now or hereafter amended, shall be at the next general municipal
13 election if one is to be held more than ninety days but not more than
14 one hundred and eighty days after certification of a reorganization
15 ordinance or resolution, or otherwise at a special election to be held
16 for that purpose in accordance with RCW 29.13.020. In the event that
17 the first election of officers is to be held at a general municipal
18 election, such election shall be preceded by a primary election
19 pursuant to RCW 29.21.010 and 29.13.070. In the event that the first
20 election of all officers is to be held at a special election rather
21 than at a general election, and notwithstanding any provisions of any
22 other law to the contrary, such special election shall be preceded by
23 a primary election to be held on a date authorized by RCW ((29.13.010))
24 29.13.020, and the persons nominated at that primary election shall be
25 voted upon at the next succeeding special election that is authorized
26 by RCW ((29.13.010)) 29.13.020: PROVIDED, That in the event the
27 ordinances calling for reclassification or reclassification and
28 reorganization under the provisions of Title 35A RCW have been filed
29 with the secretary of state pursuant to RCW 35A.02.040 in an even-
30 numbered year at least ninety days prior to a state general election
31 then the election of new officers shall be concurrent with the state
32 primary and general election and shall be conducted as set forth in
33 general election law.

34 Upon reorganization, candidates for all offices shall file or be
35 nominated for and successful candidates shall be elected to specific
36 council positions. The initial terms of office for those elected at a
37 first election of all officers shall be as follows: (1) A simple
38 majority of the persons who are elected as councilmembers receiving the

1 greatest numbers of votes and the mayor in a city with a mayor-council
2 plan of government shall be elected to four-year terms of office, if
3 the election is held in an odd-numbered year, or three-year terms of
4 office, if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (2) the
5 other persons who are elected as councilmembers shall be elected to
6 two-year terms of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered
7 year, or one-year terms of office, if the election is held in an even-
8 numbered year. The newly elected officials shall take office
9 immediately when they are elected and qualified, but the length of
10 their terms of office shall be calculated from the first day of January
11 in the year following the election. Thereafter, each person elected as
12 a councilmember or mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of
13 government shall be elected to a four-year term of office. Each
14 councilmember and mayor in a city with a mayor-council plan of
15 government shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified and
16 assumes office as provided in RCW 29.04.170.

17 The former officers shall, upon the election and qualification of
18 new officers, deliver to the proper officers of the reorganized
19 noncharter code city all books of record, documents and papers in their
20 possession belonging to such municipal corporation before the
21 reorganization thereof.

22 **Sec. 27.** RCW 52.02.080 and 1989 c 63 s 6 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 The election on the formation of the district and to elect the
25 initial fire commissioners shall be conducted by the election officials
26 of the county or counties in which the proposed district is located in
27 accordance with the general election laws of the state. This election
28 shall be held at the next general election date, as specified under RCW
29 (~~(29.13.020)~~) 29.13.010, that occurs forty-five or more days after the
30 date of the action by the boundary review board, or county legislative
31 authority or authorities, approving the proposal.

32 **Sec. 28.** RCW 52.04.071 and 1984 c 230 s 16 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 The county legislative authority or authorities shall by resolution
35 call a special election to be held in the city or town and in the fire
36 protection district at the next date provided in RCW (~~(29.13.010 but~~
37 ~~not less than forty five days from the date of the declaration of the~~

1 finding)) 29.13.020, and shall cause notice of the election to be given
2 as provided for in RCW 29.27.080.

3 The election on the annexation of the city or town into the fire
4 protection district shall be conducted by the auditor of the county or
5 counties in which the city or town and the fire protection district are
6 located in accordance with the general election laws of the state. The
7 results thereof shall be canvassed by the canvassing board of the
8 county or counties. No person is entitled to vote at the election
9 unless he or she is a qualified elector in the city or town or unless
10 he or she is a qualified elector within the boundaries of the fire
11 protection district. The ballot proposition shall be in substantially
12 the following form:

13 "Shall the city or town of be annexed to and be a part
14 of fire protection district?

15 YES

16 NO "

17 If a majority of the persons voting on the proposition in the city
18 or town and a majority of the persons voting on the proposition in the
19 fire protection district vote in favor thereof, the city or town shall
20 be annexed and shall be a part of the fire protection district.

21 **Sec. 29.** RCW 53.04.020 and 1992 c 147 s 1 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 At any general election or at any special election which may be
24 called for that purpose, the county legislative authority of any county
25 in this state may, or on petition of ten percent of the registered
26 voters of such county based on the total vote cast in the last general
27 county election, shall, by resolution submit to the voters of such
28 county the proposition of creating a port district coextensive with the
29 limits of such county. Such petition shall be filed with the county
30 auditor, who shall within fifteen days examine the signatures thereof
31 and certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof, and for such
32 purpose the county auditor shall have access to all registration books
33 in the possession of the officers of any incorporated city or town in
34 such proposed port district. If such petition be found to be
35 insufficient, it shall be returned to the persons filing the same, who
36 may amend or add names thereto for ten days, when the same shall be
37 returned to the county auditor, who shall have an additional fifteen

1 days to examine the same and attach his or her certificate thereto. No
2 person having signed such petition shall be allowed to withdraw his or
3 her name therefrom after the filing of the same with the county
4 auditor. Whenever such petition shall be certified to as sufficient,
5 the county auditor shall forthwith transmit the same, together with his
6 or her certificate of sufficiency attached thereto, to the legislative
7 authority of the county, who shall submit such proposition at the next
8 general election or, if such petition so requests, the county
9 legislative authority shall, at their first meeting after the date of
10 such certificate, by resolution, call a special election to be held in
11 accordance with RCW ((~~29.13.010~~ and)) 29.13.020. The notice of
12 election shall state the boundaries of the proposed port district and
13 the object of such election. In submitting the question to the voters
14 for their approval or rejection, the proposition shall be expressed on
15 the ballot substantially in the following terms:

16 "Port of, Yes." (giving the name of the principal
17 seaport city within such proposed port district, or if there be more
18 than one city of the same class within such district, such name as may
19 be determined by the legislative authority of the county).

20 "Port of, No." (giving the name of the principal
21 seaport city within such port district, or if there be more than one
22 city of the same class within such district, such name as may be
23 determined by the legislative authority of the county).

24 **Sec. 30.** RCW 53.04.080 and 1990 c 259 s 16 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 At any general election or at any special election which may be
27 called for that purpose the county legislative authority of any county
28 in this state in which there exists a port district which is not
29 coextensive with the limits of the county, shall on petition of the
30 commissioners of such port district, by resolution, submit to the
31 voters residing within the limits of any territory which the existing
32 port district desires to annex or include in its enlarged port
33 district, the proposition of enlarging the limits of such existing port
34 districts so as to include therein the whole of the territory embraced
35 within the boundaries of such county, or such territory as may be
36 described in the petition by legal subdivisions. Such petition shall
37 be filed with the county auditor, who shall forthwith transmit the same
38 to the county legislative authority, who shall submit such proposition

1 at the next general election, or, if such petition so request, the
2 county legislative authority, shall at their first meeting after the
3 date of filing such petition, by resolution, call a special election to
4 be held in accordance with RCW ((29.13.010 and)) 29.13.020. The notice
5 of election shall state the boundaries of the proposed enlarged port
6 district and the object of the special election. In submitting the
7 question to the voters of the territory proposed to be annexed or
8 included for their approval or rejection, the proposition shall be
9 expressed on the ballots substantially in the following terms:

10 "Enlargement of the port of, yes." (Giving ((then
11 {the})) the name of the port district which it is proposed to enlarge);

12 "Enlargement of the port of, no." (Giving the name of
13 the port district which it is proposed to enlarge).

14 Such election, whether general or special, shall be held in each
15 precinct wholly or partially embraced within the limits of the
16 territory proposed to be annexed or included and shall be conducted and
17 the votes cast thereat counted, canvassed, and the returns thereof made
18 in the manner provided by law for holding general or special county
19 elections.

20 **Sec. 31.** RCW 54.08.010 and 1985 c 469 s 55 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 At any general election held in an even-numbered year, the county
23 legislative authority of any county in this state may, or, on petition
24 of ten percent of the qualified electors of the county based on the
25 total vote cast in the last general county election held in an even-
26 numbered year, shall, by resolution, submit to the voters of the county
27 the proposition of creating a public utility district which shall be
28 coextensive with the limits of the county as now or hereafter
29 established. A form of petition for the creation of a public utility
30 district shall be submitted to the county auditor within ten months
31 prior to the election at which the proposition is to be submitted to
32 the voters. Petitions shall be filed with the county auditor not less
33 than four months before the election and the county auditor shall
34 within thirty days examine the signatures thereof and certify to the
35 sufficiency or insufficiency thereof. If the petition be found to be
36 insufficient, it shall be returned to the persons filing the same, who
37 may amend or add names thereto for ten days, when the same shall be
38 returned to the county auditor, who shall have an additional fifteen

1 days to examine the same and attach his certificate thereto. No person
 2 having signed the petition shall be allowed to withdraw his name
 3 therefrom after the filing of the same with the county auditor:
 4 PROVIDED, That each signature shall be dated and that no signature
 5 dated prior to the date on which the form of petition was submitted to
 6 the county auditor shall be valid. Whenever the petition shall be
 7 certified to as sufficient, the county auditor shall forthwith transmit
 8 the same, together with his certificate of sufficiency attached
 9 thereto, to the county legislative authority which shall submit the
 10 proposition to the voters of the county at the next general election in
 11 an even-numbered year (~~occurring forty five days after submission of~~
 12 ~~the proposition to the legislative authority~~) under RCW 29.13.010.
 13 The notice of the election shall state the boundaries of the proposed
 14 public utility district and the object of such election, and shall in
 15 other respects conform to the requirements of the general laws of the
 16 state of Washington, governing the time and manner of holding
 17 elections. In submitting the question to the voters for their approval
 18 or rejection, the proposition shall be expressed on the ballot
 19 substantially in the following terms:

20 Public Utility District No. YES 1
 21 Public Utility District No. NO 1

22 Any petition for the formation of a public utility district may
 23 describe a less area than the entire county in which the petition is
 24 filed, the boundaries of which shall follow the then existing precinct
 25 boundaries and not divide any voting precinct; and in the event that
 26 such a petition is filed the county legislative authority shall fix a
 27 date for a hearing on such petition, and shall publish the petition,
 28 without the signatures thereto appended, for two weeks prior to the
 29 date of the hearing, together with a notice stating the time of the
 30 meeting when the petition will be heard. The publication, and all
 31 other publications required by this (~~act~~) title, shall be in a
 32 newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the district is
 33 situated. The hearing on the petition may be adjourned from time to
 34 time, not exceeding four weeks in all. If upon the final hearing the
 35 county legislative authority shall find that any lands have been
 36 unjustly or improperly included within the proposed public utility
 37 district and will not be benefited by inclusion therein, it shall
 38 change and fix the boundary lines in such manner as it shall deem

1 reasonable and just and conducive to the public welfare and
2 convenience, and make and enter an order establishing and defining the
3 boundary lines of the proposed public utility district: PROVIDED, That
4 no lands shall be included within the boundaries so fixed lying outside
5 the boundaries described in the petition, except upon the written
6 request of the owners of those lands. Thereafter the same procedure
7 shall be followed as prescribed in this chapter for the formation of a
8 public utility district including an entire county, except that the
9 petition and election shall be confined solely to the lesser public
10 utility district.

11 No public utility district created after September 1, 1979, shall
12 include any other public utility district within its boundaries:
13 PROVIDED, That this paragraph shall not alter, amend, or modify
14 provisions of chapter 54.32 RCW.

15 **Sec. 32.** RCW 54.08.070 and 1979 ex.s. c 240 s 2 are each amended
16 to read as follows:

17 Any district which does not own or operate electric facilities for
18 the generation, transmission or distribution of electric power on March
19 25, 1969, or any district which hereafter does not construct or acquire
20 such electric facilities within ten years of its creation, shall not
21 construct or acquire any such electric facilities without the approval
22 of such proposal by the voters of such district: PROVIDED, That a
23 district shall have the power to construct or acquire electric
24 facilities within ten years following its creation by action of its
25 commission without voter approval of such action.

26 At any general election held in an even-numbered year, the proposal
27 to construct or acquire electric facilities may be submitted to the
28 voters of the district by resolution of the public utility district
29 commission or shall be submitted to the voters of the district by the
30 county legislative authority on petition of ten percent of the
31 qualified electors of such district, based on the total vote cast in
32 the last general county election held in an even-numbered year. A form
33 of petition for the construction or acquisition of electric facilities
34 by the public utility district shall be submitted to the county auditor
35 within ten months prior to the election at which such proposition is to
36 be submitted to the voters. Petitions shall be filed with the county
37 auditor not less than four months before such election and the county
38 auditor shall within thirty days examine the signatures thereof and

1 certify to the sufficiency or insufficiency thereof. If such petition
2 is found to be insufficient, it shall be returned to the persons filing
3 the same, who may amend and add names thereto for ten days, when the
4 same shall be returned to the county auditor, who shall have an
5 additional fifteen days to examine the same and attach his certificate
6 thereto. No person having signed such petition shall be allowed to
7 withdraw his name therefrom after the filing of the same with the
8 county auditor: PROVIDED, That each signature shall be dated and that
9 no signature dated prior to the date on which the form of petition was
10 submitted to the county auditor shall be valid. Whenever such petition
11 shall be certified to as sufficient, the county auditor shall forthwith
12 transmit the same, together with his certificate of sufficiency
13 attached thereto, to the county legislative authority which shall
14 submit such proposition to the voters of said district at the next
15 general election in an even-numbered year (~~occurring forty five days~~
16 ~~after submission of the proposition to said legislative authority~~)
17 under RCW 29.13.020. The notice of the election shall state the object
18 of such election, and shall in other respects conform to the
19 requirements of the general laws of Washington, governing the time and
20 manner of holding elections.

21 The proposal submitted to the voters for their approval or
22 rejection, shall be expressed on the ballot substantially in the
23 following terms:

24 Shall Public Utility District No. of County
25 construct or acquire electric facilities for the generation,
26 transmission or distribution of electric power?

27 Yes 1

28 No 1

29 Within ten days after such election, the election board of the
30 county shall canvass the returns, and if at such election a majority of
31 the voters voting on such proposition shall vote in favor of such
32 construction or acquisition of electric facilities, the district shall
33 be authorized to construct or acquire electric facilities.

34 **Sec. 33.** RCW 54.40.070 and 1994 c 223 s 61 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 Within thirty days after the public utility district commission
37 divides the district into District A and District B, the county

1 legislative authority shall call a special election, to be held at the
2 next special election date provided for under RCW ((29.13.010))
3 29.13.020 that occurs sixty or more days after the call, at which time
4 the initial commissioners for District A and District B shall be
5 elected. No primary shall be held and a special filing period shall be
6 opened as provided in RCW 29.15.170 and 29.15.180. The person
7 receiving the greatest number of votes for each position shall be
8 elected.

9 The person who is elected receiving the greatest number of votes
10 shall be elected to a four-year term of office, and the other person
11 who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of office, if the
12 election is held in an even-numbered year, or the person who is elected
13 receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a three-year
14 term of office, and the other person who is elected shall be elected to
15 a one-year term of office, if the election is held in an odd-numbered
16 year. The length of these terms of office shall be calculated from the
17 first day in January in the year following their elections.

18 The newly elected commissioners shall assume office immediately
19 after being elected and qualified and shall serve until their
20 successors are elected and qualified and assume office in accordance
21 with RCW 29.04.170. Each successor shall be elected to a four-year
22 term of office.

23 **Sec. 34.** RCW 57.04.050 and 1996 c 230 s 204 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 Upon entry of the findings of the final hearing on the petition if
26 one or more county legislative authorities find that the proposed
27 district will be conducive to the public health, welfare, and
28 convenience and will benefit the land therein, they shall call a
29 special election by presenting a resolution to the county auditor ((at
30 ~~least forty-five days prior to the proposed election date. A special~~
31 ~~election shall be held on a date decided by the commissioners in~~
32 ~~accordance with~~)) as provided in RCW 29.13.020. The commissioners
33 shall cause to be published a notice of the election for four
34 successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the proposed
35 district, which notice shall state the hours during which the polls
36 will be open, the boundaries of the district as finally adopted and the
37 object of the election, and the notice shall also be posted ten days in
38 ten public places in the proposed district. In submitting the

1 proposition to the voters, it shall be expressed on the ballots in the
2 following terms:

3 District YES 1
4 District NO 1

5 giving the name of the district as provided in the petition. The
6 proposition to be effective must be approved by a majority of the
7 voters voting on the proposition.

8 At the same election a proposition shall be submitted to the
9 voters, for their approval or rejection, authorizing the district, if
10 formed, to impose on all property located in the district a general tax
11 for one year, in excess of the limitations provided by law, in the
12 amount specified in the petition to create the district, not to exceed
13 one dollar and twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed
14 value, for general preliminary expenses of the district, that
15 proposition to be expressed on the ballots in the following terms:

16 One year dollars and cents per
17 thousand dollars of assessed value tax YES 1
18 NO 1

19 Such a ballot proposition may only be submitted to voters for their
20 approval or rejection if the special election is held in February,
21 March, April, or May. The proposition to be effective must be approved
22 by at least three-fifths of the voters voting on the proposition in the
23 manner set forth in Article VII, section 2(a) of the state
24 Constitution.

25 **Sec. 35.** RCW 57.04.140 and 1997 c 447 s 4 are each amended to read
26 as follows:

27 (1) As an alternative means to forming a water-sewer district, a
28 county legislative authority may authorize the formation of a water-
29 sewer district to serve a new development that at the time of formation
30 does not have any residents, at written request of sixty percent of the
31 owners of the area to be included in the proposed district. The county
32 legislative authority shall review the proposed district according to
33 the procedures and criteria in RCW 57.02.040.

34 (2) The county legislative authority shall appoint the initial
35 water-sewer commissioners of the district. The commissioners shall
36 serve until seventy-five percent of the development is sold and

1 occupied, or until some other time as specified by the county
2 legislative authority when the district is approved. Commissioners
3 serving under this section are not entitled to any form of compensation
4 from the district.

5 (3) New commissioners shall be elected according to the procedures
6 in chapter 57.12 RCW at the next election held under RCW ((29.13.010))
7 29.13.020 that follows more than ninety days after the date seventy-
8 five percent of the development is sold and occupied, or after the time
9 specified by the county legislative authority when the district is
10 approved.

11 (4) A water-sewer district created under this section may be
12 transferred to a city or county, or dissolved if the district is
13 inactive, by order of the county legislative authority at the written
14 request of sixty percent of the owners of the area included in the
15 district.

16 **Sec. 36.** RCW 57.24.190 and 1996 c 230 s 910 are each amended to
17 read as follows:

18 The annexation resolution under RCW 57.24.180 shall be subject to
19 referendum for forty-five days after the passage thereof. Upon the
20 filing of a timely and sufficient referendum petition with the board of
21 commissioners, signed by registered voters in number equal to not less
22 than ten percent of the registered voters in the area to be annexed who
23 voted in the last municipal general election, the question of
24 annexation shall be submitted to the voters of such area in a general
25 election if one is to be held within ninety days or at a special
26 election called for that purpose by the board of commissioners in
27 accordance with RCW ((29.13.010—and)) 29.13.020. Notice of that
28 election shall be given under RCW 57.24.020 and the election shall be
29 conducted under RCW 57.24.040. The annexation shall be deemed approved
30 by the voters unless a majority of the votes cast on the proposition
31 are in opposition thereto.

32 After the expiration of the forty-fifth day from but excluding the
33 date of passage of the annexation resolution, if no timely and
34 sufficient referendum petition has been filed, the area annexed shall
35 become a part of the district upon the date fixed in the resolution of
36 annexation upon transmitting the resolution to the county legislative
37 authority.

1 **Sec. 37.** RCW 57.28.090 and 1996 c 230 s 1011 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 If the findings of any county legislative authority answer any of
4 the questions of fact set forth in RCW 57.28.050 in the negative, or if
5 any of the findings of the county legislative authority are not the
6 same as the findings of the district board of commissioners upon the
7 same question, then in either of such events, the petition for
8 withdrawal shall be deemed denied. Thereupon, and in such event, the
9 county legislative authority of each county in which the district is
10 located shall by resolution cause a special election to be held (~~not~~
11 ~~less than thirty days or more than sixty days from the date of the~~
12 ~~final hearing of any county legislative authority upon the petition for~~
13 ~~withdrawal~~) under RCW 29.13.010, at which election the proposition
14 expressed on the ballots shall be substantially as follows:

15 "Shall the territory established and defined by the district board
16 of commissioners at its meeting held on the (insert date of
17 final hearing of district board of commissioners upon the petition for
18 withdrawal) be withdrawn from district (naming it).

19 YES | NO | "

20 **Sec. 38.** RCW 68.52.250 and 1990 c 259 s 34 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Special elections submitting propositions to the registered voters
23 of the district may be called at any time by resolution of the cemetery
24 commissioners in accordance with RCW (~~29.13.010 and~~) 29.13.020, and
25 shall be called, noticed, held, conducted and canvassed in the same
26 manner and by the same officials as provided for the election to
27 determine whether the district shall be created.

28 **Sec. 39.** RCW 70.44.020 and 1990 c 259 s 38 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 At any general election or at any special election which may be
31 called for that purpose the county legislative authority of a county
32 may, or on petition of ten percent of the registered voters of the
33 county based on the total vote cast in the last general county
34 election, shall, by resolution, submit to the voters of the county the
35 proposition of creating a public hospital district coextensive with the
36 limits of the county. The petition shall be filed with the county

1 auditor, who shall within fifteen days examine the signatures thereon
2 and certify to the sufficiency thereof, and for that purpose the
3 auditor shall have access to all registration books in the possession
4 of election officers in the county. If the petition is found to be
5 insufficient, it shall be returned to the persons filing it, who may
6 amend or add names thereto for ten days, when it shall be returned to
7 the auditor, who shall have an additional fifteen days to examine it
8 and attach the certificate thereto. No person signing the petition may
9 withdraw his or her name therefrom after filing. When the petition is
10 certified as sufficient, the auditor shall forthwith transmit it,
11 together with the certificate of sufficiency attached thereto, to the
12 county legislative authority, who shall immediately transmit the
13 proposition to the supervisor of elections or other election officer of
14 the county, and he shall submit the proposition to the voters at the
15 next general election or if such petition so requests, shall call a
16 special election on such proposition in accordance with RCW ((29.13.010
17 and)) 29.13.020. The notice of the election shall state the boundaries
18 of the proposed district and the object of the election, and shall in
19 other respects conform to the requirements of law governing the time
20 and manner of holding elections. In submitting the question to the
21 voters, the proposition shall be expressed on the ballot substantially
22 in the following terms:

- 23 For public hospital district No.
24 Against public hospital district No.

25 **Sec. 40.** RCW 80.52.050 and 1982 c 88 s 1 are each amended to read
26 as follows:

27 The election required under RCW 80.52.040 shall be conducted in the
28 manner provided in this section.

29 (1)(a) If the applicant is a public utility district, joint
30 operating agency, city, or county, the election shall be among the
31 voters of the public utility district, city, or county, or among the
32 voters of the local governmental entities comprising the membership of
33 the joint operating agency.

34 (b) If the applicant is any public agency other than those
35 described in subsection (1)(a) of this section, or is an assignee of a
36 joint operating agency and not itself a joint operating agency, the
37 election shall be conducted state-wide in the manner provided in Title
38 29 RCW for state-wide elections.

1 (2) The election shall be held at the next state-wide general
2 election occurring more than ninety days after submission of a request
3 by an applicant to the secretary of state unless a special election is
4 requested by the applicant as provided in this section.

5 (3) If no state-wide election can be held under subsection (2) of
6 this section within one hundred twenty days of the submission to the
7 secretary of state of a request by an applicant for financing authority
8 under this chapter, the applicant may request that a special election
9 be held if such election is necessary to avoid significant delay in
10 construction or acquisition of the energy project. Within ten days of
11 receipt of such a request for a special election, the secretary of
12 state shall designate a date for the election pursuant to RCW
13 ((29.13.010)) 29.13.020 and certify the date to the county auditor of
14 each county in which an election is to be held under this section.

15 (4) Prior to an election under this section, the applicant shall
16 submit to the secretary of state a cost-effectiveness study, prepared
17 by an independent consultant approved by the state finance committee,
18 pertaining to the major public energy project under consideration. The
19 study shall be available for public review and comment for thirty days.
20 At the end of the thirty-day period, the applicant shall prepare a
21 final draft of the study which includes the public comment, if any.

22 (5) The secretary of state shall certify the ballot issue for the
23 election to be held under this section to the county auditor of each
24 county in which an election is to be held. The certification shall
25 include the statement of the proposition as provided in RCW 80.52.060.
26 The costs of the election shall be relieved by the applicant in the
27 manner provided by RCW 29.13.045. In addition, the applicant shall
28 reimburse the secretary of state for the applicant's share of the costs
29 related to the preparation and distribution of the voters' pamphlet
30 required by subsection (6) of this section and such other costs as are
31 attributable to any election held pursuant to this section.

32 (6) Prior to an election under this section, the secretary of state
33 shall provide an opportunity for supporters and opponents of the
34 requested financing authority to present their respective views in a
35 voters' pamphlet which shall be distributed to the voters of the local
36 governmental entities participating in the election. Upon submission
37 of an applicant's request for an election pursuant to this section, the
38 applicant shall provide the secretary of state with the following
39 information regarding each major public energy project for which the

1 applicant seeks financing authority at such election, which information
2 shall be included in the voters' pamphlet:

3 (a) The name, location, and type of major public energy project,
4 expressed in common terms;

5 (b) The dollar amount and type of bonds being requested;

6 (c) If the bond issuance is intended to finance the acquisition of
7 all or a portion of the project, the anticipated total cost of the
8 acquisition of the project;

9 (d) If the bond issuance is intended to finance the planning or
10 construction of all or a portion of the project, the anticipated total
11 cost of construction of the project;

12 (e) The projected average rate increase for consumers of the
13 electricity to be generated by the project. The rate increase shall be
14 that which will be necessary to repay the total indebtedness incurred
15 for the project, including estimated interest;

16 (f) A summary of the final cost-effectiveness study conducted under
17 subsection (4) of this section;

18 (g) The anticipated functional life of the project;

19 (h) The anticipated decommissioning costs of the project; and

20 (i) If a special election is requested by the applicant, the
21 reasons for requesting a special election.

22 **Sec. 41.** RCW 82.14.036 and 1983 c 99 s 2 are each amended to read
23 as follows:

24 Any referendum petition to repeal a county or city ordinance
25 imposing a tax or altering the rate of the tax authorized under RCW
26 82.14.030(2) shall be filed with a filing officer, as identified in the
27 ordinance, within seven days of passage of the ordinance. Within ten
28 days, the filing officer shall confer with the petitioner concerning
29 form and style of the petition, issue an identification number for the
30 petition, and write a ballot title for the measure. The ballot title
31 shall be posed as a question so that an affirmative answer to the
32 question and an affirmative vote on the measure results in the tax or
33 tax rate increase being imposed and a negative answer to the question
34 and a negative vote on the measure results in the tax or tax rate
35 increase not being imposed. The petitioner shall be notified of the
36 identification number and ballot title within this ten-day period.

37 After this notification, the petitioner shall have thirty days in
38 which to secure on petition forms the signatures of not less than

1 fifteen percent of the registered voters of the county for county
2 measures, or not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters of
3 the city for city measures, and to file the signed petitions with the
4 filing officer. Each petition form shall contain the ballot title and
5 the full text of the measure to be referred. The filing officer shall
6 verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the petitions. If
7 sufficient valid signatures are properly submitted, the filing officer
8 shall submit the referendum measure to the county or city voters at a
9 general or special election held on one of the dates provided in RCW
10 (~~29.13.010~~) 29.13.020 as determined by the county legislative
11 authority or city council, which election shall not take place later
12 than one hundred twenty days after the signed petition has been filed
13 with the filing officer.

14 After April 22, 1983, the referendum procedure provided in this
15 section shall be the exclusive method for subjecting any county or city
16 ordinance imposing a tax or altering the rate under RCW 82.14.030(2) to
17 a referendum vote.

18 Any county or city tax authorized under RCW 82.14.030(2) that has
19 been imposed prior to April 22, 1983, is not subject to the referendum
20 procedure provided for in this section.

21 **Sec. 42.** RCW 82.46.021 and 1983 c 99 s 3 are each amended to read
22 as follows:

23 Any referendum petition to repeal a county or city ordinance
24 imposing a tax or altering the rate of the tax authorized under RCW
25 82.46.010(~~(+2)~~) (3) shall be filed with a filing officer, as
26 identified in the ordinance, within seven days of passage of the
27 ordinance. Within ten days, the filing officer shall confer with the
28 petitioner concerning form and style of the petition, issue an
29 identification number for the petition, and write a ballot title for
30 the measure. The ballot title shall be posed as a question so that an
31 affirmative answer to the question and an affirmative vote on the
32 measure results in the tax or tax rate increase being imposed and a
33 negative answer to the question and a negative vote on the measure
34 results in the tax or tax rate increase not being imposed. The
35 petitioner shall be notified of the identification number and ballot
36 title within this ten-day period.

37 After this notification, the petitioner shall have thirty days in
38 which to secure on petition forms the signatures of not less than

1 fifteen percent of the registered voters of the county for county
2 measures, or not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters of
3 the city for city measures, and to file the signed petitions with the
4 filing officer. Each petition form shall contain the ballot title and
5 the full text of the measure to be referred. The filing officer shall
6 verify the sufficiency of the signatures on the petitions. If
7 sufficient valid signatures are properly submitted, the filing officer
8 shall submit the referendum measure to the county or city voters at a
9 general or special election held on one of the dates provided in RCW
10 (~~29.13.010~~) 29.13.020 as determined by the county legislative
11 authority or city council, which election shall not take place later
12 than one hundred twenty days after the signed petition has been filed
13 with the filing officer.

14 After April 22, 1983, the referendum procedure provided for in this
15 section shall be the exclusive method for subjecting any county or city
16 ordinance imposing a tax or increasing the rate under RCW
17 82.46.010(~~(+2)~~) (3) to a referendum vote.

18 Any county or city tax authorized under RCW 82.46.010(~~(+2)~~) (3)
19 that has been imposed prior to April 22, 1983, is not subject to the
20 referendum procedure provided for in this section.

21 **Sec. 43.** RCW 82.80.090 and 1990 c 42 s 214 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 A referendum petition to repeal a county or city ordinance imposing
24 a tax or fee authorized under RCW 82.80.020 and 82.80.030 must be filed
25 with a filing officer, as identified in the ordinance, within seven
26 days of passage of the ordinance. Within ten days, the filing officer
27 shall confer with the petitioner concerning form and style of the
28 petition, issue an identification number for the petition, and write a
29 ballot title for the measure. The ballot title shall be posed as a
30 question so that an affirmative answer to the question and an
31 affirmative vote on the measure results in the tax or fee being imposed
32 and a negative answer to the question and a negative vote on the
33 measure results in the tax or fee not being imposed. The petitioner
34 shall be notified of the identification number and ballot title within
35 this ten-day period.

36 After this notification, the petitioner has thirty days in which to
37 secure on petition forms the signatures of not less than fifteen
38 percent of the registered voters of the county for county measures, or

1 not less than fifteen percent of the registered voters of the city for
2 city measures, and to file the signed petitions with the filing
3 officer. Each petition form must contain the ballot title and the full
4 text of the measure to be referred. The filing officer shall verify
5 the sufficiency of the signatures on the petitions. If sufficient
6 valid signatures are properly submitted, the filing officer shall
7 submit the referendum measure to the county or city voters at a general
8 or special election held on one of the dates provided in RCW
9 ((29.13.010)) 29.13.020 as determined by the county or city legislative
10 authority, which election shall not take place later than one hundred
11 twenty days after the signed petition has been filed with the filing
12 officer.

13 The referendum procedure provided in this section is the exclusive
14 method for subjecting any county or city ordinance imposing a tax or
15 fee under RCW 82.80.020 and 82.80.030 to a referendum vote.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 44.** RCW 29.01.160 and 1965 c 9 s 29.01.160 are
17 each repealed.

--- END ---