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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1291**

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**State of Washington                      58th Legislature                      2003 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Blake, Schindler, Hatfield, Romero and Mielke)

READ FIRST TIME 02/17/03.

1            AN ACT Relating to flood control zone districts; and amending RCW  
2 86.15.050.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 86.15.050 and 1961 c 153 s 5 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) The board of county commissioners of each county shall be ex  
7 officio, by virtue of their office, supervisors of the zones created in  
8 each county. In any zone with more than two thousand residents, an  
9 election of supervisors other than the board of county commissioners  
10 may be held as provided in this section.

11            (2) When proposed by citizen petition or by resolution of the board  
12 of county commissioners, a ballot proposition authorizing election of  
13 the supervisors of a zone shall be submitted by ordinance to the voters  
14 residing in the zone at any general election, or at any special  
15 election which may be called for that purpose.

16            (3) The ballot proposition shall be submitted (a) if the board of  
17 county supervisors enacts an ordinance submitting the proposition after  
18 adopting a resolution proposing the election of supervisors of a zone;  
19 or (b) if a petition proposing the election of supervisors of a zone is

1 submitted to the county auditor of the county in which the zone is  
2 located that is signed by registered voters within the zone, numbering  
3 at least fifteen percent of the votes cast in the last county general  
4 election by registered voters within the zone.

5 (4) Upon receipt of a citizen petition under subsection (3)(b) of  
6 this section, the county auditor shall determine whether the petition  
7 is signed by a sufficient number of registered voters, using the  
8 registration records and returns of the preceding general election,  
9 and, no later than forty-five days after receipt of the petition, shall  
10 attach to the petition the auditor's certificate stating whether or not  
11 sufficient signatures have been obtained. If the signatures are found  
12 by the auditor to be insufficient, the petition shall be returned to  
13 the person filing it.

14 (5) The ballot proposition authorizing election of supervisors of  
15 zones shall appear on the ballot of the next general election or at the  
16 next special election date specified under RCW 29.13.020 occurring  
17 sixty or more days after the last resolution proposing election of  
18 supervisors or the date the county auditor certifies that the petition  
19 proposing such election contains sufficient valid signatures.

20 (6) The petition proposing the election of zone supervisors, or the  
21 ordinance submitting the question to the voters, shall describe the  
22 proposed election process. The ballot proposition shall include the  
23 following:

24  "For the direct election of flood control zone district  
25 supervisors."

26  "Against the direct election of flood control zone district  
27 supervisors."

28 (7) The ordinance or petition submitting the ballot proposition  
29 shall designate the proposed composition of the supervisors of zones,  
30 which shall be clearly described in the ballot proposition. The ballot  
31 proposition shall state that the zone supervisors shall thereafter be  
32 selected by election, and, at the same election at which the  
33 proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether to elect zone  
34 supervisors, three zone supervisors shall be elected. The election of  
35 zone supervisors is null and void if the voters, by a simple majority,  
36 do not approve the direct election of the zone supervisors. Candidates  
37 shall run for specific supervisor positions. No primary may be held to  
38 nominate candidates. The person receiving the greatest number of votes

1 for each position shall be elected as a supervisor. The staggering of  
2 the terms of office shall occur as follows: (a) The person who is  
3 elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a  
4 six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year  
5 or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-  
6 numbered year; (b) the person who is elected receiving the second  
7 greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office  
8 if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of  
9 office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (c) the  
10 other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of  
11 office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year  
12 term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The  
13 initial supervisors shall take office immediately when they are elected  
14 and qualified, and for purposes of computing their terms of office the  
15 terms shall be assumed to commence on the first day of January in the  
16 year after they are elected. Thereafter, all supervisors shall be  
17 elected to six-year terms of office. All supervisors shall serve until  
18 their respective successors are elected and qualified and assume office  
19 in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Vacancies may occur and shall be  
20 filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

21 (8) The costs and expenses directly related to the election of zone  
22 supervisors shall be borne by the zone.

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