SENATE BILL 6777

State of Washington	59th Legislature	2006	Regular	Session
By Senator Swecker				
Read first time 01/23/200 Operations & Elections.	6. Referred t	o Committee	e on Gov	vernment

1 AN ACT Relating to voter registration; and amending RCW 29A.08.140 2 and 29A.08.145.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.08.140 and 2004 c 267 s 112 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

6 The registration files of all precincts shall be closed against 7 ((original registration or)) transfers for thirty days immediately 8 preceding every primary, special election, and general election to be 9 held in such precincts.

10 The county auditor shall give notice of the closing of the precinct 11 files for ((original registration and)) transfer and notice of the 12 special registration and voting procedure provided by RCW 29A.08.145 by 13 one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at 14 least five days before the closing of the precinct files.

No person may vote at any primary, special election, or general election in a precinct polling place unless he or she has registered to vote at least thirty days before that primary or election and appears on the official statewide voter registration list. If a person, otherwise qualified to vote in the state, county, and precinct in which he or she applies for registration, does not register at least thirty days before any primary, special election, or general election, he or she may register and vote by absentee ballot for that primary or election under RCW 29A.08.145.

5 Sec. 2. RCW 29A.08.145 and 2005 c 246 s 10 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

7 This section establishes a special procedure which an elector not 8 <u>registered in the state</u> may use to register to vote ((or transfer a voter registration by changing his or her address)) during the period 9 beginning after the closing of registration for voting at the polls 10 11 under RCW 29A.08.140 and ending on the fifteenth day before a primary, special election, or general election. A qualified elector in the 12 state may register to vote ((or change his or her registration 13 address)) in person in the office of the county auditor of the county 14 in which the applicant resides, or at a voter registration location 15 16 specifically designated for this purpose by the county auditor or 17 secretary of state, and apply for an absentee ballot for that primary or election. The auditor or registration assistant shall register that 18 19 individual in the manner provided in this chapter. The application for 20 an absentee ballot executed by the newly registered ((or transferred)) 21 voter for the primary or election that follows the execution of the 22 registration shall be promptly transmitted to the auditor with the 23 completed voter registration form.

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