

**SB 5561** - H AMD TO H AMD 595 (5561 AMH GREE KERR 085) **727**  
By Representative Roach

1 Beginning on page 1, at the beginning of line 3 of the  
2 amendment, strike all material through "2008." on page 6, line 37,  
3 and insert the following:

4 "Sec. 1. RCW 29A.08.145 and 2006 c 97 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

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

23 Sec. 2. RCW 29A.40.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1002 are each amended  
24 to read as follows:

25 (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, a registered voter or  
26 out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter desiring to  
27 cast an absentee ballot at a single election or primary must  
28 request the absentee ballot from his or her county auditor no  
29 earlier than ninety days nor later than the day before the election

1 or primary at which the person seeks to vote. An overseas or  
2 service voter may request an absentee ballot on the day of  
3 election. Except as otherwise provided by law, the request may be  
4 made orally in person, by telephone, electronically, or in writing.  
5 An application or request for an absentee ballot made under the  
6 authority of a federal statute or regulation will be considered and  
7 given the same effect as a request for an absentee ballot under  
8 this chapter.

9 (2) A voter requesting an absentee ballot for a primary may  
10 also request an absentee ballot for the following general election.  
11 A request by an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service  
12 voter for an absentee ballot for a primary election will be  
13 considered as a request for an absentee ballot for the following  
14 general election.

15 (3) In requesting an absentee ballot, the voter shall state the  
16 address to which the absentee ballot should be sent. A request for  
17 an absentee ballot from an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or  
18 service voter must include the address of the last residence in the  
19 state of Washington and either a written application or the oath on  
20 the return envelope must include a declaration of the other  
21 qualifications of the applicant as an elector of this state. A  
22 request for an absentee ballot from any other voter must state the  
23 address at which that voter is currently registered to vote in the  
24 state of Washington or the county auditor shall verify that  
25 information from the voter registration records of the county.

26 (4) A request for an absentee ballot from a registered voter  
27 who is within this state must be made directly to the auditor of  
28 the county in which the voter is registered. An absentee ballot  
29 request from a registered voter who is temporarily outside this  
30 state or from an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service  
31 voter may be made either to the appropriate county auditor or to  
32 the secretary of state, who shall promptly forward the request to  
33 the appropriate county auditor.

34 (5) No person, organization, or association may distribute  
35 absentee ballot applications within this state that contain a  
36 return address other than that of the appropriate county auditor."

**EFFECT:** Strikes the underlying amendment. Allows overseas and services voters to apply for an absentee ballot on Election Day.