

SB 5561 - H AMD TO H AMD 595 (5561 AMH GREE KERR 085) **725**
By Representative Roach

1 On page 1, after line 24 of the amendment, insert the
2 following:

3 "(4) Overseas and service voters are exempt from voter
4 registration requirements."

5 On page 6, after line 33 of the amendment, insert the
6 following:

7 "**Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.40.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1002 are each amended
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, a registered voter or
10 out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service voter desiring to
11 cast an absentee ballot at a single election or primary must
12 request the absentee ballot from his or her county auditor no
13 earlier than ninety days nor later than the day before the election
14 or primary at which the person seeks to vote. An overseas or
15 service voter may request an absentee ballot on the day of
16 election. Except as otherwise provided by law, the request may be
17 made orally in person, by telephone, electronically, or in writing.
18 An application or request for an absentee ballot made under the
19 authority of a federal statute or regulation will be considered and
20 given the same effect as a request for an absentee ballot under
21 this chapter.

22 (2) A voter requesting an absentee ballot for a primary may
23 also request an absentee ballot for the following general election.
24 A request by an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service
25 voter for an absentee ballot for a primary election will be
26 considered as a request for an absentee ballot for the following
27 general election.

28 (3) In requesting an absentee ballot, the voter shall state the
29 address to which the absentee ballot should be sent. A request for
30 an absentee ballot from an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or

1 service voter must include the address of the last residence in the
2 state of Washington and either a written application or the oath on
3 the return envelope must include a declaration of the other
4 qualifications of the applicant as an elector of this state. A
5 request for an absentee ballot from any other voter must state the
6 address at which that voter is currently registered to vote in the
7 state of Washington or the county auditor shall verify that
8 information from the voter registration records of the county.

9 (4) A request for an absentee ballot from a registered voter
10 who is within this state must be made directly to the auditor of
11 the county in which the voter is registered. An absentee ballot
12 request from a registered voter who is temporarily outside this
13 state or from an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or service
14 voter may be made either to the appropriate county auditor or to
15 the secretary of state, who shall promptly forward the request to
16 the appropriate county auditor.

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

20 Renumber following section consecutively and correct the title.

EFFECT: Allows overseas and services voters to apply for an
absentee ballot on Election Day.