

2SHB 1572 - S AMD 252

By Senator Franklin

1 On page 3, line 34, after "mail" insert "and voting center"

2 On page 4, line 11, after "a" insert "voting location, including a"

3 On page 5, beginning on line 14, after "(8)" strike all material
4 through "~~(9))~~" on line 15 and insert "Requests for (~~(absentee))~~ mail
5 ballots;

6 (9)"

7 On page 25, beginning on line 20, after "(1)" strike all material
8 through "~~(2))~~" on line 34 and insert "The county auditor shall issue
9 (~~(an absentee))~~ a mail ballot for the primary or election for which it
10 was requested, or for the next occurring primary or election when
11 ongoing absentee status has been requested if the information contained
12 in a request for (~~(an absentee))~~ a mail ballot or ongoing absentee
13 status received by the county auditor is complete and correct and the
14 applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state law. Otherwise,
15 the county auditor shall notify the applicant of the reason or reasons
16 why the request cannot be accepted. Whenever two or more candidates
17 have filed for the position of precinct committee officer for the same
18 party in the same precinct, the contest for that position must be
19 presented to (~~(absentee))~~ mail voters from that precinct by either
20 including the contest on the (~~(regular absentee))~~ mail ballot (~~(or a~~
21 ~~separate absentee ballot)~~). The ballot must provide space designated
22 for writing in the name of additional candidates.

23 (2)"

24 Renumber the remaining subsection consecutively.

25 On page 26, beginning on line 16, after "voter" strike all material
26 through "~~days-))~~" on line 22 and insert "for whom the county auditor

1 has received a request nineteen days before the primary or election at
2 least eighteen days before the primary or election. For a request for
3 ((~~an absentee~~)) a mail ballot received after the nineteenth day before
4 the primary or election, the county auditor shall make every effort to
5 mail ballots within one business day, and shall mail the ballots within
6 two business days."

7 On page 27, at the beginning of line 29, strike "The" and insert
8 "For counties that adopt primary, special, and general elections
9 entirely by mail, the"

10 On page 39, at the beginning of line 35, strike all material
11 through "~~system~~)" and insert "adopting a vote by mail system"

12 On page 40, beginning on line 35, after "(1)" strike all material
13 through "shall" on line 36 and insert "With express authorization from
14 the county legislative authority, the county auditor may"

15 Beginning on page 40, line 37, after "ballot." strike all material
16 through "(2)" on page 41, line 24, and insert "The county legislative
17 authority must give the county auditor at least ninety days' notice
18 before the first election to be conducted entirely by mail ballot. If
19 the county legislative authority and the county auditor decide to
20 return to a polling place election environment, the county legislative
21 authority must give the county auditor at least one hundred eighty
22 days' notice before the first election to be conducted using ((~~polling~~
23 ~~places~~)) voting centers. Authorization under this subsection must
24 apply to all primary, special, and general elections conducted by the
25 county auditor.

26 (2) The county auditor may designate any precinct having fewer than
27 two hundred active registered voters at the time of closing of voter
28 registration as provided in RCW 29A.08.140 as a mail ballot precinct.
29 Authorization from the county legislative authority is not required to
30 designate a precinct as a mail ballot precinct under this subsection.
31 In determining the number of registered voters in a precinct for the
32 purposes of this section, persons who are ongoing absentee voters under
33 RCW 29A.40.040 shall not be counted. Nothing in this section may be
34 construed as altering the vote tallying requirements of RCW 29A.60.230.

1 (3) The county auditor shall notify each registered voter by mail
2 that for all future primaries and elections the voting will be by mail
3 ballot only. The notice must include information on the availability
4 of voting centers in the event that the voter wishes to continue to
5 vote in person. The auditor shall mail each active voter a ballot at
6 least eighteen days before a primary, general election, or special
7 election."

8 On page 41, beginning on line 27, strike all material through
9 "person." on line 36 and insert "(4) If the county legislative
10 authority and county auditor determine under subsection (1) of this
11 section, or if the county auditor determines under subsection (2) of
12 this section, to return to a ((~~polling place~~)) voting center election
13 environment, the auditor shall notify each registered voter, by mail,
14 of this and shall provide the address of the ((~~polling place~~)) voting
15 center to be used."

EFFECT: Preserves the ability of counties to conduct elections at
voting centers unless a county auditor has the express authorization
from the county legislative authority to conduct all primary, special,
and general elections entirely by mail ballot.

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