
HOUSE BILL 1350

State of Washington

64th Legislature

2015 Regular Session

By Representatives Halper, Rodne, Muri, Stokesbary, Klippert, Shea, Taylor, Buys, Condotta, Manweller, Wilson, and McCaslin

Read first time 01/19/15. Referred to Committee on Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to election of supreme court justices; amending
2 RCW 2.04.071 and 2.04.100; adding a new section to chapter 2.04 RCW;
3 and providing a contingent effective date.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.04.071 and 1971 c 81 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 At the next general election, and at each biennial general
8 election thereafter, there shall be elected three justices of the
9 supreme court, one from each of the three supreme court judicial
10 districts, to hold for the full term of six years, and until their
11 successors are elected and qualified, commencing with the second
12 Monday in January succeeding their election.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 2.04.100 and 1971 c 81 s 3 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 If a vacancy occurs in the office of a justice of the supreme
16 court, the governor shall appoint a person who is a resident of the
17 supreme court judicial district for which the vacancy occurs to hold
18 the office until the election and qualification of a justice to fill
19 the vacancy, which election shall take place at the next succeeding

1 general election, and the justice so elected shall hold the office
2 for the remainder of the unexpired term.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 2.04 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 Prior to January 1, 2017, the secretary of state, in cooperation
6 with the chief justice, shall assign by lot each supreme court
7 judicial position to be filled in November 2018 to a judicial
8 district, and in a similar manner shall also assign by lot each
9 judicial position to be filled in November 2020 and in November 2022
10 to a supreme court judicial district, so that one justice from each
11 supreme court judicial district is elected at each biennial general
12 election.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Sections 1 and 2 of this act take effect
14 January 1, 2018, if the proposed amendment to Article IV, section 3
15 of the state Constitution providing for the election of supreme court
16 justices from judicial districts is validly submitted to and is
17 approved and ratified by the votes at the next general election. If
18 the proposed amendment is not approved and ratified, this act is void
19 in its entirety.

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