

ESHB 1357 - S COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government & Elections

ADOPTED AS AMENDED 03/02/2022

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that service and
4 overseas voters have the right to vote for their elected officials.
5 To effectuate this right, service and overseas voters must have
6 access to the same ballot materials as voters present in the state
7 with sufficient time to thoughtfully consider candidates and issues
8 before casting a ballot. Accordingly, the legislature intends to
9 ensure that voters' pamphlets are available to service and overseas
10 voters at the same time as the ballot.

11 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.32.260 and 2011 c 10 s 30 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 As soon as practicable before the primary, special election, or
14 general election, the county auditor, or if applicable, the city
15 clerk of a first-class or code city, as appropriate, shall mail the
16 local voters' pamphlet to every residence in each jurisdiction that
17 has included information in the pamphlet. The county auditor or city
18 clerk, as appropriate, may choose to mail the pamphlet to each
19 registered voter in each jurisdiction that has included information
20 in the pamphlet, if in his or her judgment, a more economical and
21 effective distribution of the pamphlet would result. The county
22 auditor may, at his or her discretion, send a printable electronic
23 version of the state and local voters' pamphlets to any service or
24 overseas voter registered in the jurisdiction who has requested one.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of
26 this act, referencing this act by bill or chapter number, is not
27 provided by June 30, 2022, in the omnibus appropriations act, this
28 act is null and void."

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1 On page 1, line 2 of the title, after "voters;" strike the
2 remainder of the title and insert "amending RCW 29A.32.260; and
3 creating new sections."

EFFECT: (1) Allows county auditors to send printable electronic versions of voters' pamphlets to service and overseas voters, rather than requiring mailing voters' pamphlets to service and overseas voters upon request.

(2) Removes section modifying the deadline for OFM to prepare fiscal impact statements on ballot measures.

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