

---

**HOUSE BILL 1745**

---

**State of Washington**

**69th Legislature**

**2025 Regular Session**

**By** Representatives Chase and Walsh

Read first time 01/30/25. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to ensuring election integrity at the county  
2 level; adding a new section to chapter 29A.60 RCW; creating new  
3 sections; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** It is the intent of the legislature to  
6 assure all voters in the state that only legitimate votes are counted  
7 accurately in Washington state elections.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.60  
9 RCW to read as follows:

10 (1) For purposes of this section, "company" means an impartial,  
11 independent company selected to perform the audit of a county's  
12 election results described in this section.

13 (2)(a) For audits of the 2024 general election mandated under  
14 section 3 of this act, the company shall be selected by the  
15 democratic and republican party chairpersons of the county. If the  
16 chairpersons cannot agree on a company to audit the county's election  
17 results, the company shall be chosen by coin toss.

18 (b) For subsequent election cycles, the democratic and republican  
19 party chairpersons of a particular county may select the same or a  
20 different vendor.

1 (3) Beginning immediately after certification of the election,  
2 the company shall conduct a statistically significant manual hand  
3 count audit of all ballots tabulated for that election, including  
4 duplicated and adjudicated ballots, in at least 12 precincts in the  
5 county. The 12 precincts selected for the audit shall be chosen by  
6 the county democratic and republican party chairpersons, with each  
7 party choosing six precincts. In counties where the number of ballots  
8 cast in the 12 chosen precincts is fewer than five percent of the  
9 total number of ballots cast, additional precincts must be selected  
10 until at least five percent of ballots cast are included in the  
11 audit.

12 (4) The races or ballot measures counted for the audit shall be  
13 selected by the democratic and republican party chairpersons of the  
14 county and may be different races or ballot measures for each  
15 precinct.

16 (5) The auditing method shall be a manual hand count of the  
17 physical ballots, performed by examining the votes marked on each  
18 ballot for the race or issue selected for the individual precinct as  
19 compared to the results generated from running those same ballots  
20 through the county's tabulation equipment.

21 (6) Public election observers must be allowed to observe all  
22 processes of the audit beginning with locating the ballots for each  
23 precinct, sorting and counting ballots, and the results of the audit.  
24 Observers must also be permitted to examine duplicated and  
25 adjudicated ballots from the precincts subject to the audit,  
26 alongside the original ballots, to determine the accuracy of the  
27 duplications and adjudications.

28 (7) By December 31st in the same year as the election, the  
29 company must submit a report to the legislature detailing the  
30 findings of the audit and any recommendations to improve ballot  
31 integrity in future elections.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** Within 30 days of the effective date of  
33 this section, an audit of the 2024 general election must be performed  
34 in each county following the procedures described in section 2 of  
35 this act.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
37 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of

1 the state government and its existing public institutions, and takes  
2 effect immediately.

--- **END** ---