
HOUSE BILL 1929

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Abell, Couture, Marshall, Chase, Barnard, Keaton,
and Griffey

Read first time 02/10/25. Referred to Committee on Civil Rights &
Judiciary.

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring senate confirmation of gubernatorial
2 appointments to vacancies on the court of appeals; and amending RCW
3 2.06.080, 43.06.092, and 43.06.094.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 2.06.080 and 1969 ex.s. c 221 s 8 are each amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) If a vacancy occurs in the office of a judge of the court,
8 the governor shall appoint a person to ((held)) the office subject to
9 confirmation by the senate as provided in this section.

10 (2) If the appointment is made during a regular legislative
11 session, the senate must hold the vote to confirm or reject the
12 appointment prior to the adjournment of the session.

13 (3) If the appointment is made during a special session or while
14 the legislature is not in session, the senate must hold the vote to
15 confirm or reject the appointment at the earlier of either a special
16 session convened for the purpose of holding the vote or the next
17 regularly scheduled legislative session following the appointment.

18 (4) An affirmative vote by at least two-thirds of all members
19 elected to the senate is required to confirm an appointee.

20 (5) An appointee who is confirmed by the senate shall hold the
21 office until the election and qualification of a judge to fill the

1 vacancy, which election shall take place at the next succeeding
2 general election and the judge so elected shall hold the office for
3 the remainder of the unexpired term.

4 (6) An appointee who is rejected by the vote of the senate may
5 not be reappointed to the same office for a period of at least two
6 calendar years from the date of the senate vote.

7 **Sec. 2.** RCW 43.06.092 and 1981 c 338 s 2 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) (~~Any~~) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of
10 this section, any gubernatorial appointee subject to senate
11 confirmation shall continue to serve unless rejected by a vote of the
12 senate. An appointee who is rejected by a vote of the senate shall
13 not be reappointed to the same position for a period of one year from
14 termination of service.

15 (2) Any person appointed by the governor to fill the unexpired
16 term of an appointment subject to senate confirmation must also be
17 confirmed by the senate.

18 (3) This section does not apply to gubernatorial appointees to
19 fill judicial vacancies as provided in RCW 2.06.080.

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 43.06.094 and 1981 c 338 s 1 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Gubernatorial appointees subject to senate confirmation, other
23 than those who serve at the governor's pleasure and other than those
24 appointed to fill judicial vacancies as provided for in RCW 2.06.080,
25 may not be removed from office without cause by the governor prior to
26 confirmation except upon consent of the senate as provided for by the
27 rules of the senate.

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