
HOUSE BILL 2128

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Representatives Wallace and Hatfield

Read first time 02/26/2003. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to precinct committee officers; and amending RCW
2 29.42.040 and 29.42.050.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.42.040 and 1990 c 59 s 104 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Any member of a major political party who is a registered voter in
7 the precinct or an adjacent precinct may upon payment of a fee of one
8 dollar file his or her declaration of candidacy as prescribed under RCW
9 29.15.010 with the county auditor for the office of precinct committee
10 officer of his or her party in that precinct. When elected the
11 precinct committee officer shall serve so long as the committee officer
12 remains an eligible voter in that precinct and until a successor has
13 been elected at the next ensuing state general election in the even-
14 numbered year.

15 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.42.050 and 1991 c 363 s 34 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 The statutory requirements for filing as a candidate at the
18 primaries shall apply to candidates for precinct committee officer

1 except that the filing period for this office alone shall be extended
2 to and include the Friday immediately following the last day for
3 political parties to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW
4 29.18.150(~~(, and)~~). One precinct committee officer position will be
5 designated by number for each five hundred active registered voters and
6 one additionally designated by position number for every major portion
7 of five hundred active registered voters in a precinct. For the
8 purpose of determining the number of precinct committee officer
9 positions allocated to each precinct, the county auditor shall use the
10 number of active registered voters resident in the precinct as of
11 thirty days before the first day for candidates to file a declaration
12 of candidacy for public office in even-numbered years. The office
13 shall not be voted upon at the primaries, but the names of all
14 candidates must appear under the proper party, position number, and
15 office designations on the ballot for the general November election for
16 each even-numbered year, and the one receiving the highest number of
17 votes in each designated position shall be declared elected: PROVIDED,
18 That to be declared elected, a candidate must receive at least (~~ten~~)
19 two percent of the number of votes cast for the candidate of the
20 candidate's party receiving the greatest number of votes in the
21 precinct. Any person elected to the office of precinct committee
22 officer who has not filed a declaration of candidacy shall pay the fee
23 of one dollar to the county auditor for a certificate of election. The
24 term of office of precinct committee officer shall be for two years,
25 commencing upon completion of the official canvass of votes by the
26 county canvassing board of election returns. Should any vacancy occur
27 in this office by reason of death, resignation, or disqualification of
28 the incumbent, or because of failure to elect, the respective county
29 chair of the county central committee shall be empowered to fill such
30 vacancy by appointment: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in legislative
31 districts having a majority of its precincts in a county with a
32 population of one million or more, such appointment shall be made only
33 upon the recommendation of the legislative district chair: PROVIDED,
34 That the person so appointed shall have the same qualifications as
35 candidates when filing for election to such office for such precinct:
36 PROVIDED FURTHER, That when a vacancy in the office of precinct
37 committee officer exists because of failure to elect at a state general

1 election, such vacancy shall not be filled until after the organization
2 meeting of the county central committee and the new county chair
3 selected as provided by RCW 29.42.030.

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