

**SHB 2852** - H AMD 701

By Representative Hudgins

ADOPTED 02/12/2016

1 On page 2, after line 31, insert the following:

2 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.60  
3 RCW to read as follows:

4 Every odd-numbered year, the secretary of state must conduct and  
5 publish a statewide survey of voted ballot rejection rates and the  
6 reasons for those rejections by county auditors and canvassing boards.  
7 The secretary of state must collect data from reconciliation reports  
8 and county auditors in order to compare county and statewide averages  
9 for rates of rejected ballots and reasons for those ballots being  
10 rejected. The data collected must include rejection rates and reasons  
11 for rejection of voted ballots for all elections. The survey must  
12 include an analysis of current practices by county auditors and  
13 canvassing boards in the acceptance and rejection of ballots, and  
14 include recommendations for improvements that minimize rejections in  
15 those practices, with a goal of statewide standardization where  
16 applicable. The results must also be analyzed and compared with  
17 available national data and recognized best practices. The secretary  
18 of state's recommendations and reports must be made available to the  
19 public."

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21 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Requires the Secretary of State to collect data from county auditors and election reconciliation reports and produce a biennial statewide survey of county election ballot rejection practices.

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