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5 Beginning on page 1, after line 2, strike all material through  
6 "qualified." on page 3, line 9, and insert the following:

7 "THAT, At the next general election to be held in this state there  
8 shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the state for their  
9 approval and ratification, or rejection, the following amendment to  
10 Article II of the Constitution of the state of Washington:"

11 "SECTION 1. A new section is added to Article II of the  
12 Constitution of the state of Washington to read as follows:

13 Section 15. VACANCIES IN LEGISLATURE AND CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICES.  
14 Except as provided in subsections (4) and (6) of this section,  
15 vacancies that occur in the state legislature or in any elective office  
16 of the executive or legislative branch of county government shall be  
17 filled by appointment by the legislative authority or legislative  
18 authorities of the county or counties in which the vacancy occurs.

19 (1) RESIDENCY. A person appointed to fill a vacancy in the state  
20 legislature shall be a resident of the legislative district for which  
21 the vacancy occurs.

22 A person appointed to fill a vacancy in a county elective office  
23 shall be a resident of that county. When a vacancy occurs in the  
24 office of the member of a county legislative authority and a person  
25 elected to that office is nominated or elected by district, the person  
26 appointed to fill the vacancy shall be a resident of the district for  
27 which the vacancy occurs.

1           (2) NOMINEES.   Except as provided by this subsection, a person  
2 appointed to fill a vacancy in a partisan office under this section  
3 shall be from the same political party as the person whose office has  
4 been vacated and shall be appointed from a list of three persons  
5 nominated by that political party. Political party nominees shall be  
6 designated by a majority vote of the party's precinct committee persons  
7 elected from precincts contained within the county, legislative  
8 district, or legislative authority district for which the vacancy  
9 occurs. Party nominees shall be designated within fourteen days of the  
10 occurrence of the vacancy.

11           If the person whose office has been vacated was elected to the  
12 office as an independent, if the vacated office is a nonpartisan  
13 office, if political party nominations for filling the vacancy are not  
14 made within the time prescribed by this section or by statute, or if  
15 the appointments are being made by the governor to establish a majority  
16 of filled positions on a county legislative authority, any person who  
17 is legally qualified to run for and hold the office may be appointed to  
18 fill the vacancy.

19           A member of a county legislative authority is eligible to be  
20 appointed to fill a vacancy governed by this section only if the member  
21 is qualified to fill the vacancy and does not vote in an action, or in  
22 a collective action of legislative authorities taken in joint session,  
23 to fill the vacancy.

24           (3) MULTICOUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS. Vacancies that occur in a  
25 state legislative district containing territory from more than one  
26 county shall be filled by appointment by the collective action of the  
27 county legislative authorities of the counties with territory in the  
28 district, voting in joint session. A proportional voting method shall  
29 be used which ensures that the cumulative voting weight of each  
30 county's legislative authority amounts to the county's proportion of

1 the total number of votes cast for the vacated position in the last  
2 election conducted for the vacated office. A county's share of the  
3 total vote shall be divided equally among the members of the county's  
4 legislative authority. Each member is entitled to cast his or her  
5 portion of the vote and the votes of the members of all of the county  
6 legislative authorities filling the vacancy shall be counted and  
7 accumulated district-wide, not county by county. The person who  
8 receives more than half of the total vote shall be appointed to fill  
9 the vacancy.

10 (4) APPOINTMENT BY GOVERNOR. If a vacancy governed by this section  
11 is not filled by the county legislative authority or authorities within  
12 twenty-eight days of the occurrence of the vacancy, the governor shall  
13 appoint a person to fill the vacancy within forty-two days of the  
14 occurrence of the vacancy.

15 If the majority of positions on a county legislative authority are  
16 vacant, the governor shall appoint to the legislative authority that  
17 number of persons necessary to establish a majority of filled  
18 positions. The appointments shall be made within twenty-eight days of  
19 the occurrence of the vacancy creating a minority of filled positions.

20 (5) TERM OF OFFICE. A person appointed to fill a vacancy in an  
21 office under this section shall hold office until a successor (a) is  
22 elected at the next general election held for the office as prescribed  
23 by statute and (b) has been qualified.

24 (6) "HOME RULE" COUNTIES. The requirements established by this  
25 section for filling vacancies in county elective offices or for the  
26 term of office of a person appointed to fill such a vacancy do not  
27 apply to a county that has adopted and operates under a "Home Rule"  
28 charter under section 4 or 16 of Article XI to the extent that the  
29 requirements are inconsistent with the county's "Home Rule" charter.

1 (7) IMPLEMENTING LAWS. Following the effective date of this  
2 section, the legislature may enact law replacing any deadline  
3 established in this section. The legislature may also establish  
4 additional rules for voting by county legislative authorities to fill  
5 a vacancy by appointment in joint session under this section. Such  
6 rules shall satisfy the requirements of subsection (3) of this  
7 section."

8 "SECTION 2. Article II, section 15 as it existed prior to the  
9 ratification of this amendment is repealed."

10 "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the foregoing amendment shall be  
11 construed as a single amendment within the meaning of Article XXIII,  
12 section 1 of the state Constitution.

13 The legislature finds that the changes contained in the foregoing  
14 amendment constitute a single integrated plan for revising procedures  
15 for filling vacancies in state legislative and county elective offices.  
16 If the foregoing amendment is held to be separate amendments, this  
17 joint resolution shall be void in its entirety and shall be of no  
18 further force and effect."