
SENATE BILL 5618

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1991 Regular Session

By Senators Matson and Madsen; by request of Secretary of State.

Read first time February 12, 1991. Referred to Committee on
Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to voter registration; amending RCW 29.07.160; and
2 adding a new section to chapter 29.07 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.07.160 and 1980 c 3 s 4 are each amended to read as
5 follows:

6 The registration files of all precincts shall be closed against
7 original registration or transfers for thirty days immediately
8 preceding every primary, special election, and general election (~~and~~
9 ~~primary~~) to be held in such precincts(~~(, respectively)~~).

10 The county auditor shall give notice of the closing of (~~said~~) the
11 precinct files for original registration and transfer and notice of the
12 special registration and voting procedure provided by section 2 of this
13 act by one publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the
14 county at least five days before (~~such~~) the closing(~~(, except as~~

1 ~~provided for special elections in accordance with section 3 of this~~
2 ~~1980 act)) of the precinct files.~~

3 No person may vote at any primary, special election, or general
4 election in a precinct polling place unless he or she has registered to
5 vote at least thirty days before that primary or election. If a
6 person, otherwise qualified to vote in the state, county, and precinct
7 in which he or she applies for registration, does not register at least
8 thirty days before any primary, special election, or general election,
9 he or she may register and vote by absentee ballot for that primary or
10 election under section 2 of this act.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 29.07 RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 After the closing of registration for voting at the polls under RCW
14 29.07.160, but not later than twenty days before a primary, special
15 election, or general election, an unregistered qualified elector may
16 register in person in the office of the county auditor or at a voter
17 registration location specifically designated for this purpose by the
18 county auditor of the county in which the applicant resides, and apply
19 for an absentee ballot for that primary or election. The auditor or
20 voter registrar shall register that individual in the manner provided
21 in this chapter. The application for an absentee ballot executed by
22 the newly registered voter for the primary or election that follows the
23 execution of the registration shall be promptly transmitted to the
24 auditor with the completed voter registration form.