

**FINAL BILL REPORT**

**SSB 5819**

**C 269 L 94**

**SYNOPSIS AS ENACTED**

**Brief Description:** Authorizing voting by mail for any primary or election for a two-year period.

**SPONSORS:** Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, Vognild and Quigley)

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT**

**BACKGROUND:**

County auditors may conduct primaries or elections by mail in precincts with fewer than 200 registered voters. Any county, city, town or district requesting a nonpartisan special election not being held in conjunction with a state primary may request that the election be conducted by mail. The county auditor may honor or deny such a request.

When conducting a primary or election by mail in a precinct with fewer than 200 voters, ballot request forms are mailed to all voters in the precinct no later than 15 days prior to the primary or election. A mail ballot shall be issued to each voter who returns an application no later than the day of the primary or election.

When conducting a nonpartisan special election by mail, the ballots shall be mailed to the voters no later than 15 days prior to the election.

All mailings will include a preaddressed return envelope.

**SUMMARY:**

The county auditor may conduct elections by mail in any precinct, in any primary, special or general election during the two-year period commencing with the effective date of this act.

**VOTES ON FINAL PASSAGE:**

Senate	34	13
House	93	0

**EFFECTIVE:** June 9, 1994