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HOUSE BILL 2730

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State of Washington                      53rd Legislature                      1994 Regular Session

By Representatives Shin, Campbell, Valle and Patterson

Read first time 01/21/94. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1            AN ACT Relating to the election of precinct committee officers; and  
2 amending RCW 29.36.030 and 29.42.050.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.36.030 and 1991 c 81 s 31 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            If the information contained in a request for an absentee ballot  
7 received by the county auditor is complete and correct and the  
8 applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state law, the county  
9 auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the primary or election for  
10 which the absentee ballot was requested. Otherwise, the county auditor  
11 shall notify the applicant of the reason or reasons why the request  
12 cannot be accepted.

13            At each general election in an even-numbered year, each absentee  
14 voter shall also be given a separate ballot containing the names of the  
15 candidates that have filed for the office of precinct committee officer  
16 (~~unless fewer than two candidates have filed for the same political~~  
17 ~~party in the absentee voter's precinct)). The ballot shall provide~~  
18 space for writing in the name of additional candidates.

1       When mailing an absentee ballot to a registered voter temporarily  
2 outside the state or to an out-of-state voter, overseas voter, or  
3 service voter, the county auditor shall send a copy of the state  
4 voters' and candidates' pamphlet with the absentee ballot. The county  
5 auditor shall mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters  
6 outside the territorial limits of the United States and the District of  
7 Columbia under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

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

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

1 exists because of failure to elect at a state general election, such  
2 vacancy shall not be filled until after the organization meeting of the  
3 county central committee and the new county chair selected as provided  
4 by RCW 29.42.030.

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