

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia Washington

BilAnalysis

BilNo. HB 2672

Requiring election procedure manuals

Hrg Date: 1/27/98

Brief title

Reps. D. Schmidt/Scott

Staff Steve Lundin

Sponsor

Comm. on Govt. Admin.

Phone: 786-7127

BACKGROUND:

The Secretary of State is the chief election officer of the state and is authorized to adopt rules relating to election matters that implement state statutes.

County auditors are the local election officials who conduct elections throughout their counties.

SUMMARY:

Each county auditor is required to develop an election procedure manual for the county that is organized clearly and written using text that is easily understood. Copies of the manual must be distributed at no cost to the public upon request. The Secretary of State assists in preparation of these manuals by providing model manual describing general election procedures.

Various matters are required to be described in the manual, including discussion of different types of ballots and how they are processed and tabulated, the electronic vote tallying system used by the county, how a voter's registration may be challenged, how votes are canvassed and certified by the county canvassing board, write-in voting and the tallying of write-in votes when and how a true duplicate copy of a ballot is made, the appointment of observer by major political parties, appeals to a canvassing board, and recounting votes.

FISCAL NOTE: Not requested.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.