

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia Washington

## BilAnalysis

BilNo. SSB 6489

No primary/district position/two candidate filed  
Brief title

Hrg Date: 2/18/98

Senators McCaslin/Long  
Sponsor

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### BACKGROUND:

The use of primaries in the process of electing persons to nonpartisan offices varies.

A primary is always held as part of the process to elect persons to all judicial offices, even when only one person files a declaration of candidacy for the office. However, if only one person files a declaration of candidacy for the office of a superior court judge in a county with a population of 100,000 or more, no primary prelections are held and a certificate of elections is issued to that person.

A primary is held as part of the process to elect persons to all other local government nonpartisan offices only if three or more persons file a declaration of candidacy for the office. However, a primary is never held as part of the process to elect persons as cemetery district commissioners or park and recreation district commissioners, no matter how many persons file a declaration of candidacy for the office.

### SUMMARY:

The process to elect persons as district court judges is altered.

The new process to elect persons as district court judges conforms with the standard process of electing persons to non-judicial government nonpartisan offices, where a primary is held only if three or more persons file a declaration of candidacy for the position.

**FISCAL NOTE:** Not requested.

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