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HOUSE BILL 2664

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State of Washington                      55th Legislature                      1998 Regular Session

By Representative Smith; by request of Secretary of State

Read first time . Referred to Committee on .

1            AN ACT Relating to cancellation of voter registration; amending RCW  
2 29.10.040; and adding a new section to chapter 29.10 RCW.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.10.040 and 1994 c 57 s 36 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            A registered voter who changes his or her residence from one county  
7 to another county, shall be required to register anew. ~~((Before~~  
8 ~~registering anew,))~~ The voter shall sign an authorization to cancel his  
9 or her present registration. ~~((The authorization shall be on a form~~  
10 ~~prescribed by the secretary of state by rule. The))~~ An authorization  
11 to cancel a voter's registration shall be forwarded promptly to the  
12 county auditor of the county in which the voter was previously  
13 registered. The county auditor of the county where the previous  
14 registration was made shall cancel the registration of the voter if it  
15 appears that the signatures in the registration record and on the  
16 cancellation authorization form were made by the same person.

17            NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29.10 RCW  
18 to read as follows:

1        In addition to the case-by-case cancellation procedure required in  
2 RCW 29.10.040, the county auditor, in conjunction with the office of  
3 the secretary of state, shall enter into an annual list maintenance  
4 program designed to detect persons registered in more than one county.  
5 This program must be applied uniformly throughout the county and must  
6 be nondiscriminatory in its application. The program must be completed  
7 not later than thirty days before the date of a primary or general  
8 election.

9        The office of the secretary of state shall cause to be created a  
10 list of registered voters with the same date of birth and similar names  
11 who appear on two or more county lists of registered voters. The  
12 office of the secretary of state shall forward this list to each county  
13 auditor so that they may properly cancel the previous registration of  
14 voters who have subsequently registered in a different county. The  
15 county auditor of the county where the previous registration was made  
16 shall cancel the registration of the voter if it appears that the  
17 signatures in the registration and the signature provided to the new  
18 county on the voter's new registration were made by the same person.  
19 The office of the secretary of state shall adopt rules to facilitate  
20 this process.

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