

2 **SSB 6363** - S AMD - 165  
3 By Senators Gardner and Horn

4 ADOPTED 2/15/00

5 On page 17, line 19, delete all of sections 24 and 25 and insert  
6 the following:

7 "**Sec. 24.** RCW 29.04.055 and 1986 c 167 s 3 are each amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 COMBINING OR DIVIDING PRECINCTS, ELECTION BOARDS. At any  
10 (~~election, general or~~) special election(~~(,)~~) or (~~at any~~) primary,  
11 the county auditor may combine, unite, or divide precincts and may  
12 combine or unite election boards for the purpose of holding such  
13 election. At any general election, the county auditor may combine or  
14 unite election boards for the purpose of holding such election, but  
15 shall report all election returns by individual precinct.

16 **Sec. 25.** RCW 29.62.090 and 1999 c 298 s 21 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 ABSTRACT BY ELECTION OFFICER--TRANSMITTAL TO SECRETARY OF STATE.  
19 (1) Immediately after the official results of a state primary (~~or~~  
20 ~~general election~~) in a county are ascertained, the county auditor or  
21 other election officer shall make an abstract of the number of  
22 registered voters in each precinct and of all the votes cast in the  
23 county at such state primary (~~or general election~~) for and against  
24 state measures and for each candidate for federal, state, and  
25 legislative office or for any other office which the secretary of state  
26 is required by law to canvass. The abstract shall be entered on blanks  
27 furnished by the secretary of state or on compatible computer printouts  
28 approved by the secretary of state, and transmitted to the secretary of  
29 state no later than the next business day following the certification  
30 by the county canvassing board.

31 (2) After each general election, the county auditor or other  
32 election officer shall (~~provide to the secretary of state a report~~)  
33 make an abstract of the number of registered voters and all(~~absentee~~)  
34 ballots cast in each precinct at such general election for and against  
35 state measures and for each candidate for federal, state, and

1 legislative office or for any other office which the secretary of state  
2 is required by law to canvass. (~~The report may be included in the~~  
3 ~~abstract required by this section or may be transmitted to the~~  
4 ~~secretary of state separately, but in no event later than March 31 of~~  
5 ~~the year following the election.)) Absentee ballot results may be  
6 incorporated into votes cast at the polls for each precinct or may be  
7 reported separately on a precinct-by-precinct basis. The abstract  
8 shall be entered on blanks furnished by the secretary of state or on  
9 compatible computer printouts approved by the secretary of state, and  
10 transmitted to the secretary of state no later than the next business  
11 day following the certification by the county canvassing board.~~

12 (3) If absentee ballot results are not incorporated into votes cast  
13 at the polls, the county auditor or other election official may  
14 aggregate results from more than one precinct if the auditor, pursuant  
15 to rules adopted by the secretary of state, finds that reporting a  
16 single precinct's absentee ballot results would jeopardize the secrecy  
17 of a person's ballot. To the extent practicable, precincts for which  
18 absentee results are aggregated shall be contiguous."

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**EFFECT:** Clarify that paper ballots and absentee ballots shall be reported by precincts in general elections