

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

Bil Analysis

Bil No. HB 1197

**Establish residence requirements
for elections**

Brief title

Hearing Date: 1/29/99

**Reps Pennington and Hurst
Sponsor (s)**

**Staff: Steve Andin
State Government Committee
Phone: 786-7127**

BACKGROUND:

1. Residence requirements for hold office.

The standard requirement for persons filing a declaration and affidavit of candidacy for an elective office is that the person must at the time of filing possess the qualifications for the office. For most elective offices this means that the person must be registered in the geographic area represented by the office for which the declaration and affidavit is filed.

Additional residence requirements exist for a person to be a candidate for most elective offices. However, a person is not eligible to hold an elective office if a code city unless he or she is a registered voter of the city at the time of filing the declaration and affidavit of candidacy and has been a resident of the code city for a period of at least one year preceding election to office. The state constitution provides that a candidate for the temporary office of city freeholder must have been a resident of the city for a period of at least two years prior to being elected and that a candidate for the temporary office of county freeholder must have been a resident of the county for a period of at least five years prior to being elected.

A person may run for and hold office as a municipal judge or reside in the county which the city is located.

2. Law enforcement powers.

The sheriff, deputy sheriff, police chief, police constable, marshal and deputy town marshal are authorized to enforce criminal laws within their jurisdictions.

SUMMARY:

A person may not file a declaration of candidacy for an office and may not hold an elective office, unless he or she has been properly registered in the geographic area represented by the office at least one year before the date of filing the declaration of candidacy. These requirements do not apply to municipal court judges.

For purposes of registering, the definition of the term residence is expanded to include a domicile, well as a boode.

The more complete term of "declaration of candidacy" is defined in the term "declaration of candidacy" statute providing election-related

It is clarified that regular law enforcement officers are responsible for investigating alleged crimes.

FISCANOTE: Not requested.

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