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SENATE BILL 6873

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State of Washington                      56th Legislature      2000 1st Special Session

By Senators Gardner and Horn

Read first time 04/06/2000.

1            AN ACT Relating to reporting of election returns; and amending RCW  
2 29.04.055 and 29.62.090.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 29.04.055 and 1986 c 167 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            At any ~~((election, general or))~~ special election~~((7))~~ or ~~((at any))~~  
7 primary, the county auditor may combine, unite, or divide precincts and  
8 may combine or unite election boards for the purpose of holding such  
9 election. At any general election, the county auditor may combine or  
10 unite election boards for the purpose of holding such election, but  
11 shall report all election returns by individual precinct.

12            **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.62.090 and 1999 c 298 s 21 are each amended to read  
13 as follows:

14            (1) ~~((Immediately after the official results of a state primary or~~  
15 ~~general election in a county are ascertained))~~ After the primary, the  
16 county auditor or other election officer shall make an abstract of the  
17 number of registered voters in each precinct and of all the votes cast  
18 in the county at such ~~((state))~~ primary ~~((or general election))~~ for and

1 against each state ~~((measures))~~ measure and for each candidate or  
2 nominee for federal, state, and legislative office ~~((or))~~, and for any  
3 other office which the secretary of state is required by law to  
4 canvass. Absentee ballot results may be incorporated into results from  
5 ballots cast at the polls or may be reported separately. The abstract  
6 shall be entered on blanks furnished by the secretary of state or on  
7 compatible computer printouts approved by the secretary of state, and  
8 transmitted to the secretary of state no later than the next business  
9 day following the certification by the county canvassing board.

10 (2) After each general election, the county auditor or other  
11 election officer shall ~~((provide to the secretary of state a report))~~  
12 make an abstract of the number of registered voters and all ~~((absentee~~  
13 ~~ballots))~~ the votes cast in each precinct at such general election for  
14 and against each state ~~((measures))~~ measure and for each candidate or  
15 nominee for federal, state, and legislative office ~~((or))~~, and for any  
16 other office which the secretary of state is required by law to  
17 canvass. ~~((The report may be included in the abstract required by this~~  
18 ~~section or may be transmitted to the secretary of state separately, but~~  
19 ~~in no event later than March 31 of the year following the election.))~~  
20 Absentee ballot results may be incorporated into ~~((votes))~~ results from  
21 ballots cast at the polls for each precinct or may be reported  
22 separately on a precinct-by-precinct basis. The abstract shall be  
23 entered on blanks furnished by the secretary of state or on compatible  
24 computer printouts approved by the secretary of state, and transmitted  
25 to the secretary of state no later than the next business day following  
26 the certification by the county canvassing board.

27 (3) ~~((If))~~ For absentee ballots ~~((results are not incorporated into~~  
28 ~~votes))~~ and for ballots cast at the polls, the county auditor or other  
29 election official may aggregate results from more than one precinct if  
30 the auditor, pursuant to rules adopted by the secretary of state, finds  
31 that reporting a single precinct's ~~((absentee))~~ ballot results would  
32 jeopardize the secrecy of a person's ballot. To the extent  
33 practicable, precincts for which ~~((absentee))~~ results are aggregated  
34 shall be contiguous.

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