

1 **HB 1577 - H AMD 0022 BEYOND SCOPE 3/12/01**

2 By Representative Delvin

3 On page 5, after line 15, insert:

4 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29.18.010 and 1990 c 59 s 78 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Candidates for the following offices shall be nominated at
7 partisan primaries held pursuant to the provisions of this chapter:

8 (1) Congressional offices;

9 (2) All state offices except (a) judicial offices and (b) the
10 office of superintendent of public instruction;

11 (3) All county offices except (a) judicial offices, (b) sheriff,
12 except in a county for which the position is declared to be a partisan
13 office by the county's home rule charter, and ~~((b))~~ (c) those offices
14 where a county home rule charter provides otherwise.

15 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29.21.010 and 1990 c 59 s 89 are each amended to read
16 as follows:

17 All city and town primaries shall be nonpartisan. Primaries for
18 special purpose districts, except those districts that require
19 ownership of property within the district as a prerequisite to voting,
20 shall be nonpartisan. Primaries for the office of county sheriff shall
21 be nonpartisan except in a county for which the position is declared
22 to be a partisan office by the county's home rule charter. City, town,
23 county sheriff, and district primaries shall be held as provided in RCW
24 29.13.070.

25 The purpose of this section is to establish the holding of a
26 primary, subject to the exemptions in RCW 29.21.015, as a uniform
27 procedural requirement to the holding of city, town, county sheriff,
28 and district elections. These provisions supersede any and all other
29 statutes, whether general or special in nature, having different
30 election requirements.

31 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29.21.015 and 1998 c 19 s 1 are each amended to read
32 as follows:

33 (1) No primary may be held for any single position in any city,
34 town, district, ~~((or))~~ district court, or for the nonpartisan position

1 of county sheriff, as required by RCW 29.21.010, if, after the last day
2 allowed for candidates to withdraw, there are no more than two
3 candidates filed for the position. The county auditor shall, as soon
4 as possible, notify all the candidates so affected that the office for
5 which they filed will not appear on the primary ballot.

6 (2) No primary may be held for the office of commissioner of a
7 park and recreation district or for the office of cemetery district
8 commissioner.

9 (3) Names of candidates for offices that do not appear on the
10 primary ballot shall be printed upon the general election ballot in the
11 manner specified by RCW 29.30.025.

12 **Sec. 9.** RCW 29.21.070 and 1990 c 59 s 91 are each amended to read
13 as follows:

14 The offices of superintendent of public instruction, justice of
15 the supreme court, judge of the court of appeals, judge of the superior
16 court, and judge of the district court shall be nonpartisan and the
17 candidates therefor shall be nominated and elected as such. Except in
18 a county for which the position of sheriff is declared to be a partisan
19 office by the county's home rule charter, the office of county sheriff
20 shall be nonpartisan and the candidates therefor shall be nominated and
21 elected as such.

22 All city, town, and special purpose district elective offices
23 shall be nonpartisan and the candidates therefor shall be nominated and
24 elected as such.

25 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29.30.025 and 1990 c 59 s 80 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 After the close of business on the last day for candidates to file
28 for office, the filing officer shall, from among those filings made in
29 person and by mail, determine by lot the order in which the names of
30 those candidates will appear on all sample and absentee ballots. In
31 the case of candidates for city, town, and district office, and for
32 nonpartisan sheriff, this procedure shall also determine the order for
33 candidate names on the official primary ballot used at the polling
34 place. The determination shall be done publicly and may be witnessed
35 by the media and by any candidate. If no primary is required for any

1 nonpartisan office under RCW 29.15.150 or 29.21.015, the names shall
2 appear on the general election ballot in the order determined by lot.

3 **Sec. 11.** RCW 36.16.110 and 1963 c 4 s 36.16.110 are each amended
4 to read as follows:

5 The board of county commissioners in each county shall, at its
6 next regular or special meeting after being appraised of any vacancy in
7 any county, township, precinct, or road district office of the county,
8 including the office of county sheriff, fill the vacancy by the
9 appointment of some person qualified to hold such office, and the
10 officers thus appointed shall hold office until the next general
11 election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.-

12 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Provides for the office of county sheriff to be a nonpartisan office with candidates for the office of sheriff being nominated and elected at nonpartisan primaries and elections.