

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 2564

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As Reported By Senate Committee On:  
State & Local Government, February 28, 2002

**Title:** An act relating to changing references in annexation procedures from "qualified electors" to "registered voters".

**Brief Description:** Changing references in annexation procedures from "qualified electors" to "registered voters".

**Sponsors:** Representatives Holmquist, Mulliken, Dunshee, Edwards, DeBolt, Sullivan, Mielke, Hatfield, Schindler, Berkey, Dunn, Crouse, Kirby, Boldt and Benson.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** State & Local Government: 2/27/02, 2/28/02 [DP, DNP].

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators Gardner, Chair; Fairley, Vice Chair; Hale, Haugen, Horn, Keiser, Kline, McCaslin, T. Sheldon and Swecker.

**Minority Report:** Do not pass.

Signed by Senator Roach.

**Staff:** Mac Nicholson (786-7445)

**Background:** Code cities are authorized to annex territory through a variety of procedures, including either a resolution/election method, a petition/election method, or a direct petition method. Under the petition/election method, a ballot proposition authorizing an annexation is submitted to the voters upon the submission of a signed petition requesting the annexation by voters residing in the area proposed for annexation.

By statute, referendum petitions against annexations to a code city must be signed by a requisite number of "qualified electors" in order to be placed on the ballot. Unlike "registered voters," however, there is no record of "qualified electors" within a city. Consequently, there is no way of determining the validity of the signatures or whether the requisite number of "qualified electors" have signed a petition.

**Summary of Bill:** The reference in annexation procedures for code cities is changed from "qualified electors" to "registered voters."

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** This is just a housekeeping measure that fixes a small problem.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Testified:** Ron Rosenbloom, AWC.