
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5904

State of Washington

57th Legislature

2001 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Agriculture & International Trade (originally sponsored by Senators Morton and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 03/05/01.

1 AN ACT Relating to conservation district elections; amending RCW
2 89.08.160; adding a new section to chapter 29.04 RCW; adding a new
3 section to chapter 42.17 RCW; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29.04 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) Nothing in this title shall apply to conservation districts
8 governed under chapter 89.08 RCW, unless a conservation district
9 chooses to have its elections governed under this title.

10 (2) A conservation district choosing to have its elections governed
11 under this title shall:

12 (a) Still be governed by other nonelection provisions of chapter
13 89.08 RCW;

14 (b) Still be governed by RCW 89.08.160(2); and

15 (c) Remain solely responsible for the costs of holding elections
16 under this title.

17 Any conservation district choosing to have its elections governed
18 under this title shall make the choice in time to provide appropriate
19 prior notice to any affected county auditors.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 89.08.160 and 1973 1st ex.s. c 184 s 17 are each
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (1) If the commission finds the project practicable, it shall
4 appoint two supervisors, one of whom shall be a landowner or operator
5 of a farm, who shall be qualified by training and experience to perform
6 the specialized skilled services required of them. They, with the
7 three elected supervisors, two of whom shall be landowners or operators
8 of a farm, shall constitute the governing board of the district.

9 (2) In all subsequent appointments, at least one appointed
10 supervisor shall be a landowner or operator of a farm. In all
11 subsequent elections, at least two elected supervisors shall be
12 landowners or operators of farms.

13 (3) The two appointed supervisors shall file with the secretary of
14 state a sworn application, reciting that a petition was filed with the
15 commission for the creation of the district; that all required
16 proceedings were had thereon; that they were appointed by the
17 commission as such supervisors; and that the application is being filed
18 to complete the organization of the district. It shall contain the
19 names and residences of the applicants, a certified copy of their
20 appointments, the name of the district, the location of the office of
21 the supervisors and the term of office of each applicant.

22 (4) The application shall be accompanied by a statement of the
23 commission, reciting that a petition was filed, notice issued, and
24 hearing held thereon as required; that it determined the need for the
25 district and defined the boundaries thereof; that notice was given and
26 an election held on the question of creating the district; that a
27 majority vote favored the district, and that the commission had
28 determined the district practicable; and shall set forth the boundaries
29 of the district.

30 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 42.17 RCW
31 to read as follows:

32 Conservation districts who choose to have their elections governed
33 under chapter 29.13 RCW are also subject to this chapter. Conservation
34 districts whose elections are governed under chapter 89.08 RCW are
35 exempted from the requirements of this chapter.

36 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
37 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the

1 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
2 immediately.

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