
SENATE BILL 6572

State of Washington 57th Legislature

2002 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen, Morton, Carlson and Benton

Read first time 01/22/2002. Referred to Committee on Agriculture & International Trade.

1 AN ACT Relating to conservation district supervisors; amending RCW
2 29.13.020; adding a new section to chapter 42.17 RCW; creating a new
3 section; and declaring an emergency.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that there are
6 conflicting interpretations as to the intent of the legislature in the
7 enactment of chapter 305, Laws of 1999. The purpose of this act is to
8 make statutory changes that further clarify this intent.

9 It is the intent of the legislature that elections of conservation
10 district supervisors continue to be conducted under procedures in the
11 conservation district statutes, chapter 89.08 RCW, and that such
12 elections not be conducted under the general election laws contained in
13 Title 29 RCW. Further, it is the intent of the legislature that there
14 be no change made with regard to applicability of the public disclosure
15 act, chapter 42.17 RCW, to conservation district supervisors from those
16 that existed before the enactment of chapter 305, Laws of 1999.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.13.020 and 1994 c 142 s 2 are each amended to read
18 as follows:

1 (1) All city, town, and district general elections shall be held
2 throughout the state of Washington on the first Tuesday following the
3 first Monday in November in the odd-numbered years.

4 This section shall not apply to:

5 (a) Elections for the recall of any elective public officer;

6 (b) Public utility districts, conservation districts, or district
7 elections at which the ownership of property within those districts is
8 a prerequisite to voting, all of which elections shall be held at the
9 times prescribed in the laws specifically applicable thereto;

10 (c) Consolidation proposals as provided for in RCW 28A.315.280 and
11 nonhigh capital fund aid proposals as provided for in chapter 28A.540
12 RCW.

13 (2) The county auditor, as ex officio supervisor of elections, upon
14 request in the form of a resolution of the governing body of a city,
15 town, or district, presented to the auditor at least forty-five days
16 prior to the proposed election date, may, if the county auditor deems
17 an emergency to exist, call a special election in such city, town, or
18 district, and for the purpose of such special election he or she may
19 combine, unite, or divide precincts. Except as provided in subsection
20 (3) of this section, such a special election shall be held on one of
21 the following dates as decided by the governing body:

22 (a) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in February;

23 (b) The second Tuesday in March;

24 (c) The fourth Tuesday in April;

25 (d) The third Tuesday in May;

26 (e) The day of the primary election as specified by RCW 29.13.070;
27 or

28 (f) The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

29 (3) In a presidential election year, if a presidential preference
30 primary is conducted in February, March, April, or May under chapter
31 29.19 RCW, the date on which a special election may be called under
32 subsection (2) of this section during the month of that primary is the
33 date of the presidential primary.

34 (4) In addition to subsection (2)(a) through (f) of this section,
35 a special election to validate an excess levy or bond issue may be
36 called at any time to meet the needs resulting from fire, flood,
37 earthquake, or other act of God, except that no special election may be
38 held between the first day for candidates to file for public office and
39 the last day to certify the returns of the general election other than

1 as provided in subsection (2)(e) and (f) of this section. Such special
2 election shall be conducted and notice thereof given in the manner
3 provided by law.

4 (5) This section shall supersede the provisions of any and all
5 other statutes, whether general or special in nature, having different
6 dates for such city, town, and district elections, the purpose of this
7 section being to establish mandatory dates for holding elections.

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

10 Elections of conservation district supervisors held pursuant to
11 chapter 89.08 RCW shall not be considered general or special elections
12 for purposes of the campaign disclosure and personal financial affairs
13 reporting requirements of this chapter. Elected conservation district
14 supervisors are not considered elected officials for purposes of the
15 annual personal financial affairs reporting requirement of this
16 chapter.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate
18 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
19 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
20 immediately.

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