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HOUSE BILL 2706

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State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, McDermott, Moeller, Chase, Flannigan, Hunt, Kirby and Kagi

Read first time 01/20/2004. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to voter registration procedures; amending RCW  
2 29A.08.145, 29A.08.210, 29A.08.430, and 29A.84.130; and prescribing  
3 penalties.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.08.145 and 2003 c 111 s 213 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 This section establishes a special procedure which an elector may  
8 use to register to vote or transfer his or her voter registration  
9 address during the period beginning after the closing of registration  
10 for voting at the polls under RCW 29A.08.140 and ending ~~((on the~~  
11 ~~fifteenth day before a))~~ the day of the primary, special election, or  
12 general election. A qualified elector in the ~~((county))~~ state may  
13 register to vote or change his or her registration address in person in  
14 the office of the county auditor ~~((or at a voter registration location~~  
15 ~~specifically designated for this purpose by the county auditor of the~~  
16 ~~county in which the applicant resides))~~, and apply for an absentee  
17 ballot for that primary or election. The auditor ~~((or registration~~  
18 ~~assistant))~~ shall register that individual in the manner provided in  
19 this chapter. The application for an absentee ballot executed by the

1 newly registered voter for the primary or election that follows the  
2 execution of the registration shall be promptly transmitted to the  
3 auditor with the completed voter registration form.

4 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.08.210 and 2003 c 111 s 216 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 An applicant for voter registration shall complete an application  
7 providing the following information concerning his or her  
8 qualifications as a voter in this state:

9 (1) The address of the last former registration of the applicant as  
10 a voter in the state;

11 (2) The applicant's full name;

12 (3) The applicant's date of birth;

13 (4) The address of the applicant's residence for voting purposes;

14 (5) The mailing address of the applicant if that address is not the  
15 same as the address in subsection (4) of this section;

16 (6) The sex of the applicant;

17 (7) A declaration that the applicant is a citizen of the United  
18 States;

19 (8) The applicant's signature; and

20 (9) Any other information that the secretary of state determines is  
21 necessary to establish the identity of the applicant and prevent  
22 duplicate or fraudulent voter registrations.

23 This information shall be recorded on a single registration form to  
24 be prescribed by the secretary of state.

25 If the applicant fails to provide the information required for  
26 voter registration, the auditor shall send the applicant a verification  
27 notice. The auditor shall not register the applicant until the  
28 required information is provided. If a verification notice is returned  
29 as undeliverable or the applicant fails to respond to the notice within  
30 forty-five days, the auditor shall not register the applicant to vote.

31 The following warning shall appear in a conspicuous place on the  
32 voter registration form:

33 "If you knowingly provide false information on this voter  
34 registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your  
35 qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class  
36 ((E)) A felony that is punishable by imprisonment for ~~((up to five~~

1 ~~years~~) life, or by a fine of up to (~~ten~~) fifty thousand dollars, or  
2 both imprisonment and fine."

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.430 and 2003 c 111 s 230 are each amended to  
4 read as follows:

5 (1) A person who is registered to vote in this state may transfer  
6 his or her voter registration on the day of a special, primary, or  
7 general election (~~or primary~~) for purposes of voting in a future  
8 special, primary, or general election under the following procedures:

9 (a) The voter may complete, at the polling place, a registration  
10 transfer form designed by the secretary of state and supplied by the  
11 county auditor; or

12 (b) The voter may write in his or her new residential address in  
13 the precinct list of registered voters.

14 The county auditor shall determine which of these two procedures  
15 are to be used in the county or may determine that both procedures are  
16 to be available to voters for use in the county.

17 (2) A (~~voter who transfers his or her registration in the manner~~  
18 ~~authorized by this section shall vote in the precinct in which he or~~  
19 ~~she was previously registered~~) person who is registered to vote in  
20 this state may transfer his or her voter registration on the day of a  
21 special, primary, or general election for purposes of voting in the  
22 current special, primary, or general election under the procedures  
23 provided in RCW 29A.08.145.

24 (3) The auditor shall, within ninety days, mail to each voter who  
25 has transferred a registration under this section a notice of his or  
26 her current precinct and polling place.

27 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.84.130 and 2003 c 111 s 2107 are each amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 Any person who:

30 (1) Knowingly provides false information on an application for  
31 voter registration under any provision of this title;

32 (2) Knowingly makes or attests to a false declaration as to his or  
33 her qualifications as a voter;

34 (3) Knowingly causes or permits himself or herself to be registered  
35 using the name of another person;

1           (4) Knowingly causes himself or herself to be registered under two  
2 or more different names;  
3           (5) Knowingly causes himself or herself to be registered in two or  
4 more counties;  
5           (6) Offers to pay another person to assist in registering voters,  
6 where payment is based on a fixed amount of money per voter  
7 registration;  
8           (7) Accepts payment for assisting in registering voters, where  
9 payment is based on a fixed amount of money per voter registration; or  
10           (8) Knowingly causes any person to be registered or causes any  
11 registration to be transferred or canceled except as authorized under  
12 this title,  
13 is guilty of a class ((C)) A felony punishable under RCW 9A.20.021.

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