
HOUSE BILL 3213

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representative Hunt

Read first time 03/11/2004. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to an open primary; amending RCW 29A.04.007,
2 29A.04.085, 29A.04.215, 29A.04.310, 29A.04.320, 29A.12.100, 29A.20.120,
3 29A.20.140, 29A.20.150, 29A.20.200, 29A.24.100, 29A.24.130, 29A.24.210,
4 29A.24.310, 29A.28.040, 29A.28.060, 29A.28.070, 29A.32.030, 29A.32.240,
5 29A.36.010, 29A.36.100, 29A.36.110, 29A.36.120, 29A.36.130, 29A.36.150,
6 29A.36.160, 29A.36.190, 29A.40.060, 29A.40.090, 29A.44.200, 29A.44.220,
7 29A.44.230, 29A.52.310, 29A.52.320, 29A.60.020, 29A.80.040, 29A.80.050,
8 29A.80.060, 29A.04.610, and 42.17.020; adding new sections to chapter
9 29A.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 29A.32 RCW; adding new
10 sections to chapter 29A.36 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 29A.52
11 RCW; repealing RCW 29A.36.140, 29A.52.110, 29A.52.120, 29A.52.130, and
12 29A.04.903; and declaring an emergency.

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

14 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.04.007 and 2003 c 111 s 102 are each amended to
15 read as follows:

16 As used in this title:

17 (1) "Ballot" means, as the context implies, either:

18 (a) The issues and offices to be voted upon in a jurisdiction or

1 portion of a jurisdiction at a particular primary, general election, or
2 special election;

3 (b) A facsimile of the contents of a particular ballot whether
4 printed on a paper ballot or ballot card or as part of a voting machine
5 or voting device;

6 (c) A physical or electronic record of the choices of an individual
7 voter in a particular primary, general election, or special election;
8 or

9 (d) The physical document on which the voter's choices are to be
10 recorded;

11 (2) "Paper ballot" means a piece of paper on which the ballot for
12 a particular election or primary has been printed, on which a voter may
13 record his or her choices for any candidate or for or against any
14 measure, and that is to be tabulated manually;

15 (3) "Ballot card" means any type of card or piece of paper of any
16 size on which a voter may record his or her choices for any candidate
17 and for or against any measure and that is to be tabulated on a vote
18 tallying system;

19 (4) "Sample ballot" means a printed facsimile of all the issues and
20 offices on the ballot in a jurisdiction and is intended to give voters
21 notice of the issues, offices, and candidates that are to be voted on
22 at a particular primary, general election, or special election;

23 (5) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot issued to a voter at the
24 polling place on election day by the precinct election board, for one
25 of the following reasons:

26 (a) The voter's name does not appear in the poll book;

27 (b) There is an indication in the poll book that the voter has
28 requested an absentee ballot, but the voter wishes to vote at the
29 polling place;

30 (c) There is a question on the part of the voter concerning the
31 issues or candidates on which the voter is qualified to vote;

32 (6) "Party ballot" means a primary election ballot specific to a
33 particular major political party that lists all partisan offices to be
34 voted on at that primary, and the candidates for those offices who
35 affiliate with that same major political party;

36 (7) "Nonpartisan ballot" means a primary election ballot that lists
37 all nonpartisan races and ballot measures to be voted on at that
38 primary.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.04.085 and 2003 c 111 s 115 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 "Major political party" means a political party of which at least
4 one nominee for president, vice president, United States senator, or a
5 statewide office received at least five percent of the total vote cast
6 at the last preceding state general election in an even-numbered year.
7 A political party qualifying as a major political party under this
8 section retains such status until the next even-year election at which
9 a candidate of that party does not achieve at least five percent of the
10 vote for one of the previously specified offices. If none of these
11 offices appear on the ballot in an even-year general election, the
12 major party retains its status as a major party through that election.
13 However, a political party of which no nominee received at least ten
14 percent of the total vote cast may forgo its status as a major
15 political party by filing with the secretary of state an appropriate
16 party rule within sixty days of attaining major party status under this
17 section, or within fifteen days of the effective date of this act,
18 whichever is later.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.04.215 and 2003 c 111 s 134 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 The county auditor of each county shall be ex officio the
22 supervisor of all primaries and elections, general or special, and it
23 shall be the county auditor's duty to provide places for holding such
24 primaries and elections; to appoint the precinct election officers and
25 to provide for their compensation; to provide the supplies and
26 materials necessary for the conduct of elections to the precinct
27 election officers; and to publish and post notices of calling such
28 primaries and elections in the manner provided by law. The notice of
29 a (~~general election~~) primary held in an even-numbered year must
30 indicate that the office of precinct committee officer will be on the
31 ballot. The auditor shall also apportion to each city, town, or
32 district, and to the state of Washington in the odd-numbered year, its
33 share of the expense of such primaries and elections. This section
34 does not apply to general or special elections for any city, town, or
35 district that is not subject to RCW 29A.04.320 and 29A.04.330, but all
36 such elections must be held and conducted at the time, in the manner,

1 and by the officials (with such notice, requirements for filing for
2 office, and certifications by local officers) as provided and required
3 by the laws governing such elections.

4 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.04.310 and 2003 c 111 s 143 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Nominating primaries for general elections to be held in November,
7 and the election of precinct committee officers, must be held on the
8 third Tuesday of the preceding September or on the seventh Tuesday
9 immediately preceding such general election, whichever occurs first.

10 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.04.320 and 2003 c 111 s 144 are each amended to
11 read as follows:

12 (1) All state, county, city, town, and district general elections
13 for the election of federal, state, legislative, judicial, county,
14 city, town, and district(~~(, and precinct)~~) officers, and for the
15 submission to the voters of the state, county, city, town, or district
16 of any measure for their adoption and approval or rejection, shall be
17 held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November, in the
18 year in which they may be called. A statewide general election shall
19 be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November of each
20 year. However, the statewide general election held in odd-numbered
21 years shall be limited to (a) city, town, and district general
22 elections as provided for in RCW 29A.04.330, or as otherwise provided
23 by law; (b) the election of federal officers for the remainder of any
24 unexpired terms in the membership of either branch of the Congress of
25 the United States; (c) the election of state and county officers for
26 the remainder of any unexpired terms of offices created by or whose
27 duties are described in Article II, section 15, Article III, sections
28 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, and Article IV, sections 3 and 5 of the
29 state Constitution and RCW 2.06.080; (d) the election of county
30 officers in any county governed by a charter containing provisions
31 calling for general county elections at this time; and (e) the approval
32 or rejection of state measures, including proposed constitutional
33 amendments, matters pertaining to any proposed constitutional
34 convention, initiative measures and referendum measures proposed by the
35 electorate, referendum bills, and any other matter provided by the
36 legislature for submission to the electorate.

1 (2) A county legislative authority may, if it deems an emergency to
2 exist, call a special county election by presenting a resolution to the
3 county auditor at least forty-five days prior to the proposed election
4 date. Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, a special
5 election called by the county legislative authority shall be held on
6 one of the following dates as decided by such governing body:

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

8 (b) The second Tuesday in March;

9 (c) The fourth Tuesday in April;

10 (d) The third Tuesday in May;

11 (e) The day of the primary as specified by RCW 29A.04.310; or

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

13 (3) In addition to the dates set forth in subsection (2)(a) through
14 (f) of this section, a special election to validate an excess levy or
15 bond issue may be called at any time to meet the needs resulting from
16 fire, flood, earthquake, or other act of God. Such county special
17 election shall be noticed and conducted in the manner provided by law.

18 (4) In a presidential election year, if a presidential preference
19 primary is conducted in February, March, April, or May under chapter
20 29A.56 RCW, the date on which a special election may be called by the
21 county legislative authority under subsection (2) of this section
22 during the month of that primary is the date of the presidential
23 primary.

24 (5) This section shall supersede the provisions of any and all
25 other statutes, whether general or special in nature, having different
26 dates for such city, town, and district elections, the purpose of this
27 section being to establish mandatory dates for holding elections except
28 for those elections held pursuant to a home-rule charter adopted under
29 Article XI, section 4 of the state Constitution. This section shall
30 not be construed as fixing the time for holding primary elections, or
31 elections for the recall of any elective public officer.

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08 RCW
33 to read as follows:

34 No record may be created or maintained by a state or local
35 governmental agency or a political organization that identifies a voter
36 with the information marked on the voter's ballot, including the choice

1 that a voter makes on a partisan primary ballot regarding political
2 party affiliation.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 Under no circumstances may an individual be required to affiliate
6 with, join, adhere to, express faith in, or declare a preference for,
7 a political party or organization upon registering to vote.

8 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29A.12.100 and 2003 c 111 s 310 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 The secretary of state shall not approve a vote tallying system
11 unless it:

12 (1) Correctly counts votes on ballots on which the proper number of
13 votes have been marked for any office or issue;

14 (2) Ignores votes marked for any office or issue where more than
15 the allowable number of votes have been marked, but correctly counts
16 the properly voted portions of the ballot;

17 (3) Accumulates a count of the specific number of ballots tallied
18 for each precinct, total votes by candidate for each office, and total
19 votes for and against each issue of the ballot in that precinct;

20 (4) ~~((Accommodates rotation of candidates' names on the ballot
21 under RCW 29A.36.140;~~

22 ~~(+5))~~ Produces precinct and cumulative totals in printed form; and

23 ~~((+6))~~ (5) Except for functions or capabilities unique to this
24 state, has been tested, certified, and used in at least one other state
25 or election jurisdiction.

26 **Sec. 9.** RCW 29A.20.120 and 2003 c 111 s 506 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) Any nomination of a candidate for partisan public office by
29 other than a major political party may be made only: (a) In a
30 convention held not earlier than the last Saturday in June and not
31 later than the first Saturday in July or during any of the seven days
32 immediately preceding the first day for filing declarations of
33 candidacy as fixed in accordance with RCW 29A.28.040; (b) as provided
34 by RCW 29A.60.020; or (c) as otherwise provided in this section. Minor

1 political party and independent candidates may appear only on the
2 general election ballot.

3 (2) Nominations of candidates for president and vice president of
4 the United States other than by a major political party may be made
5 either at a convention conducted under subsection (1) of this section,
6 or at a similar convention taking place not earlier than the first
7 Sunday in July and not later than seventy days before the general
8 election. Conventions held during this time period may not nominate
9 candidates for any public office other than president and vice
10 president of the United States, except as provided in subsection (3) of
11 this section.

12 (3) If a special filing period for a partisan office is opened
13 under RCW 29A.24.210, candidates of minor political parties and
14 independent candidates may file for office during that special filing
15 period. The names of those candidates may not appear on the general
16 election ballot unless they are nominated by convention held no later
17 than five days after the close of the special filing period and a
18 certificate of nomination is filed with the filing officer no later
19 than three days after the convention. The requirements of RCW
20 29A.20.130 do not apply to such a convention. (~~(If primary ballots or~~
21 ~~a voters' pamphlet are ordered to be printed before the deadline for~~
22 ~~submitting the certificate of nomination and the certificate has not~~
23 ~~been filed, then the candidate's name will be included but may not~~
24 ~~appear on the general election ballot unless the certificate is timely~~
25 ~~filed and the candidate otherwise qualifies to appear on that ballot.))~~

26 (4) A minor political party may hold more than one convention but
27 in no case shall any such party nominate more than one candidate for
28 any one partisan public office or position. For the purpose of
29 nominating candidates for the offices of president and vice president,
30 United States senator, United States representative, or a statewide
31 office, a minor party or independent candidate holding multiple
32 conventions may add together the number of signatures of different
33 individuals from each convention obtained in support of the candidate
34 or candidates in order to obtain the number required by RCW 29A.20.140.
35 For all other offices for which nominations are made, signatures of the
36 requisite number of registered voters must be obtained at a single
37 convention.

1 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29A.20.140 and 2003 c 111 s 508 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) To be valid, a convention must be attended by at least
4 (~~twenty-five~~) one hundred registered voters.

5 (2) In order to nominate candidates for the offices of president
6 and vice president of the United States, United States senator, United
7 States representative, or any statewide office, a nominating convention
8 shall obtain and submit to the filing officer the signatures of at
9 least (~~two hundred~~) one thousand registered voters of the state of
10 Washington. In order to nominate candidates for any other office, a
11 nominating convention shall obtain and submit to the filing officer the
12 signatures of (~~twenty-five~~) one hundred persons who are registered to
13 vote in the jurisdiction of the office for which the nominations are
14 made.

15 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29A.20.150 and 2003 c 111 s 509 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 A nominating petition submitted under this chapter shall clearly
18 identify the name of the minor party or independent candidate
19 convention as it appears on the certificate of nomination as required
20 by RCW 29A.20.160(3). The petition shall also contain a statement that
21 the person signing the petition is a registered voter of the state of
22 Washington and shall have a space for the voter to sign his or her name
23 and to print his or her name and address. No person may sign more than
24 one nominating petition under this chapter for an office for (~~a~~
25 ~~primary or~~) an election.

26 **Sec. 12.** RCW 29A.20.200 and 2003 c 111 s 514 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 Not later than the Friday immediately preceding the first day for
29 candidates to file, the secretary of state shall notify the county
30 auditors of the names and designations of all minor party and
31 independent candidates who have filed valid convention certificates and
32 nominating petitions with that office. Except for the offices of
33 president and vice president, persons nominated under this chapter
34 shall file declarations of candidacy as provided by RCW 29A.24.030 and
35 29A.24.070. The name of a candidate nominated at a convention shall

1 not be printed upon the (~~primary~~) general election ballot unless he
2 or she pays the fee required by law to be paid by candidates for the
3 same office to be nominated at a primary.

4 **Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.24.100 and 2003 c 111 s 610 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The nominating petition authorized by RCW 29A.24.090 (~~shall~~)
7 must be printed on sheets of uniform color and size, (~~shall~~) must
8 include a place for each individual to sign and print his or her name
9 and the address, city, and county at which he or she is registered to
10 vote, and must contain no more than twenty numbered lines(~~, and~~).

11 (2) For candidates for nonpartisan office and candidates of a major
12 political party for partisan office, the nominating petition must be in
13 substantially the following form:

14 The warning prescribed by RCW 29A.72.140; followed by:
15 We, the undersigned registered voters of (the state of
16 Washington or the political subdivision for which the nomination is
17 made) , hereby petition that the name of (candidate's name) be
18 printed on the official primary ballot for the office of (insert
19 name of office) .

20 (~~The petition must include a place for each individual to sign and~~
21 ~~print his or her name, and the address, city, and county at which he or~~
22 ~~she is registered to vote.))~~

23 (3) For independent candidates and candidates of a minor political
24 party for partisan office, the nominating petition must be in
25 substantially the following form:

26 The warning prescribed by RCW 29A.72.140; followed by:
27 We, the undersigned registered voters of (the state of
28 Washington or the political subdivision for which the nomination is
29 made) , hereby petition that the name of (candidate's name) be
30 printed on the official general election ballot for the office of (insert
31 name of office) .

32 **Sec. 14.** RCW 29A.24.130 and 2003 c 111 s 613 are each amended to
33 read as follows:

34 A candidate may withdraw his or her declaration of candidacy at any

1 time before the close of business on the Thursday following the last
2 day for candidates to file under RCW 29A.24.050 by filing, with the
3 officer with whom the declaration of candidacy was filed, a signed
4 request that his or her name not be printed on the ballot. There shall
5 be no withdrawal period for declarations of candidacy filed during
6 special filing periods held under this title. The filing officer may
7 permit the withdrawal of a filing for the office of precinct committee
8 officer at the request of the candidate at any time if no absentee
9 ballots have been issued for that office and the ((general election))
10 ballots for that precinct have not been printed. The filing officer
11 may permit the withdrawal of a filing for any elected office of a city,
12 town, or special district at the request of the candidate at any time
13 before a primary if the primary ballots for that city, town, or special
14 district have not been ordered. No filing fee may be refunded to any
15 candidate who withdraws under this section. Notice of the deadline for
16 withdrawal of candidacy and that the filing fee is not refundable shall
17 be given to each candidate at the time he or she files.

18 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29A.24.210 and 2003 c 111 s 621 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 Filings for a partisan elective office shall be opened for a period
21 of three normal business days whenever, on or after the first day of
22 the regular filing period and before the sixth Tuesday prior to a
23 primary, a vacancy occurs in that office, leaving an unexpired term to
24 be filled by an election for which filings have not been held.

25 Any such special three-day filing period shall be fixed by the
26 election officer with whom declarations of candidacy for that office
27 are filed. The election officer shall give notice of the special
28 three-day filing period by notifying the press, radio, and television
29 in the county or counties involved, and by such other means as may be
30 required by law.

31 Candidacies validly filed within the special three-day filing
32 period shall appear on the ((primary)) ballot as if filed during the
33 regular filing period.

34 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29A.24.310 and 2003 c 111 s 622 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 Any person who desires to be a write-in candidate and have such

1 votes counted at a primary or election may file a declaration of
2 candidacy with the officer designated in RCW 29A.24.070 not later than
3 the day before the primary or election. Declarations of candidacy for
4 write-in candidates must be accompanied by a filing fee in the same
5 manner as required of other candidates filing for the office as
6 provided in RCW 29A.24.090.

7 Votes cast for write-in candidates who have filed such declarations
8 of candidacy and write-in votes for persons appointed by major
9 political parties pursuant to RCW 29A.28.020 need only specify the name
10 of the candidate in the appropriate location on the ballot in order to
11 be counted. Write-in votes cast for any other candidate, in order to
12 be counted, must designate the office sought and position number or
13 political party, if the manner in which the write-in is done does not
14 make the office or position clear. In order for write-in votes to be
15 valid in jurisdictions employing optical-scan mark sense ballot systems
16 the voter must complete the proper mark next to the write-in line for
17 that office.

18 No person may file as a write-in candidate where:

19 (1) At a general election, the person attempting to file either
20 filed as a write-in candidate for the same office at the preceding
21 primary or the person's name appeared on the ballot for the same office
22 at the preceding primary;

23 (2) The person attempting to file as a write-in candidate has
24 already filed a valid write-in declaration for that primary or
25 election, unless one or the other of the two filings is for the office
26 of precinct committeeperson;

27 (3) The name of the person attempting to file already appears on
28 the ballot as a candidate for another office, unless one of the two
29 offices for which he or she is a candidate is precinct committeeperson.

30 The declaration of candidacy shall be similar to that required by
31 RCW 29A.24.030. No write-in candidate filing under this section may be
32 included in any voter's pamphlet produced under chapter 29A.32 RCW
33 unless that candidate qualifies to have his or her name printed on the
34 general election ballot. The legislative authority of any jurisdiction
35 producing a local voter's pamphlet under chapter 29A.32 RCW may
36 provide, by ordinance, for the inclusion of write-in candidates in such
37 pamphlets.

1 **Sec. 17.** RCW 29A.28.040 and 2003 c 111 s 704 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 (1) Whenever a vacancy occurs in the United States house of
4 representatives or the United States senate from this state, the
5 governor shall order a special election to fill the vacancy. Minor
6 political party candidates and independent candidates may be nominated
7 through the convention procedures provided in RCW 29A.20.110 through
8 29A.20.200.

9 (2) Within ten days of such vacancy occurring, he or she shall
10 issue a writ of election fixing a date for the special vacancy election
11 not less than ninety days after the issuance of the writ, fixing a date
12 for the primary for nominating major political party candidates for the
13 special vacancy election not less than thirty days before the day fixed
14 for holding the special vacancy election, fixing the dates for the
15 special filing period, and designating the term or part of the term for
16 which the vacancy exists. If the vacancy is in the office of United
17 States representative, the writ of election shall specify the
18 congressional district that is vacant.

19 (3) If the vacancy occurs less than six months before a state
20 general election and before the second Friday following the close of
21 the filing period for that general election, the special primary
22 ~~((and)),~~ special vacancy election~~((s shall))~~, and minor party and
23 independent candidate nominating conventions must be held in concert
24 with the state primary and state general election in that year.

25 (4) If the vacancy occurs on or after the first day for filing
26 under RCW 29A.24.050 and on or before the second Friday following the
27 close of the filing period, a special filing period of three normal
28 business days shall be fixed by the governor and notice thereof given
29 to all media, including press, radio, and television within the area in
30 which the vacancy election is to be held, to the end that, insofar as
31 possible, all interested persons will be aware of such filing period.
32 The last day of the filing period shall not be later than the third
33 Tuesday before the primary at which major political party candidates
34 are to be nominated. The names of major political party candidates who
35 have filed valid declarations of candidacy during this three-day period
36 shall appear on the approaching primary ballot. The requirements of
37 RCW 29A.20.130 do not apply to a minor political party or independent
38 candidate convention held under this subsection.

1 (5) If the vacancy occurs later than the second Friday following
2 the close of the filing period, a special primary (~~and~~), special
3 vacancy election, and the minor party and independent candidate
4 conventions to fill the position shall be held after the next state
5 general election but, in any event, no later than the ninetieth day
6 following the November election.

7 **Sec. 18.** RCW 29A.28.060 and 2003 c 111 s 706 are each amended to
8 read as follows:

9 The general election laws and laws relating to partisan primaries
10 shall apply to the special primaries and vacancy elections provided for
11 in RCW 29A.28.040 through 29A.28.050 to the extent that they are not
12 inconsistent with the provisions of these sections. Minor political
13 party and independent candidates may appear only on the general
14 election ballot. Statutory time deadlines relating to availability of
15 absentee ballots, certification, canvassing, and related procedures
16 that cannot be met in a timely fashion may be modified for the purposes
17 of a specific primary or vacancy election under this chapter by the
18 secretary of state through emergency rules adopted under RCW
19 29A.04.610.

20 **Sec. 19.** RCW 29A.28.070 and 2003 c 111 s 707 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 If a vacancy occurs in the office of precinct committee officer by
23 reason of death, resignation, or disqualification of the incumbent, or
24 because of failure to elect, the respective county chair of the county
25 central committee shall fill the vacancy by appointment. However, in
26 a legislative district having a majority of its precincts in a county
27 with a population of one million or more, the appointment may be made
28 only upon the recommendation of the legislative district chair. The
29 person so appointed must have the same qualifications as candidates
30 when filing for election to the office for that precinct. When a
31 vacancy in the office of precinct committee officer exists because of
32 failure to elect at a state (~~general election~~) primary, the vacancy
33 may not be filled until after the organization meeting of the county
34 central committee and the new county chair has been selected as
35 provided by RCW 29A.80.030.

1 **Sec. 20.** RCW 29A.32.030 and 2003 c 111 s 803 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 The voters' pamphlet must contain:

4 (1) Information about each ballot measure initiated by or referred
5 to the voters for their approval or rejection as required by RCW
6 29A.32.070;

7 (2) In even-numbered years, statements, if submitted, advocating
8 the candidacies of nominees for the office of president and vice
9 president of the United States, United States senator, United States
10 representative, governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state,
11 state treasurer, state auditor, attorney general, commissioner of
12 public lands, superintendent of public instruction, insurance
13 commissioner, state senator, state representative, justice of the
14 supreme court, judge of the court of appeals, or judge of the superior
15 court. Candidates may also submit a campaign mailing address and
16 telephone number and a photograph not more than five years old and of
17 a size and quality that the secretary of state determines to be
18 suitable for reproduction in the voters' pamphlet;

19 (3) In odd-numbered years, if any office voted upon statewide
20 appears on the ballot due to a vacancy, then statements and photographs
21 for candidates for any vacant office listed in subsection (2) of this
22 section must appear;

23 (4) In even-numbered years, a section explaining how voters may
24 participate in the election campaign process; the address and telephone
25 number of the public disclosure commission established under RCW
26 42.17.350; and a summary of the disclosure requirements that apply when
27 contributions are made to candidates and political committees;

28 (5) In even-numbered years the name, address, and telephone number
29 of each political party with nominees listed in the pamphlet, if filed
30 with the secretary of state by the state committee of a major political
31 party or the presiding officer of the convention of a minor political
32 party;

33 (6) In each odd-numbered year immediately before a year in which a
34 president of the United States is to be nominated and elected,
35 information explaining the precinct caucus and convention process used
36 by each major political party to elect delegates to its national
37 presidential candidate nominating convention. The pamphlet must also

1 provide a description of the statutory procedures by which minor
2 political parties are formed and the statutory methods used by the
3 parties to nominate candidates for president;

4 ~~(7) ((In even numbered years, a description of the office of~~
5 ~~precinct committee officer and its duties;~~

6 ~~(8))~~) An application form for an absentee ballot;

7 ~~((9))~~ (8) A brief statement explaining the deletion and addition
8 of language for proposed measures under RCW 29A.32.080;

9 ~~((10))~~ (9) Any additional information pertaining to elections as
10 may be required by law or in the judgment of the secretary of state is
11 deemed informative to the voters.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 21.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.32
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 If the secretary of state prints and distributes a voters' pamphlet
15 for a primary in an even-numbered year, it must contain:

16 (1) A description of the office of precinct committee officer and
17 its duties;

18 (2) An explanation that, for partisan offices, only voters who
19 choose to affiliate with a major political party may vote in that
20 party's primary election, and that voters must limit their
21 participation in a partisan primary to one political party; and

22 (3) An explanation that minor political party candidates and
23 independent candidates will appear only on the general election ballot.

24 **Sec. 22.** RCW 29A.32.240 and 2003 c 111 s 816 are each amended to
25 read as follows:

26 The local voters' pamphlet shall include but not be limited to the
27 following:

28 (1) Appearing on the cover, the words "official local voters'
29 pamphlet," the name of the jurisdiction producing the pamphlet, and the
30 date of the election or primary;

31 (2) A list of jurisdictions that have measures or candidates in the
32 pamphlet;

33 (3) Information on how a person may register to vote and obtain an
34 absentee ballot;

35 (4) The text of each measure accompanied by an explanatory
36 statement prepared by the prosecuting attorney for any county measure

1 or by the attorney for the jurisdiction submitting the measure if other
2 than a county measure. All explanatory statements for city, town, or
3 district measures not approved by the attorney for the jurisdiction
4 submitting the measure shall be reviewed and approved by the county
5 prosecuting attorney or city attorney, when applicable, before
6 inclusion in the pamphlet;

7 (5) The arguments for and against each measure submitted by
8 committees selected pursuant to RCW 29A.32.280; and

9 (6) For partisan primary elections, information on how to vote the
10 applicable ballot format and an explanation that minor political party
11 candidates and independent candidates will appear only on the general
12 election ballot.

13 **Sec. 23.** RCW 29A.36.010 and 2003 c 111 s 901 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 On or before the day following the last day for major political
16 parties to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW 29A.28.010,
17 the secretary of state shall certify to each county auditor a list of
18 the candidates who have filed declarations of candidacy in his or her
19 office for the primary. For each office, the certificate shall include
20 the name of each candidate, his or her address, and his or her party
21 designation, if any. Minor political party and independent candidates
22 may appear only on the general election ballot.

23 **Sec. 24.** RCW 29A.36.100 and 2003 c 111 s 910 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 Except for the candidates for the positions of president and vice
26 president (~~(or)~~), for a partisan or nonpartisan office for which no
27 primary is required, or for independent or minor party candidates, the
28 names of all candidates who, under this title, filed a declaration of
29 candidacy(~~(or)~~) or were certified as a candidate to fill a vacancy on a
30 major party ticket(~~(, or were nominated as an independent or minor~~
31 ~~party candidate)~~) will appear on the appropriate ballot at the primary
32 throughout the jurisdiction in which they are to be nominated.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.36
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 Partisan primaries must be conducted using either:

1 (1) A consolidated ballot format that includes a major political
2 party identification check-off box that allows a voter to select from
3 a list of the major political parties the major political party with
4 which the voter chooses to affiliate. The consolidated ballot must
5 include all partisan races, nonpartisan races, and ballot measures to
6 be voted on at that primary; or

7 (2) A physically separate ballot format that includes both party
8 ballots and a nonpartisan ballot. A party ballot must be specific to
9 a particular major political party and may include only the partisan
10 offices to be voted on at that primary and the names of candidates for
11 those partisan offices who designated that same major political party
12 in their declarations of candidacy. The nonpartisan ballot must
13 include all nonpartisan races and ballot measures to be voted on at
14 that primary.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.36
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1) If the consolidated ballot format allowed under section 25(1)
18 of this act is used, the major political party identification check-off
19 box must appear on the primary ballot before all offices and ballot
20 measures. Clear and concise instructions to the voter must be
21 prominently displayed immediately before the list of major political
22 parties, and must include:

23 (a) A question asking the voter to indicate the major political
24 party with which the voter chooses to affiliate;

25 (b) A statement that, for a major political party candidate, only
26 votes cast by voters who choose to affiliate with that same major
27 political party will be tabulated and reported;

28 (c) A statement that votes cast for a major political party
29 candidate by a voter who chooses to affiliate with a different major
30 political party will not be tabulated or reported;

31 (d) A statement that votes cast for a major political party
32 candidate by a voter who fails to select a major political party
33 affiliation will not be tabulated or reported;

34 (e) A statement that votes cast for a major political party
35 candidate by a voter who selects more than one major political party
36 with which to affiliate will not be tabulated or reported; and

1 (f) A statement that the party identification option will not
2 affect votes cast for candidates for nonpartisan offices, or for or
3 against ballot measures.

4 (2) If the physically separate ballot format allowed under section
5 25(2) of this act is used, clear and concise instructions to the voter
6 must be prominently displayed, and must include:

7 (a) A statement explaining that only one party ballot and one
8 nonpartisan ballot may be voted;

9 (b) A statement explaining that if more than one party ballot is
10 voted, none of the party ballots will be tabulated or reported;

11 (c) A statement explaining that a voter's affiliation with a major
12 political party will be inferred from the act of voting the party
13 ballot for that major political party; and

14 (d) A statement explaining that every eligible registered voter may
15 vote a nonpartisan ballot, regardless of any party affiliation on the
16 part of the voter.

17 **Sec. 27.** RCW 29A.36.110 and 2003 c 111 s 911 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

19 Every ballot for a single combination of issues (~~and~~) offices
20 and candidates shall be uniform within a precinct and shall identify
21 the type of primary or election, the county, and the date of the
22 primary or election, and the ballot or voting device shall contain
23 instructions on the proper method of recording a vote, including write-
24 in votes. Each position, together with the names of the candidates for
25 that office, shall be clearly separated from other offices or positions
26 in the same jurisdiction. The offices in each jurisdiction shall be
27 clearly separated from each other. No paper ballot or ballot card may
28 be marked in any way that would permit the identification of the person
29 who voted that ballot.

30 **Sec. 28.** RCW 29A.36.120 and 2003 c 111 s 912 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1)(a) The positions or offices on a primary consolidated ballot
33 shall be arranged in substantially the following order: United States
34 senator; United States representative; governor; lieutenant governor;
35 secretary of state; state treasurer; state auditor; attorney general;
36 commissioner of public lands; superintendent of public instruction;

1 insurance commissioner; state senator; state representative; county
2 officers; justices of the supreme court; judges of the court of
3 appeals; judges of the superior court; and judges of the district
4 court. For all other jurisdictions on the primary consolidated ballot,
5 the offices in each jurisdiction shall be grouped together and be in
6 the order of the position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

7 (b)(i) The positions or offices on a primary party ballot must be
8 arranged in substantially the following order: United States senator;
9 United States representative; governor; lieutenant governor; secretary
10 of state; state treasurer; state auditor; attorney general;
11 commissioner of public lands; insurance commissioner; state senator;
12 state representative; and partisan county officers. For all other
13 jurisdictions on the primary party ballot, the offices in each
14 jurisdiction must be grouped together and be in the order of the
15 position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

16 (ii) The positions or offices on a primary nonpartisan ballot must
17 be arranged in substantially the following order: Superintendent of
18 public instruction; justices of the supreme court; judges of the court
19 of appeals; judges of the superior court; and judges of the district
20 court. For all other jurisdictions on the primary nonpartisan ballot,
21 the offices in each jurisdiction must be grouped together and be in the
22 order of the position numbers assigned to those offices, if any.

23 (2) The order of the positions or offices on an election ballot
24 shall be substantially the same as on a primary consolidated ballot
25 except that state ballot issues must be placed before all offices. The
26 offices of president and vice president of the United States shall
27 precede all other offices on a presidential election ballot. ((~~State
28 ballot issues shall be placed before all offices on an election
29 ballot.~~)) The positions on a ballot to be assigned to ballot measures
30 regarding local units of government shall be established by the
31 secretary of state by rule.

32 (3) The political party or independent candidacy of each candidate
33 for partisan office shall be indicated next to the name of the
34 candidate on the primary and election ballot. A candidate shall file
35 a written notice with the filing officer within three business days
36 after the close of the filing period designating the political party to
37 be indicated next to the candidate's name on the ballot if either: (a)
38 The candidate has been nominated by two or more minor political parties

1 or independent conventions; or (b) the candidate has both filed a
2 declaration of candidacy declaring an affiliation with a major
3 political party and been nominated by a minor political party or
4 independent convention. If no written notice is filed the filing
5 officer shall give effect to the party designation shown upon the first
6 document filed. A candidate may be deemed nominated by a minor party
7 or independent convention only if all documentation required by chapter
8 29A.20 RCW has been timely filed.

9 **Sec. 29.** RCW 29A.36.130 and 2003 c 111 s 913 are each amended to
10 read as follows:

11 After the close of business on the last day for candidates to file
12 for office, the filing officer shall, from among those filings made in
13 person and by mail, determine by lot the order in which the names of
14 those candidates will appear on all primary, sample, and absentee
15 ballots. (~~In the case of candidates for city, town, and district
16 office, this procedure shall also determine the order for candidate
17 names on the official primary ballot used at the polling place.~~) The
18 determination shall be done publicly and may be witnessed by the media
19 and by any candidate. If no primary is required for any nonpartisan
20 office under RCW 29A.52.010 or 29A.52.220, or if any independent or
21 minor party candidate files a declaration of candidacy, the names shall
22 appear on the general election ballot in the order determined by lot.

23 **Sec. 30.** RCW 29A.36.150 and 2003 c 111 s 915 are each amended to
24 read as follows:

25 Except in each county with a population of one million or more, on
26 or before the fifteenth day before a primary or election, the county
27 auditor shall prepare a sample ballot which shall be made readily
28 available to members of the public. The secretary of state shall adopt
29 rules governing the preparation of sample ballots in counties with a
30 population of one million or more. The rules shall permit, among other
31 alternatives, the preparation of more than one sample ballot by a
32 county with a population of one million or more for a primary or
33 election, each of which lists a portion of the offices and issues to be
34 voted on in that county. The position of precinct committee officer
35 shall be shown on the sample ballot for the (~~general election~~)

1 primary, but the names of candidates for the individual positions need
2 not be shown.

3 **Sec. 31.** RCW 29A.36.160 and 2003 c 111 s 916 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) On the top of each ballot (~~((there will))~~) must be printed clear
6 and concise instructions directing the voter(~~((s))~~) how to mark the
7 ballot, including write-in votes. (~~((After the instructions and before~~
8 ~~the offices,))~~) On the top of each primary ballot must be printed the
9 instructions required by section 26 of this act.

10 (2) The questions of adopting constitutional amendments or any
11 other state measure authorized by law to be submitted to the voters at
12 that election ((will be placed)) must appear after the instructions and
13 before any offices.

14 (~~((+2))~~) (3) In a year that president and vice president appear on
15 the general election ballot, the names of candidates for president and
16 vice president for each political party must be grouped together with
17 a single response position for a voter to indicate his or her choice.

18 (4) On a general election ballot, the candidate or candidates of
19 the major political party that received the highest number of votes
20 from the electors of this state for the office of president of the
21 United States at the last presidential election ((will)) must appear
22 first following the appropriate office heading((r)). The candidate or
23 candidates of the other major political parties will follow according
24 to the votes cast for their nominees for president at the last
25 presidential election, and independent candidates and the candidate or
26 candidates of all other parties will follow in the order of their
27 qualification with the secretary of state.

28 (~~((+3) The names of candidates for president and vice president for~~
29 ~~each political party must be grouped together with a single response~~
30 ~~position for a voter to indicate his or her choice.~~

31 (+4)) (5) All paper ballots and ballot cards used at a polling
32 place must be sequentially numbered in such a way to permit removal of
33 such numbers without leaving any identifying marks on the ballot.

34 **Sec. 32.** RCW 29A.36.190 and 2003 c 111 s 919 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 The name of a candidate for a partisan office for which a primary

1 was conducted shall not be printed on the ballot for that office at the
2 subsequent general election unless, at the preceding primary, the
3 candidate receives a number of votes equal to at least one percent of
4 the total number of votes cast for all candidates for that (~~position~~
5 ~~sought~~) office and a plurality of the votes cast by voters affiliated
6 with that party for (~~the~~) candidates (~~of his or her party~~) for that
7 office (~~at the preceding primary~~) affiliated with that party.

8 **Sec. 33.** RCW 29A.40.060 and 2003 c 111 s 1006 are each amended to
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The county auditor shall issue an absentee ballot for the
11 primary or election for which it was requested, or for the next
12 occurring primary or election when ongoing absentee status has been
13 requested if the information contained in a request for an absentee
14 ballot or ongoing absentee status received by the county auditor is
15 complete and correct and the applicant is qualified to vote under
16 federal or state law. Otherwise, the county auditor shall notify the
17 applicant of the reason or reasons why the request cannot be accepted.
18 Whenever two or more candidates have filed for the position of precinct
19 committee officer for the same party in the same precinct (~~at a~~
20 ~~general election held in an even-numbered year~~), the contest for that
21 position must be presented to absentee voters from that precinct by
22 either including the contest on the regular absentee ballot or a
23 separate absentee ballot. The ballot must provide space designated for
24 writing in the name of additional candidates.

25 (2) A registered voter may obtain a replacement ballot if the
26 ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the voter. The
27 voter may obtain the ballot by telephone request, by mail,
28 electronically, or in person. The county auditor shall keep a record
29 of each replacement ballot provided under this subsection.

30 (3) A copy of the state voters' pamphlet must be sent to registered
31 voters temporarily outside the state, out-of-state voters, overseas
32 voters, and service voters along with the absentee ballot if such a
33 pamphlet has been prepared for the primary or election and is available
34 to the county auditor at the time of mailing. The county auditor shall
35 mail all absentee ballots and related material to voters outside the
36 territorial limits of the United States and the District of Columbia
37 under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

1 **Sec. 34.** RCW 29A.40.090 and 2003 c 111 s 1009 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 The county auditor shall send each absentee voter a ballot, a
4 security envelope in which to seal the ballot after voting, a larger
5 envelope in which to return the security envelope, and instructions on
6 how to mark the ballot and how to return it to the county auditor. The
7 instructions that accompany an absentee ballot for a partisan primary
8 must include instructions for voting the applicable ballot style, as
9 provided in section 26 of this act. The larger return envelope must
10 contain a declaration by the absentee voter reciting his or her
11 qualifications and stating that he or she has not voted in any other
12 jurisdiction at this election, together with a summary of the penalties
13 for any violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. The return
14 envelope must provide space for the voter to indicate the date on which
15 the ballot was voted and for the voter to sign the oath. A summary of
16 the applicable penalty provisions of this chapter must be printed on
17 the return envelope immediately adjacent to the space for the voter's
18 signature. The signature of the voter on the return envelope must
19 affirm and attest to the statements regarding the qualifications of
20 that voter and to the validity of the ballot. For out-of-state voters,
21 overseas voters, and service voters, the signed declaration on the
22 return envelope constitutes the equivalent of a voter registration for
23 the election or primary for which the ballot has been issued. The
24 voter must be instructed to either return the ballot to the county
25 auditor by whom it was issued or attach sufficient first class postage,
26 if applicable, and mail the ballot to the appropriate county auditor no
27 later than the day of the election or primary for which the ballot was
28 issued.

29 If the county auditor chooses to forward absentee ballots, he or
30 she must include with the ballot a clear explanation of the
31 qualifications necessary to vote in that election and must also advise
32 a voter with questions about his or her eligibility to contact the
33 county auditor. This explanation may be provided on the ballot
34 envelope, on an enclosed insert, or printed directly on the ballot
35 itself. If the information is not included, the envelope must clearly
36 indicate that the ballot is not to be forwarded and that return postage
37 is guaranteed.

1 **Sec. 35.** RCW 29A.44.200 and 2003 c 111 s 1119 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 A voter desiring to vote shall give his or her name to the precinct
4 election officer who has the precinct list of registered voters. This
5 officer shall announce the name to the precinct election officer who
6 has the copy of the inspector's poll book for that precinct. If the
7 right of this voter to participate in the primary or election is not
8 challenged, the voter must be issued a ballot or permitted to enter a
9 voting booth or to operate a voting device. For a partisan primary in
10 a jurisdiction using the physically separate ballot format, the voter
11 must be issued a nonpartisan ballot and each party ballot. The number
12 of the ballot or the voter must be recorded by the precinct election
13 officers. If the right of the voter to participate is challenged, RCW
14 29A.08.810 and 29A.08.820 apply to that voter.

15 **Sec. 36.** RCW 29A.44.220 and 2003 c 111 s 1121 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 On signing the precinct list of registered voters or being issued
18 a ballot, the voter shall, without leaving the polling place, proceed
19 to one of the voting booths or voting devices to cast his or her vote.
20 When the voter has finished, he or she shall either (1) remove the
21 numbered stub from the ballot, place the ballot in the ballot box, and
22 return the number to the precinct election officers, or (2) deliver the
23 entire ballot to the precinct election officers, who shall remove the
24 numbered stub from the ballot and place the ballot in the ballot box.
25 For a partisan primary in a jurisdiction using the physically separate
26 ballot format, the voter shall also return unvoted party ballots to the
27 precinct election officers, who shall void the unvoted party ballots
28 and return them to the county auditor.

29 **Sec. 37.** RCW 29A.44.230 and 2003 c 111 s 1122 are each amended to
30 read as follows:

31 As each voter casts his or her vote, the precinct election officers
32 shall insert in the poll books or precinct list of registered voters
33 opposite that voter's name, a notation to credit the voter with having
34 participated in that primary or election. No record may be made of a
35 voter's party affiliation in a partisan primary. The precinct election

1 officers shall record the voter's name so that a separate record is
2 kept.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 38.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 Major political party candidates for all partisan elected offices,
6 except for president and vice president, precinct committee officer,
7 and offices exempted from the primary under RCW 29A.52.010, must be
8 nominated at primaries held under sections 39 through 43 of this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 39.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
10 RCW to read as follows:

11 It is the intent of the legislature to create a primary for all
12 partisan elected offices, except for president and vice president,
13 precinct committee officer, and offices exempted from the primary under
14 RCW 29A.52.010, that:

- 15 (1) Allows each voter to participate;
- 16 (2) Preserves the privacy of each voter's party affiliation;
- 17 (3) Rejects mandatory voter registration by political party;
- 18 (4) Protects ballot access for all candidates, including minor
19 political party and independent candidates;
- 20 (5) Maintains a candidate's right to self-identify with any major
21 political party; and
- 22 (6) Upholds a political party's First Amendment right of
23 association.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 40.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
25 RCW to read as follows:

26 Instructions for voting a consolidated ballot or a physically
27 separate ballot, whichever is applicable, must appear, at the very
28 least, in:

- 29 (1) Any primary voters' pamphlet prepared by the secretary of state
30 or a local government if a partisan office will appear on the ballot;
- 31 (2) Instructions that accompany any partisan primary ballot;
- 32 (3) Any notice of a partisan primary published in compliance with
33 RCW 29A.52.310;
- 34 (4) A sample ballot prepared by a county auditor under RCW
35 29A.36.150 for a partisan primary;

- 1 (5) The web site of the office of the secretary of state and any
- 2 existing web site of a county auditor's office; and
- 3 (6) Every polling place.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 41.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Under a consolidated ballot format:

7 (a) Votes for a major political party candidate will only be
8 tabulated and reported if cast by voters who choose to affiliate with
9 that same major political party;

10 (b) Votes cast for a major political party candidate by a voter who
11 chooses to affiliate with a different major political party may not be
12 tabulated or reported;

13 (c) Votes cast for a major political party candidate by a voter who
14 fails to select a major political party affiliation may not be
15 tabulated or reported;

16 (d) Votes cast for a major political party candidate by a voter who
17 selects more than one major political party with which to affiliate may
18 not be tabulated or reported; and

19 (e) Votes properly cast may not be affected by votes improperly
20 cast for other races.

21 (2) Under a physically separate ballot format:

22 (a) Only one party ballot and one nonpartisan ballot may be voted;

23 (b) If more than one party ballot is voted, none of the ballots
24 will be tabulated or reported;

25 (c) A voter's affiliation with a major political party will be
26 inferred from the act of voting the party ballot for that major
27 political party; and

28 (d) Every eligible registered voter may vote a nonpartisan ballot.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 42.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 So far as applicable, the provisions of this title relating to
32 conducting general elections govern the conduct of primaries.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 43.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.52
34 RCW to read as follows:

1 Nothing in this chapter may be construed to mean that a voter may
2 cast more than one vote for candidates for a given office.

3 **Sec. 44.** RCW 29A.52.310 and 2003 c 111 s 1309 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 Not more than ten nor less than three days before the primary the
6 county auditor shall publish notice of such primary in one or more
7 newspapers of general circulation within the county. The notice must
8 contain the proper party designations, the names and addresses of all
9 persons who have filed a declaration of candidacy to be voted upon at
10 that primary, instructions for voting the applicable ballot, as
11 provided in section 26 of this act, the hours during which the polls
12 will be open, and the polling places for each precinct, giving the
13 address of each polling place. The names of all candidates for
14 nonpartisan offices must be published separately with designation of
15 the offices for which they are candidates but without party
16 designation. This is the only notice required for the holding of any
17 primary.

18 **Sec. 45.** RCW 29A.52.320 and 2003 c 111 s 1310 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 No later than the day following the certification of the returns of
21 any primary, the secretary of state shall certify to the appropriate
22 county auditors(~~(7)~~) the names of all persons nominated for offices(~~(7~~
23 ~~the returns of which have been canvassed by the secretary of state)) at~~
24 a primary, or at an independent candidate or minor party convention.

25 **Sec. 46.** RCW 29A.60.020 and 2003 c 111 s 1502 are each amended to
26 read as follows:

27 (1) For any office at any election or primary, any voter may write
28 in on the ballot the name of any person for an office who has filed as
29 a write-in candidate for the office in the manner provided by RCW
30 29A.24.310 and such vote shall be counted the same as if the name had
31 been printed on the ballot and marked by the voter. For a partisan
32 primary in a jurisdiction using the physically separate ballot format,
33 a voter may write in on a party ballot only the names of write-in
34 candidates who affiliate with that major political party. No write-in
35 vote made for any person who has not filed a declaration of candidacy

1 pursuant to RCW 29A.24.310 is valid if that person filed for the same
2 office, either as a regular candidate or a write-in candidate, at the
3 preceding primary. Any abbreviation used to designate office,
4 position, or political party shall be accepted if the canvassing board
5 can determine, to their satisfaction, the voter's intent.

6 (2) The number of write-in votes cast for each office must be
7 recorded and reported with the canvass for the election.

8 (3) Write-in votes cast for an individual candidate for an office
9 need not be tallied if the total number of write-in votes cast for the
10 office is not greater than the number of votes cast for the candidate
11 apparently nominated or elected, and the write-in votes could not have
12 altered the outcome of the primary or election. In the case of write-
13 in votes for statewide office or for any office whose jurisdiction
14 encompasses more than one county, write-in votes for an individual
15 candidate must be tallied whenever the county auditor is notified by
16 either the office of the secretary of state or another auditor in a
17 multicounty jurisdiction that it appears that the write-in votes could
18 alter the outcome of the primary or election.

19 (4) In the case of statewide offices or jurisdictions that
20 encompass more than one county, if the total number of write-in votes
21 cast for an office within a county is greater than the number of votes
22 cast for a candidate apparently nominated or elected in a primary or
23 election, the auditor shall tally all write-in votes for individual
24 candidates for that office and notify the office of the secretary of
25 state and the auditors of the other counties within the jurisdiction,
26 that the write-in votes for individual candidates should be tallied.

27 **Sec. 47.** RCW 29A.80.040 and 2003 c 111 s 2004 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 Any member of a major political party who is a registered voter in
30 the precinct may upon payment of a fee of one dollar file his or her
31 declaration of candidacy as prescribed under RCW 29A.24.030 with the
32 county auditor for the office of precinct committee officer of his or
33 her party in that precinct. When elected at the primary, the precinct
34 committee officer shall serve so long as the committee officer remains
35 an eligible voter in that precinct (~~and until a successor has been~~
36 ~~elected at the next ensuing state general election in the even-numbered~~
37 ~~year~~)).

1 **Sec. 48.** RCW 29A.80.050 and 2003 c 111 s 2005 are each amended to
2 read as follows:

3 The statutory requirements for filing as a candidate at the
4 primaries apply to candidates for precinct committee officer(~~(, except~~
5 ~~that the filing period for this office alone is extended to and~~
6 ~~includes the Friday immediately following the last day for political~~
7 ~~parties to fill vacancies in the ticket as provided by RCW~~
8 ~~29A.28.010)~~). The office (~~(shall not)~~) must be voted upon at the
9 primaries, (~~(but)~~) and the names of all candidates must appear under
10 the proper party and office designations on the ballot for the
11 (~~(general election)~~) primary for each even-numbered year, and the one
12 receiving the highest number of votes will be declared elected.
13 However, to be declared elected, a candidate must receive at least ten
14 percent of the number of votes cast for the candidate of the
15 candidate's party receiving the greatest number of votes in the
16 precinct. The term of office of precinct committee officer is two
17 years, commencing (~~(upon completion of the official canvass of votes by~~
18 ~~the county canvassing board of election returns)~~) the first day of
19 December following the primary.

20 **Sec. 49.** RCW 29A.80.060 and 2003 c 111 s 2006 are each amended to
21 read as follows:

22 Within forty-five days after the statewide general election in
23 even-numbered years, the county chair of each major political party
24 shall call separate meetings of all elected precinct committee officers
25 in each legislative district(~~(, a majority of the precincts of which~~
26 ~~are within a county with a population of one million or more)~~) for the
27 purpose of electing a legislative district chair in such district. The
28 district chair shall hold office until the next legislative district
29 reorganizational meeting two years later, or until a successor is
30 elected.

31 The legislative district chair may be removed only by the majority
32 vote of the elected precinct committee officers in the chair's
33 district.

34 **Sec. 50.** RCW 29A.04.610 and 2003 c 111 s 161 are each amended to
35 read as follows:

36 The secretary of state as chief election officer shall make

1 reasonable rules in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW not inconsistent
2 with the federal and state election laws to effectuate any provision of
3 this title and to facilitate the execution of its provisions in an
4 orderly, timely, and uniform manner relating to any federal, state,
5 county, city, town, and district elections. To that end the secretary
6 shall assist local election officers by devising uniform forms and
7 procedures.

8 In addition to the rule-making authority granted otherwise by this
9 section, the secretary of state shall make rules governing the
10 following provisions:

- 11 (1) The maintenance of voter registration records;
- 12 (2) The preparation, maintenance, distribution, review, and filing
13 of precinct maps;
- 14 (3) Standards for the design, layout, and production of ballots;
- 15 (4) The examination and testing of voting systems for
16 certification;
- 17 (5) The source and scope of independent evaluations of voting
18 systems that may be relied upon in certifying voting systems for use in
19 this state;
- 20 (6) Standards and procedures for the acceptance testing of voting
21 systems by counties;
- 22 (7) Standards and procedures for testing the programming of vote
23 tallying software for specific primaries and elections;
- 24 (8) Standards and procedures for the preparation and use of each
25 type of certified voting system including procedures for the operation
26 of counting centers where vote tallying systems are used;
- 27 (9) Standards and procedures to ensure the accurate tabulation and
28 canvassing of ballots;
- 29 (10) Consistency among the counties of the state in the preparation
30 of ballots, the operation of vote tallying systems, and the canvassing
31 of primaries and elections;
- 32 (11) Procedures to ensure the secrecy of a voter's ballot when a
33 small number of ballots are counted at the polls or at a counting
34 center;
- 35 (12) The use of substitute devices or means of voting when a voting
36 device at the polling place is found to be defective, the counting of
37 votes cast on the defective device, the counting of votes cast on the

- 1 substitute device, and the documentation that must be submitted to the
2 county auditor regarding such circumstances;
- 3 (13) Procedures for the transportation of sealed containers of
4 voted ballots or sealed voting devices;
- 5 (14) The acceptance and filing of documents via electronic
6 facsimile;
- 7 (15) Voter registration applications and records;
- 8 (16) The use of voter registration information in the conduct of
9 elections;
- 10 (17) The coordination, delivery, and processing of voter
11 registration records accepted by driver licensing agents or the
12 department of licensing;
- 13 (18) The coordination, delivery, and processing of voter
14 registration records accepted by agencies designated by the governor to
15 provide voter registration services;
- 16 (19) Procedures to receive and distribute voter registration
17 applications by mail;
- 18 (20) Procedures for a voter to change his or her voter registration
19 address within a county by telephone;
- 20 (21) Procedures for a voter to change the name under which he or
21 she is registered to vote;
- 22 (22) Procedures for canceling dual voter registration records and
23 for maintaining records of persons whose voter registrations have been
24 canceled;
- 25 (23) Procedures for the electronic transfer of voter registration
26 records between county auditors and the office of the secretary of
27 state;
- 28 (24) Procedures and forms for declarations of candidacy;
- 29 (25) Procedures and requirements for the acceptance and filing of
30 declarations of candidacy by electronic means;
- 31 (26) Procedures for the circumstance in which two or more
32 candidates have a name similar in sound or spelling so as to cause
33 confusion for the voter;
- 34 (27) Filing for office;
- 35 (28) The order of positions and offices on a ballot;
- 36 (29) Sample ballots;
- 37 (30) Independent evaluations of voting systems;
- 38 (31) The testing, approval, and certification of voting systems;

- 1 (32) The testing of vote tallying software programming;
- 2 (33) Standards and procedures to prevent fraud and to facilitate
3 the accurate processing and canvassing of absentee ballots and mail
4 ballots;
- 5 (34) Standards and procedures to guarantee the secrecy of absentee
6 ballots and mail ballots;
- 7 (35) Uniformity among the counties of the state in the conduct of
8 absentee voting and mail ballot elections;
- 9 (36) Standards and procedures to accommodate out-of-state voters,
10 overseas voters, and service voters;
- 11 (37) The tabulation of paper ballots before the close of the polls;
- 12 (38) The accessibility of polling places and registration
13 facilities that are accessible to elderly and disabled persons;
- 14 (39) The aggregation of precinct results if reporting the results
15 of a single precinct could jeopardize the secrecy of a person's ballot;
- 16 (40) Procedures for conducting a statutory recount;
- 17 (41) Procedures for filling vacancies in congressional offices if
18 the general statutory time requirements for availability of absentee
19 ballots, certification, canvassing, and related procedures cannot be
20 met;
- 21 (42) Procedures for the statistical sampling of signatures for
22 purposes of verifying and canvassing signatures on initiative,
23 referendum, and recall election petitions;
- 24 (43) Standards and deadlines for submitting material to the office
25 of the secretary of state for the voters' pamphlet;
- 26 (44) Deadlines for the filing of ballot titles for referendum bills
27 and constitutional amendments if none have been provided by the
28 legislature;
- 29 (45) Procedures for the publication of a state voters' pamphlet;
30 (~~and~~)
- 31 (46) Procedures for conducting special elections regarding nuclear
32 waste sites if the general statutory time requirements for availability
33 of absentee ballots, certification, canvassing, and related procedures
34 cannot be met; and
- 35 (47) Procedures for conducting partisan primary elections.

36 **Sec. 51.** RCW 42.17.020 and 2002 c 75 s 1 are each amended to read
37 as follows:

1 (1) "Agency" includes all state agencies and all local agencies.
2 "State agency" includes every state office, department, division,
3 bureau, board, commission, or other state agency. "Local agency"
4 includes every county, city, town, municipal corporation, quasi-
5 municipal corporation, or special purpose district, or any office,
6 department, division, bureau, board, commission, or agency thereof, or
7 other local public agency.

8 (2) "Authorized committee" means the political committee authorized
9 by a candidate, or by the public official against whom recall charges
10 have been filed, to accept contributions or make expenditures on behalf
11 of the candidate or public official.

12 (3) "Ballot proposition" means any "measure" as defined by RCW
13 ((~~29.01.110~~)) 29A.04.091, or any initiative, recall, or referendum
14 proposition proposed to be submitted to the voters of the state or any
15 municipal corporation, political subdivision, or other voting
16 constituency from and after the time when the proposition has been
17 initially filed with the appropriate election officer of that
18 constituency prior to its circulation for signatures.

19 (4) "Benefit" means a commercial, proprietary, financial, economic,
20 or monetary advantage, or the avoidance of a commercial, proprietary,
21 financial, economic, or monetary disadvantage.

22 (5) "Bona fide political party" means:

23 (a) An organization that has filed a valid certificate of
24 nomination with the secretary of state under chapter ((~~29.24~~)) 29A.20
25 RCW;

26 (b) The governing body of the state organization of a major
27 political party, as defined in RCW ((~~29.01.090~~)) 29A.04.085, that is
28 the body authorized by the charter or bylaws of the party to exercise
29 authority on behalf of the state party; or

30 (c) The county central committee or legislative district committee
31 of a major political party. There may be only one legislative district
32 committee for each party in each legislative district.

33 (6) "Depository" means a bank designated by a candidate or
34 political committee pursuant to RCW 42.17.050.

35 (7) "Treasurer" and "deputy treasurer" mean the individuals
36 appointed by a candidate or political committee, pursuant to RCW
37 42.17.050, to perform the duties specified in that section.

1 (8) "Candidate" means any individual who seeks nomination for
2 election or election to public office. An individual seeks nomination
3 or election when he or she first:

4 (a) Receives contributions or makes expenditures or reserves space
5 or facilities with intent to promote his or her candidacy for office;

6 (b) Announces publicly or files for office;

7 (c) Purchases commercial advertising space or broadcast time to
8 promote his or her candidacy; or

9 (d) Gives his or her consent to another person to take on behalf of
10 the individual any of the actions in (a) or (c) of this subsection.

11 (9) "Caucus political committee" means a political committee
12 organized and maintained by the members of a major political party in
13 the state senate or state house of representatives.

14 (10) "Commercial advertiser" means any person who sells the service
15 of communicating messages or producing printed material for broadcast
16 or distribution to the general public or segments of the general public
17 whether through the use of newspapers, magazines, television and radio
18 stations, billboard companies, direct mail advertising companies,
19 printing companies, or otherwise.

20 (11) "Commission" means the agency established under RCW 42.17.350.

21 (12) "Compensation" unless the context requires a narrower meaning,
22 includes payment in any form for real or personal property or services
23 of any kind: PROVIDED, That for the purpose of compliance with RCW
24 42.17.241, the term "compensation" shall not include per diem
25 allowances or other payments made by a governmental entity to reimburse
26 a public official for expenses incurred while the official is engaged
27 in the official business of the governmental entity.

28 (13) "Continuing political committee" means a political committee
29 that is an organization of continuing existence not established in
30 anticipation of any particular election campaign.

31 (14)(a) "Contribution" includes:

32 (i) A loan, gift, deposit, subscription, forgiveness of
33 indebtedness, donation, advance, pledge, payment, transfer of funds
34 between political committees, or anything of value, including personal
35 and professional services for less than full consideration;

36 (ii) An expenditure made by a person in cooperation, consultation,
37 or concert with, or at the request or suggestion of, a candidate, a
38 political committee, or their agents;

1 (iii) The financing by a person of the dissemination, distribution,
2 or republication, in whole or in part, of broadcast, written, graphic,
3 or other form of political advertising prepared by a candidate, a
4 political committee, or its authorized agent;

5 (iv) Sums paid for tickets to fund-raising events such as dinners
6 and parties, except for the actual cost of the consumables furnished at
7 the event.

8 (b) "Contribution" does not include:

9 (i) Standard interest on money deposited in a political committee's
10 account;

11 (ii) Ordinary home hospitality;

12 (iii) A contribution received by a candidate or political committee
13 that is returned to the contributor within five business days of the
14 date on which it is received by the candidate or political committee;

15 (iv) A news item, feature, commentary, or editorial in a regularly
16 scheduled news medium that is of primary interest to the general
17 public, that is in a news medium controlled by a person whose business
18 is that news medium, and that is not controlled by a candidate or a
19 political committee;

20 (v) An internal political communication primarily limited to the
21 members of or contributors to a political party organization or
22 political committee, or to the officers, management staff, or
23 stockholders of a corporation or similar enterprise, or to the members
24 of a labor organization or other membership organization;

25 (vi) The rendering of personal services of the sort commonly
26 performed by volunteer campaign workers, or incidental expenses
27 personally incurred by volunteer campaign workers not in excess of
28 fifty dollars personally paid for by the worker. "Volunteer services,"
29 for the purposes of this section, means services or labor for which the
30 individual is not compensated by any person;

31 (vii) Messages in the form of reader boards, banners, or yard or
32 window signs displayed on a person's own property or property occupied
33 by a person. However, a facility used for such political advertising
34 for which a rental charge is normally made must be reported as an in-
35 kind contribution and counts towards any applicable contribution limit
36 of the person providing the facility;

37 (viii) Legal or accounting services rendered to or on behalf of:

1 (A) A political party or caucus political committee if the person
2 paying for the services is the regular employer of the person rendering
3 such services; or

4 (B) A candidate or an authorized committee if the person paying for
5 the services is the regular employer of the individual rendering the
6 services and if the services are solely for the purpose of ensuring
7 compliance with state election or public disclosure laws.

8 (c) Contributions other than money or its equivalent are deemed to
9 have a monetary value equivalent to the fair market value of the
10 contribution. Services or property or rights furnished at less than
11 their fair market value for the purpose of assisting any candidate or
12 political committee are deemed a contribution. Such a contribution
13 must be reported as an in-kind contribution at its fair market value
14 and counts towards any applicable contribution limit of the provider.

15 (15) "Elected official" means any person elected at a general or
16 special election to any public office, and any person appointed to fill
17 a vacancy in any such office.

18 (16) "Election" includes any primary, general, or special election
19 for public office and any election in which a ballot proposition is
20 submitted to the voters: PROVIDED, That an election in which the
21 qualifications for voting include other than those requirements set
22 forth in Article VI, section 1 (Amendment 63) of the Constitution of
23 the state of Washington shall not be considered an election for
24 purposes of this chapter.

25 (17) "Election campaign" means any campaign in support of or in
26 opposition to a candidate for election to public office and any
27 campaign in support of, or in opposition to, a ballot proposition.

28 (18) "Election cycle" means the period beginning on the first day
29 of December after the date of the last previous general election for
30 the office that the candidate seeks and ending on November 30th after
31 the next election for the office. In the case of a special election to
32 fill a vacancy in an office, "election cycle" means the period
33 beginning on the day the vacancy occurs and ending on November 30th
34 after the special election.

35 (19) "Expenditure" includes a payment, contribution, subscription,
36 distribution, loan, advance, deposit, or gift of money or anything of
37 value, and includes a contract, promise, or agreement, whether or not
38 legally enforceable, to make an expenditure. The term "expenditure"

1 also includes a promise to pay, a payment, or a transfer of anything of
2 value in exchange for goods, services, property, facilities, or
3 anything of value for the purpose of assisting, benefiting, or honoring
4 any public official or candidate, or assisting in furthering or
5 opposing any election campaign. For the purposes of this chapter,
6 agreements to make expenditures, contracts, and promises to pay may be
7 reported as estimated obligations until actual payment is made. The
8 term "expenditure" shall not include the partial or complete repayment
9 by a candidate or political committee of the principal of a loan, the
10 receipt of which loan has been properly reported.

11 (20) "Final report" means the report described as a final report in
12 RCW 42.17.080(2).

13 (21) "General election" for the purposes of RCW 42.17.640 means the
14 election that results in the election of a person to a state office.
15 It does not include a primary.

16 (22) "Gift," is as defined in RCW 42.52.010.

17 (23) "Immediate family" includes the spouse, dependent children,
18 and other dependent relatives, if living in the household. For the
19 purposes of RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790, "immediate family" means
20 an individual's spouse, and child, stepchild, grandchild, parent,
21 stepparent, grandparent, brother, half brother, sister, or half sister
22 of the individual and the spouse of any such person and a child,
23 stepchild, grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, brother, half
24 brother, sister, or half sister of the individual's spouse and the
25 spouse of any such person.

26 (24) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure that has each
27 of the following elements:

28 (a) It is made in support of or in opposition to a candidate for
29 office by a person who is not (i) a candidate for that office, (ii) an
30 authorized committee of that candidate for that office, (iii) a person
31 who has received the candidate's encouragement or approval to make the
32 expenditure, if the expenditure pays in whole or in part for political
33 advertising supporting that candidate or promoting the defeat of any
34 other candidate or candidates for that office, or (iv) a person with
35 whom the candidate has collaborated for the purpose of making the
36 expenditure, if the expenditure pays in whole or in part for political
37 advertising supporting that candidate or promoting the defeat of any
38 other candidate or candidates for that office;

1 (b) The expenditure pays in whole or in part for political
2 advertising that either specifically names the candidate supported or
3 opposed, or clearly and beyond any doubt identifies the candidate
4 without using the candidate's name; and

5 (c) The expenditure, alone or in conjunction with another
6 expenditure or other expenditures of the same person in support of or
7 opposition to that candidate, has a value of five hundred dollars or
8 more. A series of expenditures, each of which is under five hundred
9 dollars, constitutes one independent expenditure if their cumulative
10 value is five hundred dollars or more.

11 (25)(a) "Intermediary" means an individual who transmits a
12 contribution to a candidate or committee from another person unless the
13 contribution is from the individual's employer, immediate family as
14 defined for purposes of RCW 42.17.640 through 42.17.790, or an
15 association to which the individual belongs.

16 (b) A treasurer or a candidate is not an intermediary for purposes
17 of the committee that the treasurer or candidate serves.

18 (c) A professional fund-raiser is not an intermediary if the fund-
19 raiser is compensated for fund-raising services at the usual and
20 customary rate.

21 (d) A volunteer hosting a fund-raising event at the individual's
22 home is not an intermediary for purposes of that event.

23 (26) "Legislation" means bills, resolutions, motions, amendments,
24 nominations, and other matters pending or proposed in either house of
25 the state legislature, and includes any other matter that may be the
26 subject of action by either house or any committee of the legislature
27 and all bills and resolutions that, having passed both houses, are
28 pending approval by the governor.

29 (27) "Lobby" and "lobbying" each mean attempting to influence the
30 passage or defeat of any legislation by the legislature of the state of
31 Washington, or the adoption or rejection of any rule, standard, rate,
32 or other legislative enactment of any state agency under the state
33 Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. Neither "lobby" nor
34 "lobbying" includes an association's or other organization's act of
35 communicating with the members of that association or organization.

36 (28) "Lobbyist" includes any person who lobbies either in his or
37 her own or another's behalf.

1 (29) "Lobbyist's employer" means the person or persons by whom a
2 lobbyist is employed and all persons by whom he or she is compensated
3 for acting as a lobbyist.

4 (30) "Person" includes an individual, partnership, joint venture,
5 public or private corporation, association, federal, state, or local
6 governmental entity or agency however constituted, candidate,
7 committee, political committee, political party, executive committee
8 thereof, or any other organization or group of persons, however
9 organized.

10 (31) "Person in interest" means the person who is the subject of a
11 record or any representative designated by that person, except that if
12 that person is under a legal disability, the term "person in interest"
13 means and includes the parent or duly appointed legal representative.

14 (32) "Political advertising" includes any advertising displays,
15 newspaper ads, billboards, signs, brochures, articles, tabloids,
16 flyers, letters, radio or television presentations, or other means of
17 mass communication, used for the purpose of appealing, directly or
18 indirectly, for votes or for financial or other support in any election
19 campaign.

20 (33) "Political committee" means any person (except a candidate or
21 an individual dealing with his or her own funds or property) having the
22 expectation of receiving contributions or making expenditures in
23 support of, or opposition to, any candidate or any ballot proposition.

24 (34) "Primary" for the purposes of RCW 42.17.640 means the
25 (~~procedure for nominating~~) election that nominates a candidate to
26 state office (~~under chapter 29.18 or 29.21 RCW or any other primary~~
27 ~~for an election that uses, in large measure, the procedures established~~
28 ~~in chapter 29.18 or 29.21 RCW~~)).

29 (35) "Public office" means any federal, state, county, city, town,
30 school district, port district, special district, or other state
31 political subdivision elective office.

32 (36) "Public record" includes any writing containing information
33 relating to the conduct of government or the performance of any
34 governmental or proprietary function prepared, owned, used, or retained
35 by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or
36 characteristics. For the office of the secretary of the senate and the
37 office of the chief clerk of the house of representatives, public
38 records means legislative records as defined in RCW 40.14.100 and also

1 means the following: All budget and financial records; personnel
2 leave, travel, and payroll records; records of legislative sessions;
3 reports submitted to the legislature; and any other record designated
4 a public record by any official action of the senate or the house of
5 representatives.

6 (37) "Recall campaign" means the period of time beginning on the
7 date of the filing of recall charges under RCW ((~~29.82.015~~)) 29A.56.120
8 and ending thirty days after the recall election.

9 (38) "State legislative office" means the office of a member of the
10 state house of representatives or the office of a member of the state
11 senate.

12 (39) "State office" means state legislative office or the office of
13 governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, attorney general,
14 commissioner of public lands, insurance commissioner, superintendent of
15 public instruction, state auditor, or state treasurer.

16 (40) "State official" means a person who holds a state office.

17 (41) "Surplus funds" mean, in the case of a political committee or
18 candidate, the balance of contributions that remain in the possession
19 or control of that committee or candidate subsequent to the election
20 for which the contributions were received, and that are in excess of
21 the amount necessary to pay remaining debts incurred by the committee
22 or candidate prior to that election. In the case of a continuing
23 political committee, "surplus funds" mean those contributions remaining
24 in the possession or control of the committee that are in excess of the
25 amount necessary to pay all remaining debts when it makes its final
26 report under RCW 42.17.065.

27 (42) "Writing" means handwriting, typewriting, printing,
28 photostating, photographing, and every other means of recording any
29 form of communication or representation, including, but not limited to,
30 letters, words, pictures, sounds, or symbols, or combination thereof,
31 and all papers, maps, magnetic or paper tapes, photographic films and
32 prints, motion picture, film and video recordings, magnetic or punched
33 cards, discs, drums, diskettes, sound recordings, and other documents
34 including existing data compilations from which information may be
35 obtained or translated.

36 As used in this chapter, the singular shall take the plural and any
37 gender, the other, as the context requires.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 52.** The following acts or parts of acts are
2 each repealed:

3 (1) RCW 29A.36.140 (Primaries--Rotating names of candidates) and
4 2003 c 111 s 914;

5 (2) RCW 29A.52.110 (Application of chapter) and 2003 c 111 s 1302;

6 (3) RCW 29A.52.120 (General election laws govern primaries) and
7 2003 c 111 s 1303;

8 (4) RCW 29A.52.130 (Blanket primary authorized) and 2003 c 111 s
9 1304; and

10 (5) RCW 29A.04.903 (Effective date--2003 c 111) and 2003 c 111 s
11 2405.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 53.** If any provision of this act or its
13 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
14 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
15 persons or circumstances is not affected.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 54.** This act is necessary for the immediate
17 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
18 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
19 immediately.

--- END ---