
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5063

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2003 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Doumit, Zarelli and Rasmussen)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/03.

1 AN ACT Relating to flood control zone districts; amending RCW
2 86.15.050; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 86.15.050 and 1961 c 153 s 5 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 (1) The board of county commissioners of each county shall be ex
7 officio, by virtue of their office, supervisors of the zones created in
8 each county. In any zone with more than two thousand residents, an
9 election of supervisors other than the board of county commissioners
10 may be held as provided in this section.

11 (2) When proposed by citizen petition or by resolution of the board
12 of county commissioners, a ballot proposition authorizing election of
13 the supervisors of a zone shall be submitted by ordinance to the voters
14 residing in the zone at any general election, or at any special
15 election which may be called for that purpose.

16 (3) The ballot proposition shall be submitted (a) if the board of
17 county supervisors enacts an ordinance submitting the proposition after
18 adopting a resolution proposing the election of supervisors of a zone;
19 or (b) if a petition proposing the election of supervisors of a zone is

1 submitted to the county auditor of the county in which the zone is
2 located that is signed by registered voters within the zone, numbering
3 at least fifteen percent of the votes cast in the last county general
4 election by registered voters within the zone.

5 (4) Upon receipt of a citizen petition under subsection (3)(b) of
6 this section, the county auditor shall determine whether the petition
7 is signed by a sufficient number of registered voters, using the
8 registration records and returns of the preceding general election,
9 and, no later than forty-five days after receipt of the petition, shall
10 attach to the petition the auditor's certificate stating whether or not
11 sufficient signatures have been obtained. If the signatures are found
12 by the auditor to be insufficient, the petition shall be returned to
13 the person filing it.

14 (5) The ballot proposition authorizing election of supervisors of
15 zones shall appear on the ballot of the next general election or at the
16 next special election date specified under RCW 29.13.020 occurring
17 sixty or more days after the last resolution proposing election of
18 supervisors or the date the county auditor certifies that the petition
19 proposing such election contains sufficient valid signatures.

20 (6) The petition proposing the election of zone supervisors, or the
21 ordinance submitting the question to the voters, shall describe the
22 proposed election process. The ballot proposition shall include the
23 following:

24 "For the direct election of flood control zone district
25 supervisors."

26 "Against the direct election of flood control zone district
27 supervisors."

28 (7) The ordinance or petition submitting the ballot proposition
29 shall designate the proposed composition of the supervisors of zones,
30 which shall be clearly described in the ballot proposition. The ballot
31 proposition shall state that the zone supervisors shall thereafter be
32 selected by election, and, at the same election at which the
33 proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether to elect zone
34 supervisors, three zone supervisors shall be elected. The election of
35 zone supervisors is null and void if the voters, by a simple majority,
36 do not approve the direct election of the zone supervisors. Candidates
37 shall run for specific supervisor positions. No primary may be held to
38 nominate candidates. The person receiving the greatest number of votes

1 for each position shall be elected as a supervisor. The staggering of
2 the terms of office shall occur as follows: (a) The person who is
3 elected receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to a
4 six-year term of office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year
5 or a five-year term of office if the election is held in an even-
6 numbered year; (b) the person who is elected receiving the second
7 greatest number of votes shall be elected to a four-year term of office
8 if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a three-year term of
9 office if the election is held in an even-numbered year; and (c) the
10 other person who is elected shall be elected to a two-year term of
11 office if the election is held in an odd-numbered year or a one-year
12 term of office if the election is held in an even-numbered year. The
13 initial supervisors shall take office immediately when they are elected
14 and qualified, and for purposes of computing their terms of office the
15 terms shall be assumed to commence on the first day of January in the
16 year after they are elected. Thereafter, all supervisors shall be
17 elected to six-year terms of office. All supervisors shall serve until
18 their respective successors are elected and qualified and assume office
19 in accordance with RCW 29.04.170. Vacancies may occur and shall be
20 filled as provided in chapter 42.12 RCW.

21 (8) The costs and expenses directly related to the election of zone
22 supervisors shall be borne by the zone.

23 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This act is necessary for the immediate
24 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the
25 state government and its existing public institutions, and takes effect
26 July 1, 2003.

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