2SHB 1572 - S AMD TO GO COMM AMD (S-5160.2/10) **232**
    By Senator Franklin

1   On page 2, line 31 of the amendment, after "mail" insert "<u>and</u>
2   <u>voting center</u>"

3   On page 3, line 9 of the amendment, after "a" insert "voting
4   location, including a"

5   On page 4, beginning on line 10 of the amendment, after "(8)"
6   strike all material through "~~(9)~~))" on line 11 and insert "Requests for
7   ((~~absentee~~)) <u>mail</u> ballots;
8   (9)"

9   On page 24, beginning on line 10 of the amendment, after "(1)"
10 strike all material through "~~(2)~~))" on line 24 and insert "The county
11 auditor shall issue ((~~an absentee~~)) <u>a mail</u> ballot for the primary or
12 election for which it was requested, or for the next occurring primary
13 or election when ongoing absentee status has been requested if the
14 information contained in a request for ((~~an absentee~~)) <u>a mail</u> ballot or
15 ongoing absentee status received by the county auditor is complete and
16 correct and the applicant is qualified to vote under federal or state
17 law. Otherwise, the county auditor shall notify the applicant of the
18 reason or reasons why the request cannot be accepted. Whenever two or
19 more candidates have filed for the position of precinct committee
20 officer for the same party in the same precinct, the contest for that
21 position must be presented to ((~~absentee~~)) <u>mail</u> voters from that
22 precinct by either including the contest on the ((~~regular absentee~~))
23 <u>mail</u> ballot ((~~or a separate absentee ballot~~)). The ballot must provide
24 space designated for writing in the name of additional candidates.
25   (2)"

26   Renumber the remaining subsection consecutively.

1   On page 25, beginning on line 6 of the amendment, after "voter"
2   strike all material through "~~days.~~))" on line 12 and insert "for whom
3   the county auditor has received a request nineteen days before the
4   primary or election at least eighteen days before the primary or
5   election. For a request for ((~~an absentee~~)) <u>a mail</u> ballot received
6   after the nineteenth day before the primary or election, the county
7   auditor shall make every effort to mail ballots within one business
8   day, and shall mail the ballots within two business days."

9   On page 26, at the beginning of line 17 of the amendment, strike
10   "The" and insert "<u>For counties that adopt primary, special, and general</u>
11   <u>elections entirely by mail, the</u>"

12   On page 38, at the beginning of line 21 of the amendment, strike
13   all material through "~~system~~))" and insert "adopting a vote by mail
14   system"

15   On page 39, beginning on line 21 of the amendment, after "(1)"
16   strike all material through "<u>shall</u>" on line 22 and insert "With express
17   authorization from the county legislative authority, the county auditor
18   may"

19   Beginning on page 39, line 23 of the amendment, after "ballot."
20   strike all material through "<u>(2)</u>" on page 40, line 10, and insert "The
21   county legislative authority must give the county auditor at least
22   ninety days' notice before the first election to be conducted entirely
23   by mail ballot. If the county legislative authority and the county
24   auditor decide to return to a polling place election environment, the
25   county legislative authority must give the county auditor at least one
26   hundred eighty days' notice before the first election to be conducted
27   using ((~~polling places~~)) <u>voting centers</u>. Authorization under this
28   subsection must apply to all primary, special, and general elections
29   conducted by the county auditor.
30   (2) The county auditor may designate any precinct having fewer than
31   two hundred active registered voters at the time of closing of voter
32   registration as provided in RCW 29A.08.140 as a mail ballot precinct.
33   Authorization from the county legislative authority is not required to
34   designate a precinct as a mail ballot precinct under this subsection.

1 In determining the number of registered voters in a precinct for the
2 purposes of this section, persons who are ongoing absentee voters under
3 RCW 29A.40.040 shall not be counted. Nothing in this section may be
4 construed as altering the vote tallying requirements of RCW 29A.60.230.
5   (3) The county auditor shall notify each registered voter by mail
6 that for all future primaries and elections the voting will be by mail
7 ballot only. The notice must include information on the availability
8 of voting centers in the event that the voter wishes to continue to
9 vote in person. The auditor shall mail each active voter a ballot at
10 least eighteen days before a primary, general election, or special
11 election."

12   On page 40, beginning on line 13 of the amendment, strike all
13 material through "person." on line 22 and insert "(4) If the county
14 legislative authority and county auditor determine under subsection (1)
15 of this section, or if the county auditor determines under subsection
16 (2) of this section, to return to a ((polling place)) voting center
17 election environment, the auditor shall notify each registered voter,
18 by mail, of this and shall provide the address of the ((polling place))
19 voting center to be used."

    EFFECT: Preserves the ability of counties to conduct elections at
voting centers unless a county auditor has the express authorization
from the county legislative authority to conduct all primary, special,
and general elections entirely by mail ballot.

--- END ---