

2SHB 1195 - S COMM AMD TO GOV COMM AMD (S-2450.1/13)  
By Committee on Governmental Operations

OUT OF ORDER 04/28/2013

1 On page 1, after line 2 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 1. RCW 29A.04.420 and 2003 c 111 s 147 are each amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 (1) Whenever state officers or measures are voted upon at a state  
5 primary or general election held in an odd-numbered year under RCW  
6 (~~29A.04.320~~) 29A.04.321, the state of Washington shall assume a  
7 prorated share of the costs of that state primary or general election.

8 (2) The state shall reimburse counties for the cost of return  
9 postage on mail and absentee ballots for primary, general, and special  
10 elections.

11 (3) Whenever a primary or vacancy election is held to fill a  
12 vacancy in the position of United States senator or United States  
13 representative under chapter 29A.28 RCW, the state of Washington shall  
14 assume a prorated share of the costs of that primary or vacancy  
15 election.

16 (~~(3)~~) (4) The county auditor shall apportion the state's share of  
17 these expenses when prorating election costs under RCW 29A.04.410 and  
18 shall file such expense claims with the secretary of state.

19 (~~(4)~~) (5) The secretary of state shall include in his or her  
20 biennial budget requests sufficient funds to carry out this section.  
21 Reimbursements for election costs shall be from appropriations  
22 specifically provided by law for that purpose."

23 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively.

24 On page 2, after line 33 of the amendment, insert the following:

25 "Sec. 5. RCW 29A.40.091 and 2011 c 349 s 17, 2011 c 348 s 3, 2011  
26 c 182 s 1, and 2011 c 10 s 39 are each reenacted and amended to read as  
27 follows:

1 (1) The county auditor shall send each voter a ballot, a security  
2 envelope in which to conceal the ballot after voting, a larger envelope  
3 in which to return the security envelope, a declaration that the voter  
4 must sign, and instructions on how to obtain information about the  
5 election, how to mark the ballot, and how to return the ballot to the  
6 county auditor.

7 (2) The voter must swear under penalty of perjury that he or she  
8 meets the qualifications to vote, and has not voted in any other  
9 jurisdiction at this election. The declaration must clearly inform the  
10 voter that it is illegal to vote if he or she is not a United States  
11 citizen; it is illegal to vote if he or she has been convicted of a  
12 felony and has not had his or her voting rights restored; and it is  
13 illegal to cast a ballot or sign a return envelope on behalf of another  
14 voter. The voter must indicate the date on which the ballot was voted  
15 and sign the declaration. The ballot materials must also contain a  
16 space so that the voter may include a telephone number.

17 (3) For overseas and service voters, the signed declaration on the  
18 return envelope constitutes the equivalent of a voter registration for  
19 the election or primary for which the ballot has been issued. Return  
20 envelopes for overseas and service voters must enable the ballot to be  
21 returned postage free if mailed through the United States postal  
22 service, United States armed forces postal service, or the postal  
23 service of a United States foreign embassy under 39 U.S.C. 3406.

24 (4) The voter must be instructed to either return the ballot to the  
25 county auditor no later than 8:00 p.m. the day of the election or  
26 primary, or mail the ballot to the county auditor with a postmark no  
27 later than the day of the election or primary. Return envelopes for  
28 primary and general election ballots shall include prepaid postage.  
29 Service and overseas voters must be provided with instructions and a  
30 secrecy cover sheet for returning the ballot and signed declaration by  
31 fax or e-mail. A voted ballot and signed declaration returned by fax  
32 or e-mail must be received by 8:00 p.m. on the day of the election or  
33 primary."

34 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively.

**OUT OF ORDER 04/28/2013**

1        On page 6, line 20 of the title amendment, after "after" strike all  
2 material through "emergency." on line 24, and insert "Relating to"  
3 strike the remainder of the title and insert "primary and general  
4 election ballots; amending RCW 29A.04.420, 29A.24.171, 29A.36.101,  
5 29A.36.131, 29A.52.210, 36.69.090, 42.12.070, 68.52.140, and 68.52.155;  
6 reenacting and amending RCW 29A.36.170 and 29A.40.091; repealing RCW  
7 29A.36.171, 29A.52.010, 29A.52.011, and 29A.52.220; and declaring an  
8 emergency."

EFFECT: Requires that return envelopes for primary, general, and special election ballots include prepaid postage. Requires that the state reimburse the counties for the cost of prepaid postage on return envelopes for primary and general election ballots.

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