

2SHB 1195 - S AMD TO WM COMM AMD (S2526.1) **322**
By Senators Hasegawa, Roach

WITHDRAWN 04/28/2013

1 On page 1, after line 24 of the amendment, insert the following:

2 "Sec. 2. 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 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.40.091 and 2011 c 349 s 17, 2011 c 348 s 3, 2011
24 c 182 s 1, and 2011 c 10 s 39 are each reenacted and amended to read as
25 follows:

26 (1) The county auditor shall send each voter a ballot, a security
27 envelope in which to conceal the ballot after voting, a larger envelope
28 in which to return the security envelope, a declaration that the voter

1 must sign, and instructions on how to obtain information about the
2 election, how to mark the ballot, and how to return the ballot to the
3 county auditor.

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

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

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

31 Renumber the remaining sections consecutively.

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1 On page 2, line 7 of the title amendment, after "after" strike the
2 remainder of the title amendment and insert "to" strike the remainder
3 of the title and insert "elections; amending RCW 29A.52.220 and
4 29A.04.420; reenacting and amending RCW 29A.40.091; repealing RCW
5 29A.52.010 and 29A.52.011; and declaring an 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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