
HOUSE BILL 2854

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2016 Regular Session

By Representatives Hudgins, S. Hunt, and Stanford

Read first time 01/22/16. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to a statewide survey of the ballot rejection
2 practices of county auditors and canvassing boards; and adding a new
3 section to chapter 29A.60 RCW.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.60
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 Every odd-numbered year, the secretary of state must conduct and
8 publish a statewide survey of voted ballot rejection rates and
9 reasons for those rejections by county auditors and canvassing
10 boards. The secretary of state must collect data from reconciliation
11 reports and county auditors in order to compare county and statewide
12 averages for rates of rejected ballots and reasons for those ballots
13 being rejected. The data collected must include rejection rates and
14 reasons for rejection of voted ballots for all elections. The survey
15 must include an analysis of current practices by county auditors and
16 canvassing boards in the acceptance and rejection of ballots, and
17 include recommendations for improvements that minimize rejections in
18 those practices, with a goal of statewide standardization where
19 applicable. The results must also be analyzed and compared with
20 available national data and recognized best practices. The secretary

1 of state's recommendations and reports must be made available to the
2 public.

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