
HOUSE BILL 2078

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representative Hudgins

Read first time 02/13/17. Referred to Committee on State Govt,
Elections & IT.

1 AN ACT Relating to county voting systems standards; amending RCW
2 29A.12.060; and adding a new section to chapter 29A.12 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.12
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) At least once every six years, the secretary of state must
7 conduct a comprehensive survey of voting systems in use in each
8 county. When conducting the survey, the secretary must collect at a
9 minimum the following information for each county:

10 (a) The age, expected lifespan, manufacturer, date of purchase,
11 original cost, and estimated replacement cost of each of the major
12 components of the county voting system;

13 (b) The county voting system manufacturer's recommended
14 maintenance schedule and a history of the major maintenance performed
15 on the voting system over the past six years;

16 (c) Whether the county plans to replace the system or components
17 of the system in the next six years and whether any local funds have
18 been identified for the replacement;

19 (d) An estimate of how widespread the use of the manufacturer's
20 voting system equipment is, both within Washington, and outside of
21 the state; and

1 (e) Any other information as determined by the secretary of
2 state.

3 (2) The secretary of state must complete and report the results
4 of the voting systems survey to the appropriate committees of the
5 legislature in accordance with RCW 43.01.036 by December 1, 2017, and
6 subsequently by December 1st every six years thereafter. The report:

7 (a) Must address each of the criteria established in subsection
8 (1) of this section;

9 (b) Must include a ranked list of voting equipment in use by each
10 county in order of equipment age;

11 (c) Must provide an analysis of any present or long-term security
12 risks associated with the voting system currently in use by counties;
13 and

14 (d) May include recommendations to the legislature regarding
15 county voting systems and practices.

16 (3) Beginning in December 2018, voting systems survey reports to
17 the legislature must include data on county compliance with voting
18 system standards established under RCW 29A.12.060.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.12.060 and 2003 c 111 s 306 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) By June 1, 2018, the secretary of state shall, in
22 consultation with county auditors, develop and publish mandatory
23 voting system maintenance and replacement standards. The standards
24 must include requirements for system component replacement based on
25 age and expected lifespan, and may include any other criteria
26 established by the secretary in rule. When developing the standards,
27 the secretary may consider best practices implemented in other
28 states, manufacturer recommendations, and any applicable federal
29 guidelines.

30 (2) The county auditor of a county in which voting systems are
31 used is responsible for the preparation, maintenance, and operation
32 of those systems and may employ and direct persons to perform some or
33 all of these functions. By June 1, 2027, each county must be in full
34 compliance with the voting system maintenance and replacement
35 standards published by the secretary of state.

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