
SENATE BILL 5131

State of Washington

67th Legislature

2021 Regular Session

By Senator Holy

Prefiled 01/08/21. Read first time 01/11/21. Referred to Committee on State Government & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to county clerks duties related to recall
2 petitions; and amending RCW 29A.56.140.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.56.140 and 2003 c 111 s 1410 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Within (~~fifteen~~) 15 days after receiving the petition, the
7 superior court shall have conducted a hearing on and shall have
8 determined, without cost to any party, (1) whether or not the acts
9 stated in the charge satisfy the criteria for which a recall petition
10 may be filed, and (2) the adequacy of the ballot synopsis. The
11 (~~clerk of the superior~~) court shall notify the person subject to
12 recall and the person demanding recall of the hearing date. Both
13 persons may appear with counsel. The court may hear arguments as to
14 the sufficiency of the charges and the adequacy of the ballot
15 synopsis. The court shall not consider the truth of the charges, but
16 only their sufficiency. An appeal of a sufficiency decision shall be
17 filed in the supreme court as specified by RCW 29A.56.270. The
18 superior court shall correct any ballot synopsis it deems inadequate.
19 Any decision regarding the ballot synopsis by the superior court is
20 final. The (~~court~~) clerk shall certify and transmit the ballot
21 synopsis to the officer subject to recall, the person demanding the

1 recall, and either the secretary of state or the county auditor, as
2 appropriate.

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