
HOUSE BILL 1962

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2024 Regular Session

By Representatives Low, Cheney, Ryu, Leavitt, Couture, Ramos, Morgan, Reeves, Rule, Graham, Jacobsen, Kloba, Sandlin, Hutchins, Paul, Riccelli, Wylie, and Fosse; by request of Secretary of State

Prefiled 12/18/23. Read first time 01/08/24. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Relations.

1 AN ACT Relating to improving voter registration list accuracy by
2 improving voter address change processes for county election offices
3 and voters; amending RCW 29A.08.410, 29A.08.620, and 29A.08.640;
4 repealing RCW 29A.08.420; and providing an effective date.

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

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.08.410 and 2019 c 391 s 7 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 A registered voter who changes (~~(his or her)~~) residence from one
9 address to another (~~(within the same county)~~) may transfer (~~(his or~~
10 ~~her)~~) the voter's registration to the new address in one of the
11 following ways:

12 (1) Sending the county auditor a request stating both the voter's
13 present address and the address from which the voter was last
14 registered received by an election official (~~(eight days)~~) by the
15 eighth day prior to a primary or election;

16 (2) Appearing in person before (~~(the)~~) a county auditor, or at a
17 voting center or other location designated by the county auditor, and
18 making such a request up until 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary or
19 election;

1 (3) Telephoning or emailing the county auditor to (~~transfer~~)
2 update the voter's registration address by ((eight days)) the eighth
3 day prior to a primary or election;

4 (4) Submitting a voter registration application received by an
5 election official by (~~eight days~~) the eighth day prior to a primary
6 or election;

7 (5) Submitting information to the department of licensing and
8 received by an election official by (~~eight days~~) the eighth day
9 prior to a primary or election;

10 (6) Submitting voter registration information through the health
11 benefit exchange and received by an election official by (~~eight~~
12 ~~days~~) the eighth day prior to a primary or election; or

13 (7) Submitting information to an agency designated under RCW
14 29A.08.365 and received by an election official by (~~eight days~~) the
15 eighth day prior to a primary or election once automatic voter
16 registration is implemented at the agency.

17 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.08.620 and 2011 c 10 s 17 are each amended to
18 read as follows:

19 (1) Each county auditor must request change of address
20 information from the postal service for all mail ballots.

21 (~~The county auditor shall transfer the registration of a~~
22 ~~voter and send an acknowledgment notice to the new address informing~~
23 ~~the voter of the transfer if)) (a) If change of address information
24 received by the county auditor from the postal service, the
25 department of licensing, or another agency designated to provide
26 voter registration services indicates that the voter has moved within
27 the county, the county auditor shall update the registration address
28 for the voter's registration and send an acknowledgment notice to the
29 new address informing the voter of the update.~~

30 (~~(3)) (b) If the change of address information indicates the~~
31 voter has moved out of the county but within the state:

32 (i) The county auditor shall ((place a voter on inactive status
33 and send to all known addresses a confirmation notice and a voter
34 registration application if change of address information received by
35 the county auditor from the postal service, the department of
36 licensing, or another agency designated to provide voter registration
37 services indicates that the voter has moved from one county to
38 another.

1 ~~(4) The~~) notify the auditor of the voter's new county of
2 residence of the change; and

3 (ii) The county auditor of the voter's new county of residence
4 shall update the registration information of the voter to the new
5 address within the county and send an acknowledgment notice to the
6 new address informing the voter of the update.

7 (c) If the information indicates the voter has moved to a
8 residence outside the state, the county auditor shall place ((a
9 voter)) the voter's registration on inactive status and send to all

10 known addresses a confirmation notice ~~((if any of the following~~
11 ~~occur))~~. Such information may include any of the following:

12 ~~((a))~~ (i) Any document mailed by the county auditor to a voter
13 is returned by the postal service as undeliverable without address
14 correction information; or

15 ~~((b))~~ (ii) Change of address information received from the
16 postal service, the department of licensing, or another state agency
17 designated to provide voter registration services indicates that the
18 voter has moved out of the state.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.640 and 2009 c 369 s 33 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 (1) If the response to the confirmation notice from the voter
22 indicates that the voter has ~~((moved within the county, the auditor~~
23 ~~shall transfer the voter's registration and send the voter an~~
24 ~~acknowledgment notice.~~

25 ~~(2) If the response from the voter indicates that the voter moved~~
26 ~~out of the county, but)) changed residence address or location within~~

27 the ~~((state))~~ county, the auditor shall ~~((cancel the voter's~~
28 ~~registration and)) update the voter record to reflect the new~~

29 residence address within the auditor's county. If the response
30 indicates that the voter has moved outside the county, but within the
31 state, the auditor shall notify the county auditor of the voter's new
32 county of residence of the change.

33 (2) The county auditor of the voter's new county of residence,
34 upon receiving notice under subsection (1) of this section, shall
35 transfer the voter's registration record to the new address and send
36 the voter an acknowledgment notice.

37 (3) If the response from the voter indicates that the voter has
38 left the state, the auditor shall cancel the voter's registration on
39 the official state voter registration list.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.08.420 (Transfer to another
2 county) and 2018 c 110 s 205, 2009 c 369 s 23, 2004 c 267 s 122, 2003
3 c 111 s 229, 1999 c 100 s 3, 1994 c 57 s 36, 1991 c 81 s 24, 1977
4 ex.s. c 361 s 26, 1971 ex.s. c 202 s 26, & 1965 c 9 s 29.10.040 are
5 each repealed.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** This act takes effect June 1, 2025.

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