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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5106**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2023 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Local Government, Land Use & Tribal Affairs (originally sponsored by Senator Hunt; by request of Secretary of State)

READ FIRST TIME 01/24/23.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating timelines for adopting county  
2 commissioner district boundaries following expansion from three to  
3 five commissioners; and amending RCW 36.32.0552.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 36.32.0552 and 1990 c 252 s 3 are each amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 If the ballot proposition receives majority voter approval, the  
8 size of the board of county commissioners shall be increased to five  
9 members as provided in this section.

10 The two newly created positions shall be filled at elections to  
11 be held in the next year. The county shall, as provided in this  
12 section, be divided into five commissioner districts, so that each  
13 district shall comprise as nearly as possible one-fifth of the  
14 population of the county. No two members of the existing board of  
15 county commissioners may, at the time of the designation of such  
16 districts, permanently reside in one of the five districts. The  
17 division of the county into five districts shall be accomplished as  
18 follows:

19 (1) The board of county commissioners shall, by the (~~second~~  
20 ~~Monday of March~~) 90th day prior to the first day of the filing

1 period described in RCW 29A.24.050 of the year following the  
2 election, adopt a resolution creating the districts;  
3 (2) If by the (~~second Tuesday of March~~) 89th day prior to the  
4 first day of the filing period described in RCW 29A.24.050 of the  
5 year following the election the board of county commissioners has  
6 failed to create the districts, the prosecuting attorney of the  
7 county shall petition the superior court of the county to appoint a  
8 referee to designate the five commissioner districts. The referee  
9 shall designate such districts by no later than (~~June 1st~~) the 60th  
10 day prior to the first day of the filing period described in RCW  
11 29A.24.050 of the year following the election. The two commissioner  
12 districts within which no existing member of the board of county  
13 commissioners permanently resides shall be designated as districts  
14 four and five.

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