
SENATE BILL 5500

State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Senators Benton, Roach, and Hobbs

Read first time 01/31/13. Referred to Committee on Governmental Operations.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing a replacement ballot by telephone,
2 mail, or in person to a voter who is not a voter that is overseas or in
3 the military; and reenacting and amending RCW 29A.40.070.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.40.070 and 2011 c 349 s 16 and 2011 c 10 s 38 are
6 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7 (1) Except where a recount or litigation is pending, the county
8 auditor must mail ballots to each voter at least eighteen days before
9 each primary or election, and as soon as possible for all subsequent
10 registration changes.

11 (2) Except where a recount or litigation is pending, the county
12 auditor must mail ballots to each service and overseas voter at least
13 thirty days before each (~~primary election or~~) special election, and
14 at least forty-five days before each primary or general election, or
15 any special election that involves federal office. A request for a
16 ballot made by an overseas or service voter after that day must be
17 processed immediately.

18 (3) A registered voter may obtain a replacement ballot if the
19 ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the voter. The

1 voter may obtain the ballot by telephone request, mail, or in person.
2 The county auditor shall keep a record of each request for a
3 replacement ballot.

4 (4) A registered service or overseas voter may obtain a replacement
5 ballot if the ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by
6 the voter. The voter may obtain the ballot by telephone request, by
7 mail, electronically, or in person. The county auditor shall keep a
8 record of each request for a replacement ballot.

9 ~~((+4))~~ (5) Each county auditor shall certify to the office of the
10 secretary of state the dates the ballots were mailed, or the reason and
11 date the ballots will be mailed if the ballots were not mailed timely.

12 ~~((+5))~~ (6) Failure to mail ballots as prescribed in this section
13 does not by itself provide a basis for an election contest or other
14 legal challenge to the results of a primary, general election, or
15 special election.

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