
HOUSE BILL 1000

State of Washington 62nd Legislature 2011 Regular Session

By Representatives Hurst, Stanford, Blake, Finn, Ladenburg, Goodman, Appleton, Pearson, and Moeller

Prefiled 12/06/10. Read first time 01/10/11. Referred to Committee on State Government & Tribal Affairs.

1 AN ACT Relating to overseas and service voters; amending RCW
2 29A.40.150; and adding a new section to chapter 29A.40 RCW.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.40.150 and 2009 c 415 s 12 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) An overseas or service voter may receive a ballot by fax,
7 e-mail, or other electronic means. An overseas or service voter may
8 return a voted ballot by fax or e-mail if the voter's signature on the
9 declaration accompanies the ballot.

10 (2) An overseas or service voter may request to receive all future
11 ballots by fax, e-mail, or other available means either in place of or
12 in addition to receiving them through the postal mail.

13 (3) The ((information on the envelopes or)) instructions for
14 overseas voters and service voters must explain that:

15 ((+1)) (a) Return postage is free if the ballot is mailed through
16 the United States postal service, United States armed forces postal
17 service, or the postal service of a United States foreign embassy;

18 ((+2)) (b) The date of the signature is considered the date of
19 mailing;

1 ~~((3))~~ (c) The envelope must be signed ((by)) no later than
2 election day;

3 ~~((4))~~ (d) If the voter is not already registered to vote, the
4 signed declaration on the envelope is the equivalent of voter
5 registration;

6 ~~((5))~~ (e) A voter may ((~~fax a voted ballot and the accompanying~~
7 ~~envelope if the voter agrees to waive secrecy. The ballot will be~~
8 ~~counted if the original documents are received before certification of~~
9 ~~the election)) receive a ballot by fax, e-mail, or other electronic~~
10 means, and how a voter may return a ballot by fax or e-mail; and

11 ~~((6) A voter may obtain a ballot via electronic mail, which the~~
12 ~~voter may print out, vote, and return by mail. In order to facilitate~~
13 ~~the electronic acquisition of ballots by overseas and service voters,~~
14 ~~the ballot instructions shall include the web site of the office of the~~
15 ~~secretary of state)) (f) A voter may request to receive all future
16 ballots by fax, e-mail, or other available electronic means.~~

17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 29A.40 RCW
18 to read as follows:

19 An overseas or service voter may register to vote, request a
20 ballot, or transmit a ballot using forms and methods available through
21 the United States department of defense and United States election
22 assistance commission.

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