

---

**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6313**

---

**State of Washington**

**66th Legislature**

**2020 Regular Session**

**By** Senate State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Lias, Kuderer, Hunt, Randall, Mullet, Keiser, Billig, Saldaña, Darneille, Hasegawa, Takko, Rolfes, McCoy, Stanford, Das, Dhingra, Lovelett, Nguyen, and Wilson, C.)

READ FIRST TIME 01/30/20.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing opportunities for young voters;  
2 amending RCW 29A.08.210, 29A.08.230, 29A.08.230, 29A.08.330,  
3 29A.08.810, 29A.08.355, 46.20.155, 28A.230.094, 29A.32.031,  
4 29A.32.241, 29A.04.061, 29A.08.110, 29A.08.170, 29A.08.172,  
5 29A.08.174, 29A.08.359, 29A.80.041, 29A.84.140, 46.20.156, and  
6 29A.08.140; adding a new section to chapter 29A.40 RCW; creating new  
7 sections; providing effective dates; and providing contingent  
8 effective dates.

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

10 **PART I**

11 **ACT NAME AND LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS**

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the  
13 voting opportunities through education act or the VOTE act.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that robust  
15 participation by young voters in Washington state elections is  
16 critical to ensuring lifelong civic engagement. Research has shown  
17 that voting is a habitual behavior and that people who vote in the  
18 first three elections when they are eligible will likely vote for  
19 life. However, this is also the period of time when they are likely

1 to face unique barriers to participate in the democratic process,  
2 including regularly changing their address, becoming eligible shortly  
3 after an election, and exclusion from certain voter registration  
4 policies.

5 The legislature also finds that the period prior to election day  
6 is the most critical time to ensure ballot access for young voters.  
7 States with early voting have higher participation rates than states  
8 that do not and the use of early voting sites on college campuses  
9 helped produce record levels of participation for young voters in  
10 2016 and 2018.

11 The legislature finds that students that have more opportunities  
12 to be registered and vote are more likely to participate. Limiting  
13 statutory voter registration opportunities on college campuses to  
14 days well in advance of election day is inconsistent with  
15 implementation of same-day voter registration. Making automatic voter  
16 registration unavailable to those registering for the first time  
17 denies young voters the same benefits as every other voter.

## 18 **PART II**

### 19 **PERSONS ALLOWED TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES**

20 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.210 and 2018 c 109 s 8 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 An applicant for voter registration shall complete an application  
23 providing the following information concerning his or her  
24 qualifications as a voter in this state:

25 (1) The former address of the applicant if previously registered  
26 to vote;

27 (2) The applicant's full name;

28 (3) The applicant's date of birth;

29 (4) The address of the applicant's residence for voting purposes;

30 (5) The mailing address of the applicant if that address is not  
31 the same as the address in subsection (4) of this section;

32 (6) The sex of the applicant;

33 (7) The applicant's Washington state driver's license number,  
34 Washington state identification card number, or the last four digits  
35 of the applicant's social security number if he or she does not have  
36 a Washington state driver's license or Washington state  
37 identification card;

1 (8) A check box allowing the applicant to indicate that he or she  
2 is a member of the armed forces, national guard, or reserves, or that  
3 he or she is an overseas voter;

4 (9) A check box allowing the applicant to acknowledge that he or  
5 she is at least ~~((eighteen))~~ sixteen years old ~~((or is at least  
6 sixteen years old and will vote only after he or she reaches the age  
7 of eighteen))~~;

8 (10) Clear and conspicuous language, designed to draw the  
9 applicant's attention, stating that ~~((the))~~;

10 (a) The applicant must be a United States citizen in order to  
11 register to vote; and

12 (b) The applicant may register to vote if the applicant is at  
13 least sixteen years old and may vote if the applicant will be at  
14 least eighteen years old by the next general election, or is at least  
15 eighteen years old for special elections;

16 (11) A check box and declaration confirming that the applicant is  
17 a citizen of the United States;

18 (12) The following warning:

19 "If you knowingly provide false information on this voter  
20 registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your  
21 qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class  
22 C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, a  
23 fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both."

24 (13) The oath required by RCW 29A.08.230 and a space for the  
25 applicant's signature; and

26 (14) Any other information that the secretary of state determines  
27 is necessary to establish the identity of the applicant and prevent  
28 duplicate or fraudulent voter registrations.

29 This information shall be recorded on a single registration form  
30 to be prescribed by the secretary of state.

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.08.230 and 2013 c 11 s 14 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 For all voter registrations, the registrant shall sign the  
34 following oath:

35 "I declare that the facts on this voter registration form are  
36 true. I am a citizen of the United States, I will have lived at this  
37 address in Washington for at least thirty days immediately before the  
38 next election at which I vote, I ~~((will be))~~ am at least ~~((eighteen))~~

1 sixteen years old (~~(when I vote)~~), I am not disqualified from voting  
2 due to a court order, and I am not under department of corrections  
3 supervision for a Washington felony conviction."

4 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.08.230 and 2013 c 11 s 14 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 For all voter registrations, the registrant shall sign the  
7 following oath:

8 "I declare that the facts on this voter registration form are  
9 true. I am a citizen of the United States, I will have lived at this  
10 address in Washington for at least thirty days immediately before the  
11 next election at which I vote, I (~~(will be)~~) am at least (~~(eighteen)~~)  
12 sixteen years old (~~(when I vote)~~), I (~~(am not disqualified from~~  
13 ~~voting due to a court order, and)~~) have not been judicially declared  
14 mentally incompetent, I am not (~~(under)~~) currently serving a sentence  
15 of total confinement under the jurisdiction of the department of  
16 corrections (~~(supervision)~~) for a Washington felony conviction, and I  
17 am not currently incarcerated for a federal or out-of-state felony  
18 conviction."

19 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.08.330 and 2019 c 391 s 6 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe the method of voter  
22 registration for each designated agency. The agency shall use either  
23 the state voter registration by mail form with a separate declination  
24 form for the applicant to indicate that he or she declines to  
25 register at this time, or the agency may use a separate form approved  
26 for use by the secretary of state.

27 (2) The person providing service at the agency shall offer voter  
28 registration services to every client whenever he or she applies for  
29 service or assistance and with each renewal, recertification, or  
30 change of address. The person providing service shall give the  
31 applicant the same level of assistance with the voter registration  
32 application as is offered to fill out the agency's forms and  
33 documents, including information about age and citizenship  
34 requirements for voter registration.

35 (3) The person providing service at the agency shall determine if  
36 the prospective applicant wants to register to vote or update his or  
37 her voter registration by asking the following question:

1 "Do you want to register or sign up to vote or update your voter  
2 registration?"

3 If the applicant chooses to register, sign up, or update a  
4 registration, the service agent shall ask the following:

5 (a) "Are you a United States citizen?"

6 (b) "Are you at least ((eighteen)) sixteen years old ((~~or are you~~  
7 ~~at least sixteen years old and will you vote only after you turn~~  
8 ~~eighteen~~)?"

9 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions,  
10 the agent shall then provide the applicant with a voter registration  
11 form and instructions and shall record that the applicant has  
12 requested to sign up to vote, register to vote, or update a voter  
13 registration. If the applicant answers in the negative to either  
14 question, the agent shall not provide the applicant with a voter  
15 registration application.

16 (4) If an agency uses a computerized application process, it may,  
17 in consultation with the secretary of state, develop methods to  
18 capture simultaneously the information required for voter  
19 registration during a person's computerized application process.

20 (5) Each designated agency shall transmit the applications to the  
21 secretary of state or appropriate county auditor within three  
22 business days and must be received by the election official by the  
23 required voter registration deadline.

24 (6) Information that is otherwise disclosable under this chapter  
25 cannot be disclosed on the future voter until the person reaches  
26 eighteen years of age, except for the purpose of processing and  
27 delivering ballots.

28 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.08.810 and 2011 c 10 s 20 are each amended to  
29 read as follows:

30 (1) Registration of a person as a voter is presumptive evidence  
31 of his or her right to vote. A challenge to the person's right to  
32 vote must be based on personal knowledge of one of the following:

33 (a) The challenged voter has been convicted of a felony and the  
34 voter's civil rights have not been restored;

35 (b) The challenged voter has been judicially declared ineligible  
36 to vote due to mental incompetency;

1 (c) The challenged voter does not live at the residential address  
2 provided, in which case the challenger must either:

3 (i) Provide the challenged voter's actual residence on the  
4 challenge form; or

5 (ii) Submit evidence that he or she exercised due diligence to  
6 verify that the challenged voter does not reside at the address  
7 provided and to attempt to contact the challenged voter to learn the  
8 challenged voter's actual residence, including that the challenger  
9 personally:

10 (A) Sent a letter with return service requested to the challenged  
11 voter's residential address provided, and to the challenged voter's  
12 mailing address, if provided;

13 (B) Visited the residential address provided and contacted  
14 persons at the address to determine whether the voter resides at the  
15 address and, if not, obtained and submitted with the challenge form a  
16 signed affidavit subject to the penalties of perjury from a person  
17 who owns or manages property, resides, or is employed at the address  
18 provided, that to his or her personal knowledge the challenged voter  
19 does not reside at the address as provided on the voter registration;

20 (C) Searched local telephone directories, including online  
21 directories, to determine whether the voter maintains a telephone  
22 listing at any address in the county;

23 (D) Searched county auditor property records to determine whether  
24 the challenged voter owns any property in the county; and

25 (E) Searched the statewide voter registration database to  
26 determine if the voter is registered at any other address in the  
27 state;

28 (d) The challenged voter will not be eighteen years of age by the  
29 next general election; or

30 (e) The challenged voter is not a citizen of the United States.

31 (2) A person's right to vote may be challenged by another  
32 registered voter or the county prosecuting attorney.

33 (3) The challenger must file a signed affidavit subject to the  
34 penalties of perjury swearing that, to his or her personal knowledge  
35 and belief, having exercised due diligence to personally verify the  
36 evidence presented, the challenged voter either is not qualified to  
37 vote or does not reside at the address given on his or her voter  
38 registration record based on one of the reasons allowed in subsection  
39 (1) of this section. The challenger must provide the factual basis  
40 for the challenge, including any information required by subsection

1 (1)(c) of this section, in the signed affidavit. The challenge may  
2 not be based on unsupported allegations or allegations by anonymous  
3 third parties. All documents pertaining to the challenge are public  
4 records.

5 (4) Challenges based on a felony conviction under RCW 29A.08.520  
6 must be heard according to RCW 29A.08.520 and rules adopted by the  
7 secretary of state.

8 **PART III**

9 **AUTOMATIC VOTER SIGN-UP TO REGISTER**

10 **Sec. 8.** RCW 29A.08.355 and 2018 c 110 s 102 are each amended to  
11 read as follows:

12 (1) The department of licensing (~~shall implement an automatic~~  
13 ~~voter registration system so that~~) must allow a person age eighteen  
14 years or older (~~who~~) to be registered to vote or update voter  
15 registration information by automated process at the time of  
16 registration, renewal, or change of address if:

17 (a) The person meets requirements for voter registration (~~and~~);

18 (b) The person has received or is renewing an enhanced driver's  
19 license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or is changing the  
20 address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard  
21 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205 (~~may be registered to vote or update voter~~  
22 ~~registration information at the time of registration, renewal, or~~  
23 ~~change of address, by automated process if the~~); and

24 (c) The department of licensing record associated with the  
25 applicant contains (~~the~~);

26 (i) The data required to determine whether the applicant meets  
27 requirements for voter registration under RCW 29A.08.010 (~~or other~~);

28 (ii) Other information as required by the secretary of state (~~or~~  
29 ~~and includes a~~); and

30 (iii) A signature image.

31 (2) The department of licensing must allow a person sixteen or  
32 seventeen years of age to be signed up to register to vote by  
33 automated process at the time of registration, renewal, or change of  
34 address if:

35 (a) The person meets requirements to sign up to register to vote;

36 (b) The person has received or is renewing an enhanced driver's  
37 license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or is changing the

1 address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard  
2 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205; and

3 (c) The department of licensing record associated with the  
4 applicant contains:

5 (i) The data required to determine whether the applicant meets  
6 the requirements for voter registration under RCW 29A.08.210, other  
7 than age;

8 (ii) Other information as required by the secretary of state; and

9 (iii) A signature image.

10 (3) The person must be informed that his or her record will be  
11 used for voter registration and offered an opportunity to decline to  
12 register.

13 **Sec. 9.** RCW 46.20.155 and 2018 c 109 s 15 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Before issuing an original license or identicard or renewing  
16 a license or identicard under this chapter, the licensing agent shall  
17 determine if the applicant wants to register to vote or update his or  
18 her voter registration by asking the following question:

19 "Do you want to register or sign up to vote or update your voter  
20 registration?"

21 If the applicant chooses to register, sign up, or update a  
22 registration, the agent shall ask the following:

23 (1) "Are you a United States citizen?"

24 (2) "Are you at least ~~((eighteen))~~ sixteen years old ~~((or are you~~  
25 ~~at least sixteen years old and will you vote only after you turn~~  
26 ~~eighteen))?"~~

27 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions,  
28 the agent shall then submit the registration, sign up form, or  
29 update. If the applicant answers in the negative to either question,  
30 the agent shall not submit an application. Information that is  
31 otherwise disclosable under chapter 29A.08 RCW cannot be disclosed on  
32 the future voter until the person reaches eighteen years of age,  
33 except for the purpose of processing and delivering ballots.

34 (2) The department shall establish a procedure that substantially  
35 meets the requirements of subsection (1) of this section when  
36 permitting an applicant to renew a license or identicard by mail or  
37 by electronic commerce.



1 **Sec. 10.** RCW 28A.230.094 and 2018 c 127 s 2 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 (1) (a) Beginning with or before the 2020-21 school year, each  
4 school district that operates a high school must provide a mandatory  
5 one-half credit stand-alone course in civics for each high school  
6 student. Except as provided by (c) of this subsection, civics content  
7 and instruction embedded in other social studies courses do not  
8 satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

9 (b) Credit awarded to students who complete the civics course  
10 must be applied to course credit requirements in social studies that  
11 are required for high school graduation.

12 (c) Civics content and instruction required by this section may  
13 be embedded in social studies courses that offer students the  
14 opportunity to earn both high school and postsecondary credit.

15 (2) The content of the civics course must include, but is not  
16 limited to:

17 (a) Federal, state, tribal, and local government organization and  
18 procedures;

19 (b) Rights and responsibilities of citizens addressed in the  
20 Washington state and United States Constitutions;

21 (c) Current issues addressed at each level of government;

22 (d) Electoral issues, including elections, ballot measures,  
23 initiatives, and referenda;

24 (e) The study and completion of the civics component of the  
25 federally administered naturalization test required of persons  
26 seeking to become naturalized United States citizens; and

27 (f) The importance in a free society of living the basic values  
28 and character traits specified in RCW 28A.150.211.

29 (3) By September 1, 2020, the office of the superintendent of  
30 public instruction, in collaboration with the Washington state  
31 association of county auditors and a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization  
32 engaged in voter outreach and increasing voter participation, shall  
33 identify and make available civics materials and resources for use in  
34 courses under this section. The materials and resources must be  
35 posted on the office of the superintendent of public instruction's  
36 web site.

37 **PART IV**  
38 **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT CENTERS**

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.40

2 RCW to read as follows:

3 (1) Each state university, regional university, and The Evergreen  
4 State College as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 and each higher education  
5 campus as defined in RCW 28B.45.012 shall open a student engagement  
6 center on its campus. The student engagement center may be open  
7 during business hours beginning eight days before, and ending at 8:00  
8 p.m. on the day of, the general election. All student engagement  
9 centers must provide replacement ballots pursuant to RCW  
10 29A.40.070(3). Upon request of the student government organization to  
11 the administration and the county auditor, the student engagement  
12 center at a state university, regional university, or The Evergreen  
13 State College as defined in RCW 28B.10.016 must allow voters to  
14 register in person pursuant to RCW 29A.08.140(1)(b) and provide voter  
15 registration materials.

16 (2) Each institution shall contract with the county auditor for  
17 the operation of a student engagement center under this section.

18 **PART V**

19 **VOTERS' PAMPHLETS**

20 **Sec. 12.** RCW 29A.32.031 and 2013 c 283 s 2 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 The voters' pamphlet published or distributed under RCW  
23 29A.32.010 must contain:

24 (1) Information about each measure for an advisory vote of the  
25 people and each ballot measure initiated by or referred to the voters  
26 for their approval or rejection as required by RCW 29A.32.070;

27 (2) In even-numbered years, statements, if submitted, from  
28 candidates for the office of president and vice president of the  
29 United States, United States senator, United States representative,  
30 governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state treasurer,  
31 state auditor, attorney general, commissioner of public lands,  
32 superintendent of public instruction, insurance commissioner, state  
33 senator, state representative, justice of the supreme court, judge of  
34 the court of appeals, or judge of the superior court. Candidates may  
35 also submit campaign contact information and a photograph not more  
36 than five years old in a format that the secretary of state  
37 determines to be suitable for reproduction in the voters' pamphlet;

1 (3) In odd-numbered years, if any office voted upon statewide  
2 appears on the ballot due to a vacancy, then statements and  
3 photographs for candidates for any vacant office listed in subsection  
4 (2) of this section must appear;

5 (4) Contact information for the public disclosure commission  
6 established under RCW 42.17A.100, including the following statement:  
7 "For a list of the people and organizations that donated to state and  
8 local candidates and ballot measure campaigns, visit [www.pdc.wa.gov](http://www.pdc.wa.gov)."  
9 The statement must be placed in a prominent position, such as on the  
10 cover or on the first two pages of the voters' pamphlet. The  
11 secretary of state may substitute such language as is necessary for  
12 accuracy and clarity and consistent with the intent of this section;

13 (5) Contact information for major political parties;

14 (6) A brief statement explaining the deletion and addition of  
15 language for proposed measures under RCW 29A.32.080; (~~and~~)

16 (7) A list of all student engagement centers as designated under  
17 section 11 of this act; and

18 (8) Any additional information pertaining to elections as may be  
19 required by law or in the judgment of the secretary of state is  
20 deemed informative to the voters.

21 **Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.32.241 and 2016 c 83 s 2 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 (1) The local voters' pamphlet shall include but not be limited  
24 to the following:

25 (a) Appearing on the cover, the words "official local voters'  
26 pamphlet," the name of the jurisdiction producing the pamphlet, and  
27 the date of the election or primary;

28 (b) A list of jurisdictions that have measures or candidates in  
29 the pamphlet;

30 (c) Information on how a person may register to vote and obtain a  
31 ballot;

32 (d) The text of each measure accompanied by an explanatory  
33 statement prepared by the prosecuting attorney for any county measure  
34 or by the attorney for the jurisdiction submitting the measure if  
35 other than a county measure. All explanatory statements for city,  
36 town, or district measures not approved by the attorney for the  
37 jurisdiction submitting the measure shall be reviewed and approved by  
38 the county prosecuting attorney or city attorney, when applicable,  
39 before inclusion in the pamphlet;

1 (e) The arguments for and against each measure submitted by  
2 committees selected pursuant to RCW 29A.32.280; (~~and~~)

3 (f) A list of all student engagement centers in the county as  
4 designated under section 11 of this act; and

5 (g) For partisan primary elections, information on how to vote  
6 the applicable ballot format and an explanation that minor political  
7 party candidates and independent candidates will appear only on the  
8 general election ballot.

9 (2) The county auditor's name may not appear in the local voters'  
10 pamphlet in his or her official capacity if the county auditor is a  
11 candidate for office during the same year. His or her name may only  
12 be included as part of the information normally included for  
13 candidates.

14 **PART VI**  
15 **HARMONIZING PROVISIONS**

16 **Sec. 14.** RCW 29A.04.061 and 2003 c 111 s 111 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 "Elector" means any person who possesses all of the  
19 qualifications to vote under Article VI of the state Constitution,  
20 including persons who are seventeen years of age at the primary  
21 election or presidential primary election but who will be eighteen  
22 years of age by the general election.

23 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2019 c 391 s 5 are each amended to  
24 read as follows:

25 (1) For persons registering under RCW 29A.08.120, 29A.08.123,  
26 29A.08.170, 29A.08.330, 29A.08.340, 29A.08.362, and 29A.08.365, an  
27 application is considered complete only if it contains the  
28 information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The applicant is considered  
29 to be registered to vote as of (~~the~~);

30 (a) The original date of receipt( ~~or when~~);

31 (b) When the person will be at least eighteen years old by the  
32 next election; or

33 (c) When the person will be at least seventeen years old by the  
34 next primary election or presidential primary election and eighteen  
35 years old by the general election, whichever is applicable.

36 (2) As soon as practicable, the auditor shall record the  
37 appropriate precinct identification, taxing district identification,

1 and date of registration on the voter's record in the state voter  
2 registration list. The secretary of state shall, pursuant to RCW  
3 29A.04.611, establish procedures to enable new or updated voter  
4 registrations to be recorded on an expedited basis. Any mailing  
5 address provided shall be used only for mail delivery purposes, and  
6 not for precinct assignment or residency purposes. Within sixty days  
7 after the receipt of an application or transfer, the auditor shall  
8 send to the applicant, by first-class nonforwardable mail, an  
9 acknowledgment notice identifying the registrant's precinct and  
10 containing such other information as may be required by the secretary  
11 of state. The postal service shall be instructed not to forward a  
12 voter registration card to any other address and to return to the  
13 auditor any card which is not deliverable.

14 ~~((+2))~~ (3) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall  
15 promptly mail a verification notice to the applicant. The  
16 verification notice shall require the applicant to provide the  
17 missing information. If the applicant provides the required  
18 information within forty-five days, the applicant shall be registered  
19 to vote as of the original date of application. The applicant shall  
20 not be placed on the official list of registered voters until the  
21 application is complete.

22 ~~((+3))~~ (4) Once a future voter is no longer in pending status,  
23 as described in RCW 29A.08.615, his or her application to sign up to  
24 register to vote is no longer pending and is subject to this section.

25 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29A.08.170 and 2018 c 109 s 5 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (1) A person may sign up to register to vote if he or she is  
28 sixteen or seventeen years of age, as part of the future voter  
29 program.

30 (2) A person who signs up to register to vote may not vote until  
31 reaching eighteen years of age ~~((, and his or her name))~~ unless the  
32 person is seventeen years of age at the primary election or  
33 presidential primary election and will be eighteen years of age by  
34 the general election. A person who signs up to register to vote may  
35 not be added to the statewide voter registration database list of  
36 voters until such time as he or she will be ~~((eighteen years of age~~  
37 ~~by))~~ eligible to vote in the next election.

1       **Sec. 17.** RCW 29A.08.172 and 2018 c 109 s 6 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1) A person who has attained sixteen years of age may sign up to  
4 register to vote, as part of the future voter program, by submitting  
5 a voter registration application by mail.

6       (2) The applicant must attest to the truth of the information  
7 provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the  
8 information as true.

9       (3) If signing up to register by mail, the person must provide a  
10 signature for voter registration purposes.

11       (4) The applicant must affirmatively acknowledge that he or she  
12 will not vote in a special or general election until his or her  
13 eighteenth birthday.

14       **Sec. 18.** RCW 29A.08.174 and 2018 c 109 s 14 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16       (1) A person who has attained sixteen years of age and has a  
17 valid Washington state driver's license or identicard may sign up to  
18 register to vote as part of the future voter program, by submitting a  
19 voter registration application electronically on the secretary of  
20 state's web site.

21       (2) The applicant must attest to the truth of the information  
22 provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the  
23 information as true.

24       (3) If signing up to register electronically, the applicant must  
25 affirmatively assent to the use of his or her driver's license or  
26 identicard signature for voter registration purposes.

27       (4) The applicant must affirmatively acknowledge that he or she  
28 will not vote in a special or general election until his or her  
29 eighteenth birthday, and will only vote in a primary election or  
30 presidential primary election if he or she will be eighteen years of  
31 age by the general election.

32       (5) For each electronic registration application, the secretary  
33 of state must obtain a digital copy of the applicant's driver's  
34 license or identicard signature from the department of licensing.

35       (6) The secretary of state may employ additional security  
36 measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of voter  
37 preregistration applications submitted electronically.

1       **Sec. 19.** RCW 29A.08.359 and 2019 c 391 s 8 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       (1)(a) For persons age eighteen years and older registering under  
4 RCW 29A.08.355(1), an application is considered complete only if it  
5 contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and other  
6 information as required by the secretary of state. The applicant is  
7 considered to be registered to vote as of the original date of  
8 issuance or renewal or date of change of address of an enhanced  
9 driver's license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or change  
10 of address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard  
11 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205.

12       (b) For persons sixteen or seventeen years of age registering  
13 under RCW 29A.08.355(2), an application is considered complete only  
14 if it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and other  
15 information as required by the secretary of state. The applicant is  
16 considered to be registered to vote as of the date set forth in RCW  
17 29A.08.110(1).

18       (c) The information must be transmitted in an expedited manner  
19 and must be received by an election official by the required voter  
20 registration deadline. The auditor shall record the appropriate  
21 precinct identification, taxing district identification, and date of  
22 registration on the voter's record in the state voter registration  
23 list. Any mailing address provided shall be used only for mail  
24 delivery purposes, and not for precinct assignment or residency  
25 purposes. Within sixty days after the receipt of an application or  
26 transfer, the auditor shall send to the applicant, by first-class  
27 nonforwardable mail, an acknowledgment notice identifying the  
28 registrant's precinct and containing such other information as may be  
29 required by the secretary of state. The United States postal service  
30 shall be instructed not to forward a voter registration card to any  
31 other address and to return to the auditor any card which is not  
32 deliverable.

33       (~~(b)~~) (d) An auditor may use other means to communicate with  
34 potential and registered voters such as, but not limited to, email,  
35 phone, or text messaging. The alternate form of communication must  
36 not be in lieu of the first-class mail requirements. The auditor  
37 shall act in compliance with all voter notification processes  
38 established in federal law.

39       (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly  
40 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice

1 must require the applicant to provide the missing information. If the  
2 applicant provides the required information within forty-five days,  
3 the applicant must be registered to vote. The applicant must not be  
4 placed on the official list of registered voters until the  
5 application is complete.

6 (3) If the prospective registration applicant declines to  
7 register to vote or the information provided by the department of  
8 licensing does not indicate citizenship, the information must not be  
9 included on the list of registered voters.

10 (4) The department of licensing is prohibited from sharing data  
11 files used by the secretary of state to certify voters registered  
12 through the automated process outlined in RCW 29A.08.355 with any  
13 federal agency, or state agency other than the secretary of state.  
14 Personal information supplied for the purposes of obtaining a  
15 driver's license or identicard is exempt from public inspection  
16 pursuant to RCW 42.56.230.

17 **Sec. 20.** RCW 29A.80.041 and 2009 c 106 s 3 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 Any member of a major political party who is a registered voter  
20 in the precinct and who will be at least eighteen years old by the  
21 date of the precinct committee officer election may file his or her  
22 declaration of candidacy as prescribed under RCW 29A.24.031 with the  
23 county auditor for the office of precinct committee officer of his or  
24 her party in that precinct. When elected at the primary, the precinct  
25 committee officer shall serve so long as the committee officer  
26 remains an eligible voter in that precinct.

27 **Sec. 21.** RCW 29A.84.140 and 2018 c 109 s 13 are each amended to  
28 read as follows:

29 A person who knows that he or she does not possess the legal  
30 qualifications of a voter and who registers to vote is guilty of a  
31 class C felony. This section does not apply to persons age sixteen or  
32 seventeen signing up to register to vote as authorized under RCW  
33 29A.08.170 or 29A.08.355(2).

34 **Sec. 22.** RCW 46.20.156 and 2018 c 110 s 105 are each amended to  
35 read as follows:

36 For persons eighteen years of age or older who meet requirements  
37 for voter registration and persons sixteen or seventeen years of age



1 who meet requirements to sign up to register to vote, who have been  
2 issued or are renewing an enhanced driver's license or identicard  
3 under RCW 46.20.202 or applying for a change of address for an  
4 existing enhanced driver's license or identicard pursuant to RCW  
5 46.20.205, and have not declined to register to vote, the department  
6 shall produce and transmit to the secretary of state the following  
7 information from the records of each individual: The name, address,  
8 date of birth, gender of the applicant, the driver's license number,  
9 signature image, and the date on which the application was submitted.  
10 The department and the secretary of state shall process information  
11 as an automated application on a daily basis.

12 **PART VII**

13 **OTHER PROVISIONS**

14 **Sec. 23.** RCW 29A.08.140 and 2019 c 391 s 4 are each amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 (1) In order to vote in any primary, special election, or general  
17 election, a person who is not registered to vote in Washington must:

18 (a) Submit a registration application that is received by an  
19 election official no later than eight days before the day of the  
20 primary, special election, or general election. For purposes of this  
21 subsection (1)(a), "received" means: (i) Being physically received by  
22 an election official by the close of business of the required  
23 deadline; or (ii) for applications received online or electronically,  
24 by midnight, of the required deadline; or

25 (b) Register in person at (~~the~~) a county auditor's office, the  
26 division of elections if in a separate city from the county auditor's  
27 office, a voting center, a student engagement center, or other  
28 location designated by the county auditor (~~in his or her county of~~  
29 ~~residence~~) no later than 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary,  
30 special election, or general election.

31 (2) (~~+(a)+~~) (a) In order to change a residence address for  
32 voting in any primary, special election, or general election, a  
33 person who is already registered to vote in Washington may update his  
34 or her registration by:

35 (~~(a)---[(i)]~~) (i) Submitting an address change using a  
36 registration application or making notification via any non-in-person  
37 method that is received by election officials no later than eight

1 days before the day of the primary, special election, or general  
2 election; or

3 ~~((b) [(ii)])~~ (ii) Appearing in person, at ~~((the))~~ a county  
4 auditor's office, the division of elections if in a separate city  
5 from the county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location  
6 designated by the county auditor ~~((in his or her county of  
7 residence))~~, no later than 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary,  
8 special election, or general election to be in effect for that  
9 primary, special election, or general election.

10 ~~((c) [(b)])~~ (b) A registered voter who fails to update his or  
11 her residential address by this deadline may vote according to his or  
12 her previous registration address.

13 (3) To register or update a voting address in person at ~~((the))~~ a  
14 county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location  
15 designated by the county auditor, a person must appear in person at  
16 ~~((the))~~ a county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location  
17 designated by the county auditor ~~((in the county in which the person  
18 resides))~~ at a time when the facility is open and complete the voter  
19 registration application by providing the information required by RCW  
20 29A.08.010.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** Subject to the availability of amounts  
22 appropriated for this specific purpose, the secretary of state may  
23 provide grants to county auditors to implement section 11 of this  
24 act.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 25.** Sections 3, 6, 7, and 14 through 18 of  
26 this act take effect January 1, 2022.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 26.** Sections 8, 9, 19, 21, and 22 of this act  
28 take effect September 1, 2020.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 27.** (1) Section 4 of this act takes effect  
30 January 1, 2022, but only if Substitute Senate Bill No. 6228 is not  
31 enacted by June 30, 2020.

32 (2) Section 5 of this act takes effect January 1, 2022, but only  
33 if Substitute Senate Bill No. 6228 is enacted by June 30, 2020.

--- END ---