

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT  
**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6021**

Chapter 112, Laws of 2018

65th Legislature  
2018 Regular Session

VOTER REGISTRATION PERIOD

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 7, 2018—Except for sections 1 through 4, which become effective June 30, 2019.

Passed by the Senate January 17, 2018  
Yeas 29 Nays 20

CYRUS HABIB

**President of the Senate**

Passed by the House February 27, 2018  
Yeas 50 Nays 48

FRANK CHOPP

**Speaker of the House of Representatives**

Approved March 19, 2018 3:15 PM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6021** as passed by Senate and the House of Representatives on the dates hereon set forth.

BRAD HENDRICKSON

**Secretary**

FILED

March 20, 2018

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6021**

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Passed Legislature - 2018 Regular Session

**State of Washington**

**65th Legislature**

**2018 Regular Session**

**By** Senate State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Kuderer, Billig, Darneille, Palumbo, Frockt, Rolfes, Lias, Keiser, Pedersen, Hunt, Wellman, Conway, Saldaña, Hasegawa, Mullet, and Nelson)

READ FIRST TIME 01/15/18.

1           AN ACT Relating to extending the period for voter registration;  
2 amending RCW 29A.08.140, 29A.08.110, 29A.08.410, 29A.40.160, and  
3 29A.32.031; providing an effective date; and providing an expiration  
4 date.

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

6           **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.08.140 and 2011 c 10 s 15 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

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

10           (a) Submit a registration application that is received no later  
11 than (~~twenty-nine~~) eight days before the day of the primary,  
12 special election, or general election; or

13           (b) Register in person at the county auditor's office, the  
14 division of elections if in a separate city from the county auditor's  
15 office, a voting center, or other location designated by the county  
16 auditor in his or her county of residence no later than (~~eight days~~  
17 ~~before~~) 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary, special election, or  
18 general election.

19           (2) A person who is already registered to vote in Washington may  
20 update his or her registration no later than (~~twenty-nine days~~  
21 ~~before~~) 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary, special election, or

1 general election to be in effect for that primary, special election,  
2 or general election. A registered voter who fails to transfer his or  
3 her residential address by this deadline may vote according to his or  
4 her previous registration address.

5 (3) To register in person at the county auditor's office, a  
6 voting center, or other location designated by the county auditor, a  
7 person must appear in person at the county auditor's office, a voting  
8 center, or other location designated by the county auditor in the  
9 county in which the person resides at a time when the facility is  
10 open and complete the voter registration application by providing the  
11 information required by RCW 29A.08.010.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2009 c 369 s 10 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 (1) An application is considered complete only if it contains the  
15 information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The applicant is considered  
16 to be registered to vote as of the original date of mailing or date  
17 of delivery, whichever is applicable. As soon as practicable, the  
18 auditor shall record the appropriate precinct identification, taxing  
19 district identification, and date of registration on the voter's  
20 record in the state voter registration list. The secretary of state  
21 shall, pursuant to RCW 29A.04.611, establish procedures to enable new  
22 or updated voter registrations to be recorded on an expedited basis.  
23 Any mailing address provided shall be used only for mail delivery  
24 purposes, and not for precinct assignment or residency purposes.  
25 Within sixty days after the receipt of an application or transfer,  
26 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 postal service shall be  
30 instructed not to forward a voter registration card to any other  
31 address and to return to the auditor any card which is not  
32 deliverable.

33 (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly  
34 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice  
35 shall require the applicant to provide the missing information. If  
36 the applicant provides the required information within forty-five  
37 days, the applicant shall be registered to vote as of the original  
38 date of application. The applicant shall not be placed on the  
39 official list of registered voters until the application is complete.

1       **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.410 and 2009 c 369 s 22 are each amended to  
2 read as follows:

3       A registered voter who changes his or her residence from one  
4 address to another within the same county may transfer his or her  
5 registration to the new address in one of the following ways:

6       (1) Sending the county auditor a request stating both the voter's  
7 present address and the address from which the voter was last  
8 registered;

9       (2) Appearing in person before the county auditor, or at a voting  
10 center or other location designated by the county auditor, and making  
11 such a request;

12       (3) Telephoning or emailing the county auditor to transfer the  
13 registration; or

14       (4) Submitting a voter registration application.

15       **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.40.160 and 2017 c 327 s 1 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17       (1) Each county auditor shall open a voting center each primary,  
18 special election, and general election. The voting center shall be  
19 open during business hours during the voting period, which begins  
20 eighteen days before, and ends at 8:00 p.m. on the day of, the  
21 primary, special election, or general election.

22       (2) ~~((The))~~ Each county auditor shall register voters in person  
23 at each of the following locations in the county:

24       (a) At the county auditor's office;

25       (b) At the division of elections, if located in a separate city  
26 from the county auditor's office; and

27       (c) For each presidential general election, at a voting center in  
28 each city in the county with a population of one hundred thousand or  
29 greater, which does not have a voting center as required in (a) or  
30 (b) of this subsection. A voting center opened pursuant to this  
31 subsection (2) is not required to be open on the Sunday before the  
32 presidential election.

33       (3) Voting centers shall be located in public buildings or  
34 buildings that are leased by a public entity including, but not  
35 limited to, libraries.

36       (4) Each voting center, and at least one of the other locations  
37 designated by the county auditor to allow voters to register in  
38 person pursuant to RCW 29A.08.140(1)(b), must provide voter  
39 registration materials, ballots, provisional ballots, disability

1 access voting units, sample ballots, instructions on how to properly  
2 vote the ballot, a ballot drop box, and voters' pamphlets, if a  
3 voters' pamphlet has been published.

4 ~~((3) The))~~ (5) Each voting center must be accessible to persons  
5 with disabilities. Each state agency and entity of local government  
6 shall permit the use of any of its accessible facilities as voting  
7 centers when requested by a county auditor.

8 ~~((4) The))~~ (6) Each voting center must provide at least one  
9 voting unit certified by the secretary of state that provides access  
10 to individuals who are blind or visually impaired, enabling them to  
11 vote with privacy and independence.

12 ~~((5))~~ (7) No person may interfere with a voter attempting to  
13 vote in a voting center. Interfering with a voter attempting to vote  
14 is a violation of RCW 29A.84.510.

15 ~~((6))~~ (8) Before opening the voting center, the voting  
16 equipment shall be inspected to determine if it has been properly  
17 prepared for voting. If the voting equipment is capable of direct  
18 tabulation of each voter's choices, the county auditor shall verify  
19 that no votes have been registered for any issue or office, and that  
20 the device has been sealed with a unique numbered seal at the time of  
21 final preparation and logic and accuracy testing. A log must be made  
22 of all device numbers and seal numbers.

23 ~~((7))~~ (9) The county auditor shall require any person desiring  
24 to vote at a voting center to either sign a ballot declaration or  
25 provide identification.

26 (a) The signature on the declaration must be compared to the  
27 signature on the voter registration record before the ballot may be  
28 counted. If the voter registered using a mark, or can no longer sign  
29 his or her name, the election officers shall require the voter to be  
30 identified by another registered voter.

31 (b) The identification must be valid photo identification, such  
32 as a driver's license, state identification card, student  
33 identification card, tribal identification card, or employer  
34 identification card. Any individual who desires to vote in person but  
35 cannot provide identification shall be issued a provisional ballot,  
36 which shall be accepted if the signature on the declaration matches  
37 the signature on the voter's registration record.

38 ~~((8))~~ (10) Provisional ballots must be accompanied by a  
39 declaration and security envelope, as required by RCW 29A.40.091, and  
40 space for the voter's name, date of birth, current and former

1 registered address, reason for the provisional ballot, and  
2 disposition of the provisional ballot. The voter shall vote and  
3 return the provisional ballot at the voting center. The voter must be  
4 provided information on how to ascertain whether the provisional  
5 ballot was counted and, if applicable, the reason why the vote was  
6 not counted.

7 ~~((+9))~~ (11) Any voter may take printed or written material into  
8 the voting device to assist in casting his or her vote. The voter  
9 shall not use this material to electioneer and shall remove it when  
10 he or she leaves the voting center.

11 ~~((+10))~~ (12) If any voter states that he or she is unable to  
12 cast his or her votes due to a disability, the voter may designate a  
13 person of his or her choice, or two election officers, to enter the  
14 voting booth and record the votes as he or she directs.

15 ~~((+11))~~ (13) No voter is entitled to vote more than once at a  
16 primary, special election, or general election. If a voter  
17 incorrectly marks a ballot, he or she may be issued a replacement  
18 ballot.

19 ~~((+12))~~ (14) A voter who has already returned a ballot but  
20 requests to vote at a voting center shall be issued a provisional  
21 ballot. The canvassing board shall not count the provisional ballot  
22 if it finds that the voter has also voted a regular ballot in that  
23 primary, special election, or general election.

24 ~~((+13))~~ (15) The county auditor must prevent overflow of each  
25 ballot drop box to allow a voter to deposit his or her ballot  
26 securely. Ballots must be removed from a ballot drop box by at least  
27 two people, with a record kept of the date and time ballots were  
28 removed, and the names of people removing them. Ballots from drop  
29 boxes must be returned to the counting center in secured transport  
30 containers. A copy of the record must be placed in the container, and  
31 one copy must be transported with the ballots to the counting center,  
32 where the seal number must be verified by the county auditor or a  
33 designated representative. All ballot drop boxes must be secured at  
34 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary, special election, or general  
35 election.

36 ~~((+14))~~ (16) Any voter who is inside or in line at the voting  
37 center at 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary, special election, or  
38 general election must be allowed to vote.

39 ~~((+15))~~ (17) For each primary, special election, and general  
40 election, the county auditor may provide election services at

1 locations in addition to the voting center. The county auditor has  
2 discretion to establish which services will be provided at the  
3 additional locations, and which days and hours the locations will be  
4 open, except that the county auditor must establish a minimum of one  
5 ballot drop box per fifteen thousand registered voters in the county  
6 and a minimum of one ballot drop box in each city, town, and census-  
7 designated place in the county with a post office.

8 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.32.031 and 2013 c 283 s 2 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 The voters' pamphlet published or distributed under RCW  
11 29A.32.010 must contain:

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

15 (2) In even-numbered years, statements, if submitted, from  
16 candidates for the office of president and vice president of the  
17 United States, United States senator, United States representative,  
18 governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state treasurer,  
19 state auditor, attorney general, commissioner of public lands,  
20 superintendent of public instruction, insurance commissioner, state  
21 senator, state representative, justice of the supreme court, judge of  
22 the court of appeals, or judge of the superior court. Candidates may  
23 also submit campaign contact information and a photograph not more  
24 than five years old in a format that the secretary of state  
25 determines to be suitable for reproduction in the voters' pamphlet;

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

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

38 (5) Contact information for major political parties;

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

3 (7) For the 2018 general election, information regarding the  
4 changes in the deadlines to register to vote made by chapter . . . ,  
5 Laws of 2018 (this act); and

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

9 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. Sections 1 through 4 of this act take  
10 effect June 30, 2019.

11 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. Section 5 of this act expires January 1,  
12 2019.

Passed by the Senate January 17, 2018.  
Passed by the House February 27, 2018.  
Approved by the Governor March 19, 2018.  
Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 20, 2018.

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