An Act relating to primary elections, providing for a Blanket Primary Ballot, amending sections 5185, 5187, 5189 and 5195 of Remington's Compiled Statutes of 1932, and repealing all laws in conflict therewith.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. That section 5185, Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1932, be amended to read as follows:

Section 5185. First—At least twenty days before any September primary the secretary of state shall transmit to each county auditor a certified list containing the name, post office address and party designation of each person to be voted for at such primary, and the office for which he is a candidate, as appears by the nomination papers filed in his office.

Second—Each county auditor shall, at least fifteen days before the September primary, publish once, with the proper party designation and under the title of each office, the names and addresses of all the persons for whom nomination papers have been filed insofar as the same shall affect the electors of his county, giving the date of the primary, the hours during which the polls will be open, and that the primary will be held in the regular polling place for each precinct, and shall cause to be posted copies of such notice in at least three public places in each precinct in his county: Provided, That the names of all candidates for the office of supreme and superior court judge and justices of the peace shall be published and posted without party designation.

Section 2. That section 5187 Remington's Compiled Statutes, 1932, be amended to read as follows:
Section 5187. The method of voting at such primary election shall be by ballot, and all ballots voted shall be printed as herein provided. On the fifteenth day before the primary election the county auditor shall prepare at once in writing, a sample ballot for public inspection, which he shall post in a conspicuous place in his office. He shall proceed to have printed a blanket primary election ballot to be prepared in the following manner: Every ballot shall be uniform in color and size, shall be white and printed in black ink. Across the head of each ballot shall be printed in plain, black type, first, the words, “Primary Election Ballot,” and below that, the county in which the ballot is to be used. Then shall follow the words “To vote for a person mark a cross in the first square at the right of the name of the person for whom you desire to vote.” Beginning at the top of the left-hand column, at the left of the line, in black type, shall appear the name of the position for which the names following are candidates, and to the extreme right of the same line the words, “Vote for,” then the words “One,” “Two,” or a spelled number designating how many persons under that head are to be voted for. Following this shall come the names of all candidates for that position inclosed in a lightfaced rule, each followed by the name of the political party, if any, with which the candidate desires to affiliate, with a square to the right, said square being separated by a heavy black face rule, the parallel rules containing the names and squares to be one-sixth of an inch apart. Each position with the names running for that office, shall be separated from the following one by a black face rule. The positions shall be arranged substantially as follows: Provided, Nominees for such positions are to be selected in said county under the provisions of this act hereinafter provided. First, United States senator; next, congressional; next, judges of supreme court; next,
judges of superior court; next, other state officers; next, legislative; next, county officers; next, precinct officers; next, justice of the peace; next, precinct committeemen. There shall be a blank space left following the list of names of candidates for each office for writing in the name of a candidate, if desired. In all cases following under each heading here given, the rotation used in the make-up of the ballots at the general election shall be followed. In city elections it shall be the duty of the city clerk to prepare the ballots and arrange the positions of the candidates on such ballots, commencing with the office of mayor and following with the offices for which candidates are to be selected, using his reasonable discretion as to such arrangement. The duties provided for in this act to be performed by the county auditor with reference to candidates for county and district offices or either of them shall in like manner be performed by the city clerk in each city with reference to the preparation of ballots and primary elections for candidates for city offices. The form of ballot shall be substantially as follows:

(FORM OF BALLOT)
PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT

To vote for a person make a cross in the square to the RIGHT of the name of the person for whom you desire to vote.

UNITED STATES SENATOR

Adams, Frank C. .................. Democrat
Haddock, R. A. .................... Republican
Johnson, Oscar F. ................ Republican

(And so on with the other officers in order as provided in this act.)
Provided, however, That where voting machines are legally used in any county, city or other municipality, the ballot arrangement of candidates to be voted on at the primary shall be substantially in form with that heretofore set forth in this section, but may be varied so as to carry out the purposes required by use of voting machines.

Sec. 3. That section 5189 of Remington’s Compiled Statutes, 1932, be amended to read as follows:

Section 5189. Every qualified person, properly registered as a voter in his election precinct, shall be entitled to participate in the primary election. When he desires to vote at said primary, each elector shall have the right to receive the ballot, whereupon he shall retire to one of the booths and without undue delay mark the ballot received by him and fold it so that its face shall be concealed. He shall thereafter deliver said ballot received by him to the election officers. In the event said voter shall soil or deface the ballot he desires to vote he shall at once return the ballot received by him and get a new ballot and the election officers shall destroy or render unfit for use the ballot so returned. The elector shall designate his choice on his ballot by making a cross in each of the small squares nearest the names of the candidates for whom he desires to vote and shall not vote for more candidates for an office than are to be elected thereto at the election to follow the primary election as indicated on the ballot at the right of each office for which candidates are to be selected.

Sec. 4. That section 5195 of Remington’s Compiled Statutes, 1932, be amended to read as follows:

Section 5195. As soon as the polls are finally closed, the inspector and judges of election shall immediately open the ballot boxes at each polling place and proceed to take therefrom the ballots. Said
Count of ballots.

officers shall count the number of ballots cast and shall then fasten them together. As soon as the inspector and judges shall have fastened together the ballots they shall take the tally-sheets provided by the county auditor or city clerk, and shall count all the ballots until the count is completed, and shall certify to the number of votes cast for each candidate. The tally-sheets shall be so kept that such sheet's shall show the number of votes received, the total votes cast for each candidate, and the total of all ballots cast. They shall then place the counted ballots in the box. After all have been counted and certified to by the clerks and judges, they shall seal the returns in one envelope, and return them to the county auditor or city clerk.

Repeal of conflicting laws.

SEC. 5. All laws or parts of laws in conflict or inconsistent with this act in any particular, or any part thereof, are hereby repealed, but it is expressly declared that the purposes of this act shall be construed so as to allow all properly registered voters to vote for their choice at any primary election, for any candidate for each office, regardless of political affiliation and without a declaration of political faith or adherence on the part of the voter.

Passed the Senate February 5, 1935.
Passed the House February 21, 1935.