

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 5. As we become an information-based society, the communications channels that serve us become part of the state's infrastructure. They are our highways and pathways to progress. No segment of this state must be unable to avail itself of communications facilities. In order to be able to promote economic development in the rural community through the use of telecommunications, the legislature further directs the utilities and transportation commission to conduct a study of the state's telecommunications infrastructure.

Sec. 6. Section 41, chapter 450, Laws of 1985 and RCW 80.36.380 are each amended to read as follows:

The commission shall provide the legislature with an annual report on the status of the Washington telecommunications industry. The report shall describe the competitiveness of all markets as defined by the commission; the availability of diverse and affordable telecommunications services to all people of Washington, particularly to customers in rural or sparsely populated areas; and the level of rates for local exchange and interexchange telecommunications service. The report also shall address the quality and extent of the state's telecommunications infrastructure. The report also shall address the question of whether competition in certain markets has developed to such an extent that the commission recommends additional regulatory flexibility such as detariffing or total deregulation and the evidence therefor; and the need for further legislation to achieve the purposes of RCW 80.36.300 through 80.36.370 and 80.04.010. The commission shall also monitor cost of service methodologies and shall recommend to the legislature whether cost of service ratemaking shall become a standard for telecommunications services.

**NEW SECTION.** Sec. 7. The sum of forty-two thousand dollars, or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending June 30, 1989, from the general fund to the department of community development for the purposes of this act.

Passed the House April 22, 1987.

Passed the Senate April 8, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 8, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 8, 1987.

---

## CHAPTER 294

[Engrossed House Bill No. 24]

### SPECIAL FUEL USED IN LOGGING OPERATIONS ON FEDERAL LAND—EXCISE TAX EXEMPTION

AN ACT Relating to motor vehicle fuel excise tax payments; and adding a new section to chapter 82.38 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. A new section is added to chapter 82.38 RCW to read as follows:

There is exempted from the tax imposed by this chapter the use of special fuel for the operation of a motor vehicle as a part of or incidental to logging operations upon a highway under federal jurisdiction within the boundaries of a federal area if the federal government requires a fee for the privilege of operating the motor vehicle upon the highway, the proceeds of which are reserved for constructing or maintaining roads in the federal area, or requires maintenance or construction work to be performed on the highway for the privilege of operating the motor vehicle on the highway.

Passed the House April 22, 1987.

Passed the Senate April 16, 1987.

Approved by the Governor May 8, 1987.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State May 8, 1987.

## CHAPTER 295

[House Bill No. 954]

### ELECTION STATUTES—GENDERLESS DESIGNATIONS AND CORRECTIONS

AN ACT Relating to genderless designations in some of the elections statutes; amending RCW 29.04.020, 29.18.050, 29.30.060, 29.30.101, 29.30.350, 29.30.450, 29.33.180, 29.34.085, 29.36.030, 29.36.070, 29.42.020, 29.42.030, 29.42.040, 29.42.050, 29.42.070, 29.45.030, 29.80.010, and 42.17.030; and reenacting and amending RCW 42.17.240.

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

Sec. 1. Section 29.04.020, chapter 9, Laws of 1965 as last amended by section 2, chapter 361, Laws of 1977 ex. sess. and RCW 29.04.020 are each amended to read as follows:

The county auditor of each county shall be ex officio the supervisor of all primaries and elections, general or special, and it shall be ~~((his))~~ the county auditor's duty to provide places for holding such primaries and elections; to appoint the precinct election officers; to provide for their compensation; to provide ballot boxes and ballots or voting machines, poll books, or precinct lists of registered voters, and tally sheets, and deliver them to the precinct election officers at the polling places; to publish and post notices of calling such primaries and elections in the manner provided by law: **PROVIDED**, That notice of a general election held in an even-numbered year shall indicate that the office of precinct ~~((committeeman))~~ committee officer will be on the ballot; and to apportion to each city, town, or district, its share of the expense of such primaries and elections: **PROVIDED**, That this section shall not apply to general or special elections for any city, town, or district which is not subject to RCW 29.13.010 and 29.13.020, but all such elections shall be held and conducted at the time, in the manner, and by the