

count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. However, such test shall be observed by at least two election officers, who shall not be of the same political party, and shall be open to representatives of the political parties, candidates, the press and the public. The test shall be conducted by processing a pre-audited group of ballots so punched or marked as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each measure, and shall include for each office one or more ballots which have votes in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the automatic tabulating equipment to reject such votes. If any error is detected, the cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count shall be made before the automatic tabulating equipment is approved. The test shall be repeated immediately before the start of the official count of the ballots in the same manner as set forth above.

On the day of the election, two election officers, not of the same political party, shall be stationed at the counting center throughout the official count. Such persons, upon mutual agreement, may request that the tabulating equipment be stopped as many as three times during the official count so that the accuracy of the proceedings can be again verified at such unscheduled stops by the count of the pre-audited group of ballots.

(4) The returns printed by the automatic tabulating equipment, to which has been added the count of write-in and absentee votes, shall constitute the official returns of each precinct or election district.

Passed the House April 7, 1973.

Passed the Senate April 14, 1973.

Approved by the Governor April 20, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 23, 1973.

CHAPTER 71

[Substitute House Bill No. 944]

NURSING HOMES--OUT-PATIENT

SERVICE AUTHORIZED

AN ACT Relating to nursing homes; and adding new sections to chapter 117, Laws of 1951 and to chapter 18.51 RCW.

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

NEW SECTION. Section 1. There is added to chapter 117, Laws of 1951 and to chapter 18.51 RCW a new section to read as follows:

A nursing home may, pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the department of social and health services, offer out-patient

services to persons who are not otherwise patients at such nursing home. Any certified nursing home offering out-patient services may receive payments from the federal Medicare program for such services as are permissible under that program.

Out-patient services may include any health or social care needs, except surgery, that could feasibly be offered on an out-patient basis.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. There is added to chapter 117, Laws of 1951 and to chapter 18.51 RCW a new section to read as follows:

The department of social and health services shall assist the nursing home industry in researching the costs of out-patient services allowed under section 1 of this 1973 act. Such cost studies shall be utilized by the department in the determination of reasonable vendor rates for nursing homes offering such services to insure an adequate return to the nursing homes and a cost savings to the state as compared to the cost of institutionalization.

Passed the House April 4, 1973.

Passed the Senate April 11, 1973.

Approved by the Governor April 20, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 23, 1973.

CHAPTER 72

[House Bill No. 957]

LAND PLANNING COMMISSION--

DISSOLUTION EXTENDED

AN ACT Relating to the state land planning commission; amending section 9, chapter 287, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 43.120.920; and declaring an emergency.

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

Section 1. Section 9, chapter 287, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. and RCW 43.120.920 are each amended to read as follows:

The commission shall be dissolved ((upon the termination of the forty-third regular session of the legislature, unless said legislature determines otherwise)) on May 15, 1973.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. This 1973 amendatory act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, the support of the state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House April 15, 1973.

Passed the Senate April 14, 1973.

Approved by the Governor April 20, 1973.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State April 23, 1973.