

CHAPTER 251.

[ H. B. 509. ]

ELECTIONS—REGISTRATION OF VOTERS—DEPUTY REGISTRARS.

AN ACT relating to elections; prescribing procedures; amending section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1939 and RCW 29.01.030, 29.01.150, 29.07.010 and 29.07.020; amending section 1, chapter 74, Laws of 1945, section 10, chapter 1, Laws of 1933 and RCW 29.07.040 and 29.07.170; amending section 6, chapter 1, Laws of 1933 as last amended by section 1, chapter 68, Laws of 1947, and RCW 29.07.100 and 29.07.110; and adding two new sections to chapter 29.07 RCW.

*Be it enacted by the legislature of the State of Washington:*

Division and amendment.

SECTION 1. Section 1, chapter 15, Laws of 1939 (heretofore codified as RCW 29.01.030, 29.01.150, 29.07.010 and 29.07.020) is divided and amended as set forth in sections 2 through 5 of this act.

RCW 29.01.030 enacted without amendment.

SEC. 2. (RCW 29.01.030) A "city precinct" is a voting precinct lying wholly or partly within a city or town.

RCW 29.01.150 enacted without amendment.

SEC. 3. (RCW 29.01.150) "Rural precinct" means a voting precinct lying wholly outside the limits of a city or town.

RCW 29.07.010 amended. County auditor as registrar in rural precincts.

SEC. 4. (RCW 29.07.010) The county auditor of each county shall be the registrar of voters for all rural precincts. He shall appoint a deputy registrar from time to time for each precinct or for any number of precincts and may appoint city or town clerks as deputy registrars to register voters residing in rural precincts that are adjacent to the city or town concerned. A deputy registrar must be a registered voter and shall hold office at the pleasure of the county auditor.

RCW 29.07.020 enacted without amendment.

SEC. 5. (RCW 29.07.020) The city clerk shall be the registrar of voters in all city precincts. In the case of city precincts lying partly within and partly without the city or town limits, the voters within

and those without the city or town limits shall be registered in separate registration files.

SEC. 6. Section 1, chapter 74, Laws of 1945, section 10, chapter 1, Laws of 1933 (heretofore divided, combined and codified as RCW 29.07.040 and 29.07.170) are amended to read as set forth in sections 7 and 8 of this act.

Combination,  
division and  
amendment.

SEC. 7. (RCW 29.07.040) Each deputy registrar of a rural precinct or precincts, including city or town clerks so deputized, shall be entitled to receive a fee of not less than twenty cents, the exact fee to be set by the board of county commissioners, for each elector registered: *Provided*, That no employee of the county receiving a salary shall be entitled to such fees.

RCW 29.07.040  
amended.  
Fees and com-  
pensation of  
registration  
officers.

Proviso.

The compensation of registrars of city precincts shall be provided by the governing body thereof: *Provided*, That each deputy registrar shall be entitled to receive a fee of not less than twenty cents for each elector registered.

Proviso.

The fees and expenses of registrars of city precincts for delivering the registration files to the polling places or to the county auditor, as the case may be, shall be fixed and paid as election expenses by the board of county commissioners, but mileage in no case shall exceed ten cents per mile for each mile necessarily traveled.

SEC. 8. (RCW 29.07.170) Immediately upon closing his registration files preceding an election, the registration officer having custody thereof shall insert therein his certificate as to the authenticity thereof. He shall then deliver the original registration files for each precinct thus certified to the inspector or one of the judges thereof at the proper polling place before the polls open: *Provided*, That in the case of any general state or county election the county auditor may require all registration officers to

RCW 29.07.170  
enacted with-  
out amend-  
ment.

Proviso.

deliver the files to him for delivery thereof by him to the precinct election officers.

Division and amendment.

SEC. 9. Section 6, chapter 1, Laws of 1933 as last amended by section 1, chapter 68, Laws of 1947 (heretofore divided and codified as RCW 29.07.100 and 29.07.110) is divided and amended as set forth in sections 10 and 11 of this act.

RCW 29.07.100 amended. Time and places for registration—Cities and towns.

Proviso.

SEC. 10. (RCW 29.07.100). Registration officers in incorporated cities and towns shall keep their respective offices open for registration of voters during the days and hours when the same are open for the transaction of public business: *Provided*, That in cities of the first class, the registrar of voters shall establish on a permanent basis at least one registration office in each legislative district that lies wholly or partially within the city limits by appointing persons as deputy registrars who may register any eligible elector of such city.

Each such deputy registrar shall hold office at the pleasure of the registrar of voters and shall maintain a fixed place, conveniently located, for the registration of voters but nothing in this section shall preclude door-to-door registration including registration from a portable office as in a trailer.

RCW 29.07.110 amended. Time and places for registration—Rural precincts.

Proviso.

SEC. 11. (RCW 29.07.110) Every deputy registrar of rural precincts shall keep registration records and supplies at his usual place of residence or usual place of business at reasonable hours and at the end of each week mail to the county auditor the cards of those who have registered during the week: *Provided*, That with the written consent of the county auditor a deputy registrar of rural precincts may designate some centrally located place for registration in lieu of the usual place where registration cards are kept by giving notice thereof in such manner as he may deem expedient stating therein the days and hours when the place will be open for registration: *Pro-*

*vided further*, That such consent of the county auditor may include authorization for door-to-door registration including registration from a portable office as in a trailer and the person or persons so deputized may register all eligible electors residing in any rural precinct within the county concerned.

Proviso.

SEC. 12. There is added to chapter 29.07 RCW a new section to read as follows:

New section.

In all cities of the first, second and third class, the governing body shall by ordinance provide for additional temporary registration facilities during the fifteen day period, excepting Sundays, prior to the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote at a state primary election and during the fifteen day period, excepting Sundays, prior to the last day to register in order to be eligible to vote at a state general election by stationing deputy registrars at stores, public buildings or other temporary locations. The number of such temporary registration places to be so established and the hours to be maintained shall be, in the judgment of the governing body of the city concerned, adequate to afford ample opportunity for all qualified electors to register for voting, but in no event shall there be less than two such temporary registration places so established. Nothing in this section shall preclude door-to-door registration including registration from a portable office as in a trailer.

Additional temporary registration facilities in certain cities.

SEC. 13. There is added to chapter 29.07 RCW a new section to read as follows:

New section.

Any person temporarily residing outside of the county of his permanent residence, but within the state of Washington, may register with the registrar or deputy registrar of the place where he is temporarily residing in the usual manner as required in this chapter: *Provided*, That such registration in the county other than that of the permanent residence of the applicant may only be made within the period

Registration when resident outside county of permanent residence.

Provided.

Registration  
of voters.  
Registration  
when resi-  
dent outside  
county of  
permanent  
residence.

one hundred and twenty days prior to any state general election, subject to limitations as to closing of registration books and other limitations as provided by law. The registrar or deputy registrar administering the oath and receiving the application and registration cards as provided in RCW 29.07.060 through 29.07.090 shall transmit the same to the proper registrar or deputy registrar where the applicant permanently resides for processing in the same manner as through the applicant had personally applied directly to the registration officer of his residence.

Notwithstanding the provisions of RCW 29.07.160 the registration application shall be received and acted upon immediately by the registrar of the place of permanent residence of the applicant if the application was received and oath administered by the registration officer at the place of temporary residence not less than thirty days preceding the next election.

Passed the House March 13, 1957.

Passed the Senate March 11, 1957.

Approved by the Governor March 23, 1957.