

2016 Legislative Package

SECRETARY OF STATE KIM WYMAN



» **AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION**

Secretary Wyman's request legislation would expand voter registration and participation in the elections process by extending automatic registration to those who have an enhanced or commercial driver's license or are covered through the health insurance exchange or other qualified state program. Full Oregon-style automatic registration is not possible for regular driver's license-holders, since the DOL does not ask for verification of citizenship. The bill (HB2682/SB6379) includes an opt-out provision.

» **PRE-REGISTRATION OF 17-YEAR-OLDS**

Seeking to engage our youth, the Secretary proposes giving 17-year-olds the opportunity to pre-register to vote, as part of senior history and social studies class or at special registration events by county auditors. Students could also use online, mail or in-person pre-registration. Ballots would be sent to the new voters when they turn 18. Secretary Wyman also favors strong outreach and civics education about voting and civic engagement. This bill is SB6340/HB2707.

» **CANCELLING RECOUNTS OF STATEWIDE ADVISORY MEASURES**

Current law requires a statewide recount for all "statewide measures" if the final margin is less than 2,000 votes. Recounts can cost thousands of dollars, and was almost triggered in 2015. Because advisory votes are not binding, eliminating the extra potential cost is a prudent protection of tax dollars. The original sponsor of the advisory vote requirement concurs with the legislation, SB6339/HB2623.

» **ENHANCING BUSINESS SERVICES**

Secretary Wyman proposes updating the Corporations Division's statutes to reflect changes in the way business is conducted and administered in today's electronic environment. The bill is SB6492. A second measure, SB6491, would update the law dealing with apostilles, the important authentication of documents needed for overseas transactions.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE CONTACT INFORMATION

Toni McKinley-Camp
Legislative Director
Toni.McKinleyCamp@sos.wa.gov
360-902-4184

David Elliott
Legislative Policy Director
David.Elliott@sos.wa.gov
360-902-4168

