



# Secretary of State

*Tim Wyma*

## Partisan Primaries

Clearinghouse Elections Notice

Issue #13-02

May 14, 2013

Legislative changes during the 2013 regular session will impact partisan primaries immediately.

[2SHB 1195](#) establishes there will *always* be a primary for partisan offices. Consequently, partisan offices will always appear on the primary ballot, regardless of when or why they are on the ballot.

For example, in 2013, a partisan primary must be held regardless of the number of candidates who file.

Previously, under RCW 29A.52.220, if an election to fill a vacancy was required in an odd-numbered year for a partisan office normally on the ballot in an even-numbered year, no primary was held when only one or two candidates filed. This exception has been repealed.

The requirement to include a separate insert for a partisan primary has not changed. (WAC 434-230-015(j))

For more information, please contact the Certification & Training Program of the Office of the Secretary of State's Elections Division.