

★ 2013 ★ General Election Fact Sheet

Overview

This year's General Election will not have any statewide or congressional races. Elections for local office, such as city council, mayor, school board, fire district or port district, will dominate the ballot. There are three special state Senate races to fill unexpired terms:

- 7th District (NE Washington) race between Republican appointee John Smith and Republican challenger Brian Dansel.
- 8th District (Richland, Kennewick) race between Republican appointee Sharon Brown and Republican challenger Phillip Lemley.
- 26th District (Gig Harbor, southern Kitsap County) race between Democratic appointee Nathan Schlicher and the Republican challenger, state Rep. Jan Angel.

Statewide initiatives

Initiative 517

Concerns initiative and referendum measures. This measure would set penalties for interfering or retaliating against signature-gathers and petition-signers, require that all measures receiving sufficient signatures appear on the ballot, and extend time for gathering initiative petition signatures.

Initiative 522

Concerns labeling of genetically-engineered foods. This measure would require most raw agricultural commodities, processed foods, and seeds and seed stocks, if produced using genetic engineering, as defined, to be labeled as genetically engineered when offered for retail sale.

Tax advisory votes

There are five nonbinding Advisory Votes on the ballot. Advisory Votes don't change state law but do allow voters to state their opinion on tax increases approved by the Legislature earlier this year.

Advisory Vote No. 3 (Substitute Senate Bill 5444)

Concerns a leasehold excise tax credit for taxpayers who lease publicly-owned property.

Advisory Vote No. 4 (Senate Bill 5627)

Concerns an aircraft excise tax on commuter air carriers in lieu of property tax.

Advisory Vote No. 5 (Engrossed Substitute House Bill 1846)

Concerns the insurance premium tax to some insurance for pediatric oral services.

Advisory Vote No. 6 (Second Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1971)

Concerns a retail sales tax exemption for certain telephone and telecommunications services.

Advisory Vote No. 7 (Engrossed House Bill 2075)

Concerns estate tax on certain property transfers and increased rates for estates over \$4 million.

(This is the second year in which Advisory Votes appear on the General Election ballot. Advisory Votes 1 and 2 appeared on the 2012 ballot.)

★ Key Dates

Sept. 21 – Military and overseas ballots mailed

Oct. 7 – Deadline for online or mail-in voter registrations and updates

Oct. 14 – State Voters' Pamphlets begin arriving

Oct. 18 – Deadline for counties to mail ballots for the General Election

Oct. 28 – Voter registration deadline (for persons currently not registered) to vote in General Election (register in person at your county elections office)

Nov. 5 – General Election ballot return deadline (ballots must be postmarked no later than Election Day or placed in an official ballot drop box by 8 p.m. on Election Night)

For further information:

- MyVote www.myvote.wa.gov
- Voters' Pamphlets (state and local)
- Online Voters' Guide www.vote.wa.gov
- Media coverage and campaigns



Secretary of State

Kim Wyman