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| **Resolution 2019-09** Conservation District Elections: Balloting for All |

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| **SPONSOR CD:** King Conservation District |

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| **AREA:** 🗷NW 🞏SW 🞏NC 🞏SC 🞏NE 🞏SE |

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| **RESOLUTION TYPE:**  **🞏** **Policy**  🗷 **Position Statement**  🞏 **Recognition**  🞏 **Study** |

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| **RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY**  🗷 **WACD**  🗷 **WSCC**  **🞏 OTHER STAGE AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  **🞏 NRCS**  **🞏 NACD**  **🞏 NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| **BACKGROUND/PROBLEM STATEMENT:**  Fair, open, and accessible elections are critical to accountable government. Area Districts and District elections have been the subject of scrutiny and criticism for a number of years, both locally and at the state legislative level. Ballot access and voter participation have been two of the most often expressed concerns. Just 0.34 percent of registered voters participated in the 2019 King Conservation District Board of Supervisors election. |

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| **PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:**  The Washington Association of Conservation Districts is committed to working with the Washington State Legislature to reform Conservation District Board of Supervisor elections to provide the option to use regular ballots sent to all registered voters. |

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| **TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION**  🞏 Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.  🞏 Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.  🗷New policy. |

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| **IS THERE A BUDGET IMPLICATION TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY?**  🞏 **NO**  🗷 **YES** (briefly explain): A primary barrier, particularly for larger Districts, to fully utilizing regular ballots has been cost. In order to avoid an unfunded mandate, WACD is committed to working with the legislature to adequately fund solutions. |