1   SENATE BILL NO. 498

2   INTRODUCED BY W. MCKAMEY, M. NIKOLAKAKOS, C. COCHRAN, E. TILLEMAN, G. HUNTER, J.

3   KASSMIER, G. LAMMERS, S. FITZPATRICK, L. BREWSTER, N. DURAM, J. DARLING, V. MOORE

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5   A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING PREPARATION PROCEDURES FOR PRIMARY

6   ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 13-10-311, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

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8   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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10   **Section 1.** Section 13-10-311, MCA, is amended to read:

11   "**13-10-311.   Election judges' duties when preparing for count.** (1) Except as otherwise provided in

12   this section, election judges at the primary election shall prepare for a count of votes in the manner prescribed

13   in 13-15-201.

14   (2)   In preparing for a count, the election judges shall:

15   (a)   ~~separate the ballots for each political party and count each party's ballots separately;~~

16   ~~(b)~~(a)   reconcile the total number of party ballots and the separate total number of other ballots used

17   at the election with the number of electors voting. Any discrepancies in the reconciliations must be handled as

18   provided in 13-15-201.

19   ~~(c)~~(b)   list each party's candidates separately in the tally books; and

20   ~~(d)~~(c)   bundle the voted ballots for each party separately for return to the election administrator. The

21   unvoted ballots must be bundled in accordance with rules established pursuant to 13-12-202.

22   (3)   In counties where ballots are solely counted by hand, election judges shall separate the ballots

23   for each political party and count each party's ballots separately."

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25   NEW SECTION. **Section 2.   Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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