

Constitution and Elections

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H243 - Budget Technical Corrections.

Sec. 20.6A: Adjustments to 2022 Delayed Municipal Elections and Second Primary Schedule. (SL 2022-6)

Sec. 20.6A of S.L. 2022-6 provides for the following:

- Effective March 17, 2022, the delayed municipal elections from 2021 to be held in 2022 are rescheduled, depending on the affected municipality's method of election.
- Effective from March 17, 2022, through August 1, 2022, any requested second primary in 2022 is to be held 10 weeks after the first primary, and individuals can register to vote between the date of the first primary and any second primary, and vote in that second primary.

H605 - 2022 Primary Date. (Ratified)

HB 605 would set Tuesday, June 7, 2022, as the date of the primary in 2022, and would reschedule the delayed municipal elections from 2021 to be held in 2022, depending on the affected municipality's method of election.

HB 605 was ratified by the General Assembly on January 19, 2022, and vetoed by the Governor on January 28, 2022. HB 605 would have become effective when it became law.

S326 - Election Day Integrity Act. (Ratified)

Senate Bill 326 would do the following:

- Provide that all marked mail-in absentee ballots other than military-overseas ballots must be returned to the county board of elections no later than one of the following, unless federal law requires otherwise:
 - 7:30 P.M. on the date of the election.
 - By the close of polls in the county, if the State Board of Elections (State Board) extends the closing time of the polls for every poll in the county.
- Require county boards of elections and the State Board to publish the date mail-in absentee ballots are available for voting and the date completed request forms for mail-in absentee ballots must be received by a county board of elections for that election.
- Require county boards of elections to submit reports on the number of spoiled absentee ballots, outstanding absentee ballots, counted absentee ballots, and voted provisional ballots to the State Board, and require the State Board to publish the reports on its website.

Senate Bill 326 was ratified by the General Assembly on November 22, 2021, and vetoed by the Governor on December 2, 2021.

S360 - Prohibit Collusive Settlements by the Attorney General. (Ratified)

Senate Bill 360 would require that when the Speaker of the House of Representatives (Speaker) and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate (President Pro Tempore) have jointly intervened as a party on behalf of the General Assembly, or are jointly named in their official capacities as parties to a dispute, claim, or controversy, both must approve any consent judgment or settlement agreement prior to the Attorney General entering into the judgment or agreement.

Senate Bill 360 was ratified by the General Assembly on September 16, 2021, and vetoed by the Governor on September 27, 2021. The substantive contents of Senate Bill 360 became law in subsequent legislation, effective November 18, 2021. See Section 18.7 of S.L. 2021-180.

S722 - Revise Local Government Redistricting/Census. (SL 2021-56)

S.L. 2021-56 impacts municipalities where an election for municipal officers is scheduled for 2021 and where less than the entire jurisdiction is eligible to vote for one or more municipal candidates on the 2021 ballot in the following ways:

- Delays the municipal elections scheduled for 2021 in those affected municipalities to 2022, with an option for the at-large elections in those districts to be in 2021.
- Requires those affected municipalities to evaluate and revise electoral districts in accordance with state and federal law following the release of federal decennial census data by November 17, 2021, or December 17, 2021, if the municipality is unable to meet the November 17, 2021 deadline.
- Allows individuals to register to vote between the date of the first primary and any second primary, and vote in that second primary, for 2022 only.
- Moves the City of Raleigh municipal elections to even-numbered years, and changes the method of election to non-partisan plurality.
- Delays the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education and the Lexington City Board of Education regular 2021 elections to 2022.
- Provides for boards of county commissioners to be able to adopt and implement revised districts for the 2022 election.

This act became effective June 28, 2021, and applies only to certain 2021 municipal elections.

S725 - Prohibit Private Money in Elections Administration. (Ratified)

Senate Bill 725 would have prohibited the State Board of Elections, county boards of elections, and county boards of commissioners from accepting private monetary donations, directly or indirectly, for conducting elections or employing individuals on a temporary basis. This bill was ratified by the General Assembly on November 30, 2021, and vetoed by the Governor on December 9, 2021.