

House Legislative Oversight Committee

June 27, 2017

Appropriations/Revenue Presidential Preference Primaries

	2008	2012	2016
Appropriations	2,183,560	0	2,200,000
Candidate Filing Fees	380,000	180,000	360,000
Total	2,563,560	180,000	2,560,000

Candidate Filing Fees

- Presidential Preference Primaries
 - Florida - None
 - New Hampshire - \$1,000
 - North Carolina - None
 - Tennessee - None

Internal Changes at Agency

- Agency recently added six new positions
- No other changes are planned at this time

Legislative Changes

1. Special elections to fill vacancies
2. Certification of candidates; verification of qualifications
3. Closing registration books
4. Substitution of party nominee
5. Municipal elections
6. Don't hold partisan and non-partisan primaries on same day

1. Special elections

- §7-13-190
- State and federal law requires absentee ballots to be mailed not later than 45 days prior to any election
- Adequate time did not exist for special elections
- **Bill passed in 2017**

2. Certification of Candidates

- For a statewide general election, political parties must certify candidates by noon on August 15th
- Several school districts and municipalities don't comply because candidate filing opens/closes after certification date
- SEC recommends that all candidates be certified by August 15th

3. Closing Registration Books

- Deadline to register to vote varies depending on how a person is registering
- In person – books must be closed for thirty days
- By mail – no later than thirty days
- Online VR – if application is received thirty days
- Recommend no later than 28 days/closed for 27 days

4. Substitution of Party Nominee

- No time limit is specified for candidate withdrawals
 - Potential exists for a candidate to withdraw and push statewide election to December or beyond
- SEC recommends that a time limit be placed on the time prior to an election when a candidate may resign for a legitimate nonpolitical reason

5. Municipal Elections

- Municipalities hold elections throughout the year
- SEC recommends holding municipal election in November of ODD calendar years

6. Partisan and Non-partisan Primaries

- School trustees for Kershaw County
- Non-partisan primary held on same day as partisan primaries (June)
- SEC recommends not holding a non-primary or moving non-partisan primary to another date

Potential Recommendations

- #9 – Notification from Court regarding Mental Incompetence
- #10 – Add yes/no box on voter registration application
- #11 – Orientation for county board of registration and election members

Questions

