

Session 125 - (2023-2024)

H 3734 General Bill, By B. Newton, Cobb-Hunter and Felder

Summary: Municipal elections

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-10, RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF MUNICIPAL PRIMARY, GENERAL, AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THAT ALL SUCH MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS BE CONDUCTED USING THE VOTING SYSTEM APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-40, RELATING TO TERMS OF OFFICE OF MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE TERMS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN COMMENCE THE MONDAY FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-50, RELATING TO ESTABLISHMENT OF MUNICIPAL WARD LINES AND TIME FOR MUNICIPAL GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, REQUIRE THAT MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTIONS BE HELD ON ONE OF CERTAIN ENUMERATED DATES, PROHIBIT THE TERMS OF INCUMBENT COUNCIL MEMBERS FROM BEING EXTENDED WHEN A NEW TIME FOR MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTIONS IS ESTABLISHED, AND REQUIRE MUNICIPAL SPECIAL ELECTIONS SCHEDULED TO OCCUR WITHIN CERTAIN TIME FRAMES OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD AT THE SAME TIME AS THE GENERAL ELECTION; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-100, RELATING TO FUNCTIONS, POWERS, AND DUTIES OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSIONS, SO AS TO EXTEND THE TIME FRAME BY WHICH A MUNICIPAL ELECTION COMMISSION MUST MEET AND DECLARE THE RESULTS FOLLOWING AN ELECTION; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-120, RELATING TO VOTE COUNTING IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, SO AS TO CHANGE THE TIME WHEN NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS MAY BE QUALIFIED AND THEIR TERMS COMMENCE TO THE MONDAY AFTER CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-145, RELATING TO TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONS, SO AS TO REQUIRE COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSIONS TO CONDUCT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES THAT ELECT TO TRANSFER AUTHORITY.

01/18/23 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 15)
01/18/23 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 15)
01/26/23 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Cobb-Hunter
04/19/23 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Felder
04/19/23 House Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (House Journal-page 24)
04/21/23 Scrivener's error corrected
04/26/23 House Amended (House Journal-page 31)
04/26/23 House Read second time (House Journal-page 31)
04/26/23 House Roll call Yeas-111 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 32)
04/27/23 House Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 7)
04/27/23 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 6)
04/27/23 Senate Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 6)
10/12/23 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Campsen (ch), Hutto, Malloy, Garrett, Kimbrell
05/01/24 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 6)
05/08/24 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal-page 98)
05/09/24 Senate Amended (Senate Journal-page 86)
05/09/24 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments (Senate Journal-page 86)
05/09/24 Senate Roll call Ayes-38 Nays-4 (Senate Journal-page 86)
06/10/24 Scrivener's error corrected