

SCS HB 1136 -- ELECTIONS

This bill changes the laws regarding elections. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Repeals the provision prohibiting a Missouri youth election participant who assists an election authority from being compensated or remunerated for the time served or costs incurred in the performance of his or her duties (Section 115.104, RSMo);
- (2) Repeals an obsolete provision regarding the issues that could be placed on the ballot in the August, 2003 election (Section 115.121);
- (3) Allows each election authority to have the voting records inspected. Currently, each authority must perform the inspection at least once each year (Section 115.221);
- (4) Updates the description of voting machines to specify the current use of electronic voting methods and repeals obsolete references to ballot cards, ballot sealing, ballot counting, and ballot marking practices (Sections 115.231, 115.251, 115.253, 115.257 - 115.273, 115.301, 115.417, 115.420, 115.443 - 115.489, and 115.503);
- (5) Updates the description of ballot styles and uses to accommodate current methods of electronic voting while retaining authorization for the use of separate paper ballots for presidential primaries and write-in votes and polling places in general (Sections 115.237 and 115.255);
- (6) Repeals the provision exempting specified cities, towns, and villages from the provisions in Chapter 115, including restrictions on a candidate running for office who has a tax arrearage, felony conviction, or has filed for more than one office (Section 115.305);
- (7) Adds municipal taxes to the types of taxes that cannot be delinquent in order for a person to be a qualified candidate for office. Currently, a candidate who does not pay his or her municipal taxes is barred from running for office under Section 115.346. This change makes these provisions consistent (Sections 115.342 and 115.346);
- (8) Changes the laws to accommodate the current use of electronic poll books (Section 115.431); and
- (9) Allows an election authority to use electronic voting machines within the restricted time period when an election contest is filed

and another election is to be held while the contest is being decided if the data in the machine is removed and secured (Section 115.495).