

HCS HB 1936 -- PRIMARY ELECTIONS

SPONSOR: Dugger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 9 to 2.

This bill removes the exemption and requires the cost of a primary election involving the state and one or more political subdivisions to be shared in the manner currently used for candidates and ballot measures under Section 115.065, RSMo.

The bill changes the primary election day from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in August to the first Tuesday after the third Monday in June.

The time period for filing a declaration of candidacy for a primary election will be from the second Tuesday in January to the first Tuesday in February.

The mandatory meeting date for a Congressional district committee is changed from the last Tuesday in August to the last Tuesday in June after each primary election, for a legislative district committee the date is changed from the third Wednesday after each August primary election to the third Wednesday after each June primary election, for a senatorial district committee the date is changed from the third Saturday after each August primary election to the third Saturday after each June primary election, and for a judicial district committee the date is changed from the first Tuesday in September after each primary election to the third Tuesday in July after each primary election.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help election authorities with scheduling and overtime salary costs and reduce election costs by allowing more time to prepare between elections.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dugger; Wendy Noreen; and Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that it could eliminate the Governor's option to hold a special election for a ballot measure if it is not passed early in a legislative session. An election would have to be held in November during the general election instead of in August.

Testifying for informational purposes was Office of the Secretary of State.