HB 665 -- CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS

SPONSOR: Baringer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elections and Elected Officials by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill requires a person who files as a candidate for election to a public office that performs county functions in St. Louis City to provide appropriate copies of paid tax receipts or no tax due statements. This bill authorizes election authorities in the City of St. Louis who discover noncompliance with tax payments during their candidate qualification screening under Section 115.306, RSMo, to file a complaint with the Department of Revenue if a delinquency is discovered and to not allow the candidate's name to be placed on a ballot within the city until any ethics complaint has been resolved.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 1932 (2020).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will ensure that both county and city offices within the City of St. Louis follow the same candidate qualification rules. Should help make elections uniform and intelligible to the general public.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Baringer.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill provided written testimony.

Testifying against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.