



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1604		DATE: 1/9/2024	
COMMITTEE: Elections and Elected Officials			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: AMY L. BUNTIN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: abuntin@fortosage.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/8/2024 11:52 AM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

My name is Amy Buntin. I am the Board of Education Secretary for the Fort Osage School District. I support HB 1604 Deadline for Filing Declarations of Candidacy and urge you to vote in favor of this bill. Requiring school district employees, or other municipality employees, to return to work for one day to collect a candidacy filing is costly, risky, and serves no purpose in providing improved access to those wishing to seek election. - In particular, school districts are always closed on the seventeenth Tuesday before the election. There are additional costs associated with opening the District office for that day.- Since Districts are closed for winter break, this leaves one associate to open the office alone. This offers some risk and poses safety concerns. This seems especially significant since it is dark by the 5:00 p.m. closing time.- The closing date for the election held in April could be moved to January (as it was in the past) without any impact on the elections. Please give serious consideration to the financial impacts and safety of school district (and other municipality) employees by voting in favor of HB 1604 to reinstate January as the election's close deadline. Thank you for your consideration.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCAT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 11:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in full Support of this Bill with Several Amendments. Please review my full video of my On The Record Testimony before the House Elections Committees on January 9th, 2024.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: BRANDT SHIELDS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-638-7501
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 2105 I-70 DRIVE SOUTHWEST		
CITY: COLUMBIA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65203
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS ROEPE		PHONE NUMBER: 816-294-0497	
REPRESENTING: MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY CLERKS AND ELECTION AUTHORITIES		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 205 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MELISSA J. BURTON		PHONE NUMBER: 314-428-4321	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI CITY CLERKS AND FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION; CITY OF OVERLAND		TITLE: CITY CLERK - IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT, MOCCFOA	
ADDRESS: 9119 LACKLAND ROAD			
CITY: OVERLAND		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63114
EMAIL: mburton@overlandmo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/8/2024 4:28 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

HB 1604 is a necessary amendment to the Section 115.127.5. As currently written all municipalities are required to be open on the final day of candidate filing, even if the date is on a holiday. To be in compliance with this statute, some City Clerks were required to work in their City offices alone on Tuesday, December 26, 2023, for the last day of candidate filing, even though the date was a holiday observed by the municipality. If left unchanged, in future years, the close of candidate filing will fall on Christmas day.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: NANCY COPENHAVER		PHONE NUMBER: 660-263-5725	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI		TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT, LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MISSOURI	
ADDRESS: 1512 RIDGELINE DRIVE			
CITY: MOBERLY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65270
EMAIL: copenhaver22@sbcglobal.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 2:34 PM	

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LWVMO supports HB 1604 moving the filing date for some political subdivisions to avoid problems which have occurred in recent years. When school board candidates have to file candidacy at the school district office, often the end of filing has fallen on a date when the school was closed for break in December. this bill should help fix that problem although inclement weather could still be a problem. Extending the filing period even more might alleviate this problem.



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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: NIKKI STRONG		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-4876
REPRESENTING: CITY OF ST. PETERS		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 213 EAST CAPITOL AVENUE		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65101
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME		
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:		
WITNESS NAME: PAT KELLY		PHONE NUMBER: 314-252-1800
REPRESENTING: MUNICIPAL LEAGUE METRO ST. LOUIS		TITLE:
ADDRESS: 11911 DORSETT ROAD		
CITY: MARYLAND HEIGHTS		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 63043
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD SHEETS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-635-9134	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: 1727 SOUTHRIDGE DR			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rsheets@mocities.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/8/2024 3:13 PM	

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HB 1604 will resolve the problem of closing municipal filing date falling on the Christmas holiday.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SPENCER OWENS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: owensoffice55@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/8/2024 11:55 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Spencer Owens and I'm the City Clerk for Shrewsbury, MO. This statement is mine alone and does not reflect any opinion either way by the City of Shrewsbury. I am in full support of this language as it would help push the filing deadline for elections away from major holidays such as Christmas and New Years and allow local government officials more flexibility for time off and time with family at this time of year. It would also give the election officials more time to plan for the upcoming elections before certifying candidates.



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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ZACH POLLOCK		PHONE NUMBER: 573-645-3210	
REPRESENTING: CITY OF LEE's SUMMIT		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 1030 WESTWOOD DRIVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 1/9/2024 12:00 AM	
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