

HB 2605 -- ELECTIONS

SPONSOR: McGaugh

This bill provides that, in the case of a bond election, if an election contest is not filed within 30 days after the official announcement of the election result, all conditions of state election law shall be deemed to have been complied with in the issuance of the bond.

The bill repeals various requirements specific to notices of special elections called to fill a vacancy.

Currently, notices of election must be published in two newspapers of different political faith that meet certain legal requirements. This bill requires notices to be published in only one newspaper with no consideration of the paper's political faith.

Currently, notices of election must be published by papers that are published within the bounds of the area holding the election. This bill requires the notices to be published by papers that are circulated in the jurisdiction of the election authority.

If there is no newspaper circulated in the jurisdiction of the election authority, the notice must be published in a newspaper reasonably expected to inform the area holding the election.

Currently, the first notice of election must be published within two weeks of the election, and the second must be published within one week of the election. This bill requires both notices to be published within six weeks prior to the election.

Currently, jurisdictions with populations under a certain size and in which no newspaper meeting the legal requirements is published are permitted to send legal notice to voters via mail instead of publishing the notice in a newspaper. This bill allows any election authority the option to mail legal notice rather than publishing the notice in a newspaper. The mailing must occur within six weeks prior to the election. The election authority is permitted to exclude from the mailing any voter designated as inactive.