

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB449

Chairperson: Senator Bill Avery

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Date of Hearing: February 16, 2011

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 449 makes numerous technical changes to the Election Act.

Sections 1 & 2 permit Election Commissioners to seek public office in the same manner as County Clerks.

Section 3 makes training available, removes a notification deadline and requires deputy registrars to complete at least one training session every three years.

Section 4 adds an applicant's email address to voter registration forms.

Sections 5 & 6 make December 15 before the primary election the earliest a candidate can file for office.

Section 7 prevents members of a political party from by-passing their party's partisan primary in order to run for partisan office as a by-petition candidate.

Section 8 adds Class V school districts to the list of offices which do not require names to be listed on the primary ballot if all candidates automatically advance to the General Election.

Section 9 increases the maximum amount of voters living in a precinct from one thousand to three thousand.

Sections 10 & 11 makes the list of registered voters and the register open for public inspection at the polling place.

Section 12 makes technical changes to absentee ballot request forms.

Section 13 clarifies when the record of early voters and request forms are open for public inspection.

Section 14 adds the learning community coordinating council to the list of offices which must pay the cost of nominating and electing its officers.

Section 15 requires the principal circulator of a recall petition to collect the petition forms from the Election Commissioner or Clerk within 20 days after receipt of the official's defense statement.

Section 16 increases the time a political subdivision must hold a recall election from 45 days to 75 days after notification of the official to be recalled that an election must be held.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John Nelson