

Tracked Election/Political Bills

SB38/HB16 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Fundraising for general assembly members during recess in even-numbered years.

Sponsors: Sen. Southerland, Steve , Rep. Goins, Tilman
Summary: Authorizes members of the general assembly and political campaign committees to fundraise during a recess in even-numbered years if the general assembly recesses before May 15 for a period of not less than 10 calendar days, Sundays excepted.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 23, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 01/30/17, H: 01/10/17
Senate Status: 02/01/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Committee 02/28/17.

SB47/HB57 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Rearranging the political primary ballot for elections.

Sponsors: Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Zachary, Jason
Summary: Reorders the presidential primary ballots to increase the number of vertical columns for each respective party's primary election on the ballot from two to three and allow for candidates for state and municipal offices to immediately follow the names of the presidential candidates.
Amendment Summary: House Local Government Committee amendment 1, Senate amendment 1 (002511) adds language to the original bill to require the names of candidates for county offices to appear between the names of candidates for state and municipal offices on Presidential Preference Primary ballots.
Fiscal Note: (Dated January 16, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 01/30/17, H: 01/30/17
Senate Status: 02/06/17 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (002511).
House Status: 02/24/17 - Set for House Floor 02/27/17.

SB135/HB98 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Nonpartisan elections for state trial court judges in Shelby and Davidson counties.

Sponsors: Sen. Dickerson, Steven , Rep. Lamberth, William
Summary: Requires Shelby and Davidson counties to conduct nonpartisan elections for all state trial court judgeships, county judicial offices, and judicial clerk offices.
Amendment Summary: House Local Government Subcommittee amendment 1 (003562) removes the last sentence of Section 1, which states that the incumbent officeholder shall be listed first on the election ballot provided that the incumbent has qualified for reelection.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 5, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 01/30/17, H: 01/30/17
Senate Status: 02/21/17 - Senate State & Local Government Committee deferred to 03/07/17.
House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Committee 02/28/17.

SB227 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Precinct or supplemental registration publication requirements for county commissions.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae ,
Summary: Removes publication requirements for precinct or supplemental registrations for county commissions.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 15, 2017) Decrease Local Expenditures - \$400
Intro Dates: S: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/02/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

SB228/HB264 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Appointment of election officials by county election commissions.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Lynn, Susan
Summary: Expands the time period, from 10-60 days to 10-90 days, in which the county election commission must appoint election officials before an election. Permits election officials to direct their compensation to a charitable organization, as long as said organization is not religiously or politically affiliated.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 11, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/01/17, H: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 02/28/17.
House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB286/HB162 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Voting by absentee ballot.

Sponsors: Sen. Lundberg, Jon , Rep. Crawford, John
Summary: Allows an absentee ballot to be sent to an address within a county, regardless of whether the voter requesting the absentee ballot possesses a commercial driver license or a valid transportation worker identification credential.
Intro Dates: S: 02/02/17, H: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/06/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/03/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB320/HB1074 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: General assembly legislative software for public use.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Jones, Sherry
Summary: Authorizes the public to access the same legislative dashboard as the members of the general assembly. Requires the office of legislative information systems to ensure that the information provided on the dashboard does not violate attorney-client privilege

laws.

Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 02/28/17.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB322/HB1186 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Voting records of the general assembly.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Powell, Jason
Summary: Requires that the joint legislative services committee publish the voting records of each member of the general assembly to the official state website. Specifies that a member's voting record includes all bills voted upon in their respective house, as well as the bill number, subject matter of the bill, the member's vote, and the total floor vote. Requires that the member's voting record remain on the state website until the end of the subsequent two year general assembly at the minimum.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 2, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 02/28/17.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB327/HB275 GOVERNMENT REGULATION: Disclosure of travel expenses by the General Assembly.

Sponsors: Sen. Overbey, Doug , Rep. McCormick, Gerald
Summary: Requires members of the General Assembly who have their travel expenses paid for by politically interested persons to disclose the amount and source of the reimbursement.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 5, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/17/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB342/HB867 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Order of candidates on all ballots.

Sponsors: Sen. Niceley, Frank , Rep. Holsclaw, Jr., John
Summary: Requires candidates to be listed in alphabetical order in a presidential election year and the following year and in reverse alphabetical order in a gubernatorial election year and the following year on all ballots. Broadly captioned.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 15, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB344/HB1300 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Changes to the nomination process for candidates for United States senator.

Sponsors: Sen. Niceley, Frank , Rep. Lynn, Susan
Summary: Removes the power to nominate a candidate for United States senator from statewide political parties. Requires the house of representatives and senate members of the majority party to nominate a person to run as that party's candidate by joint caucus in an open meeting. Also requires the house of representatives and senate members of the minority party to nominate a person to run as that party's candidate by joint caucus in an open meeting. Prohibits any person nominated at the joint caucus who does not win the nomination as candidate for the majority or minority party from qualifying as an independent or write-in candidate in the general election for United States senator. Allows a recognized minor party to nominate persons for the United States senate by any rules of the party or by primary election.

Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB352/HB181 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Deletes requirement to publish a newspaper notice of location and time for supplemental voter registration.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Lynn, Susan
Summary: Deletes the requirement that a county election commission publish in a newspaper of general circulation a notice of the time and place of a supplemental voter registration, at least three days before the supplemental voter registration, and with notice that transfers of registration can be conducted at the supplemental voter registration.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 12, 2017) Decrease Local Expenditures - \$400
Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Taken off notice in House Local Government Subcommittee

SB377/HB704 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Investment of campaign funds.

Sponsors: Sen. Overbey, Doug , Rep. McCormick, Gerald
Summary: Requires that all campaign funds be deposited into an FDIC or national credit union administration insured financial institution. Also requires any interest, dividends or income earned by such investment to be reported on the candidate's or political campaign committee's financial disclosure report. Prohibits non-authorized investments. Allows the registry of election finance to impose a civil penalty for a violation of not more than \$10,000 or 115 percent of the amount invested in violation, whichever is greater.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 13, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/24/17 - Set for Senate Floor 02/27/17.

House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB403/HB609 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Churches and religious organizations exempt from campaign finance disclosures.

Sponsors: Sen. Gresham, Dolores , Rep. Gant, Ron

Summary: Exempts churches and other religious organizations from campaign finance disclosures when expending funds in favor of or in opposition to single or multiple issue measures related to public or private morality, including, but not limited to, alcohol, drugs, abortion, marriage, or gambling.

Intro Dates: S: 02/06/17, H: 02/08/17

Senate Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB422/HB423 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Allows any registered Tennessee voter to vote absentee for any reason.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Clemmons, John

Summary: Permits any registered Tennessee voter to vote absentee for any reason after providing a certification as to the identity of the voter in the application for a ballot. Requires an absentee ballot to be counted for the election in which the ballot is cast. Removes provision that the commission may not recount any paper ballots, including absentee ballots.

Intro Dates: H: 02/06/17

Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/08/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB512/HB625 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Political advertisement that implies a candidate is an incumbent.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed , Rep. Shaw, Johnny

Summary: Prohibits a political advertisement from implying a non-incumbent candidate is an incumbent. Requires a political advertisement to include the number or letter of the district, ward, or seat for which the candidate is running, if applicable.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 23, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB516/HB784 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Vacancy in the office of US senator.

Sponsors: Sen. Kelsey, Brian , Rep. Littleton, Mary

Summary: Changes appointing authority for the office of United States senator until a successor can be elected in the next regular November election from the governor to the general assembly. Requires the governor to call the general assembly into a joint special session if the vacancy occurs and the general assembly is not in regular annual session. Requires the successor appointed to be a member of the same political party as the predecessor. Allows the general assembly to nominate candidates to fill the vacancy. Requires nominees to meet the constitutional qualifications to serve as a United States senator. Specifies the general assembly's procedure for voting for the candidates.

Intro Dates: H: 02/09/17

Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB517/HB1040 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Revises provisions governing the use of mobile electronic and communication devices at polling places.

Sponsors: Sen. Kelsey, Brian , Rep. Camper, Karen

Summary: Allows a county commission or its duly appointed election official to prohibit a voter from using a mobile electronic or communication device at a polling place if the voter is using the device to photograph a ballot, threatening the use of force or violence to compel a person's vote, or intending to disrupt others.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 16, 2017) Increase State Expenditures - \$800/One-Time

Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 02/28/17.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB588/HB1182 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Filing of tax returns by candidate for president of the United States.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Powell, Jason

Summary: Prohibits all county election commissions from printing the names of primary or general election candidates for the presidency of the United States who have not filed their tax returns with the secretary of state for the past five years. Requires the secretary of state to notify each candidate that they must file their tax returns for the preceding five years in order to be placed on the primary or general election ballot.

Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB592/HB787 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Automatic voter registration.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Stewart, Mike

Summary: Establishes automatic registration of a person to vote when a person applies for a motor vehicle driver license or photo identification license. Deletes the requirement that the voter registration section of an application must include a box or device to permit an applicant to decline to register to vote. Requires a person to notify the county election commission office if they wish to decline to register to vote within twenty-one days of the commission receiving the application from the motor vehicle office.

Intro Dates: Grants the secretary of state the ability to promulgate rules to effectuate automatic registration.
H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/09/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB616/HB672 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Changes to verification programs implemented by a county election commissions.

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Carr, Dale
Summary: Specifies various indications for when a voter changes address of residence without notifying the county election commission. Clarifies that any online voter registrations must be submitted on or before July 1, 2017.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB645/HB686 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Fines for voter fraud.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. VanHuss, James
Summary: Requires the court to impose an additional \$5,000 fine for a conviction for voter fraud. Provides a \$5,000 reward for information leading to a conviction for voter fraud.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 16, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB672/HB1053 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Prohibits using public buildings or facilities for campaign activities for all popularly elected officials.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Matlock, Jimmy
Summary: Does not exclude public officers and employees from provision of unlawful use of public buildings for campaign activity for a single candidate, party, or measure.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB770/HB662 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Minor party recognition requirements.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Hulseby, Bud
Summary: Deletes provision requiring the minimum number of signatures on a petition to be equal to at least two and one-half percent of the total number of votes cast for gubernatorial candidates in the most recent election of governor for purposes of qualifying as a recognized minor party. Requires a petition to bear the signatures of five thousand registered voters for purposes of qualifying as a recognized minor party. Changes the number of votes that a political party must receive for purposes of qualifying as a statewide political party from five percent of the total number of votes cast for gubernatorial candidates in the most recent election of governor to one and a half percent of the total number of votes cast for gubernatorial candidates in the most recent election of governor.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB772/HB887 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Political party affiliation in primary elections.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae , Rep. Pody, Mark
Summary: Requires a person to declare a statewide political party affiliation before voting in a primary election.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB815/HB394 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Restrictions on lobbying by state employees.

Sponsors: Sen. Green, Mark , Rep. Sexton, Cameron
Summary: Prohibits state employees from lobbying for 12 months following departure from office or employment.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 14, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/06/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/22/17 - House State Government Subcommittee deferred to 03/08/17.

SB832/HB845 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Tennessee Congressional Redistricting Commission Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Fitzhugh, Craig
Summary: Establishes a five-member congressional redistricting commission beginning in January 2021. Specifies the five appointed members. Outlines commission eligibility. Allows the commission to employ consultants as necessary to carry out its duties. Allows all records and information in possession of the commission to be open to the public. Requires the commission to develop a redistricting plan for the state. Establishes criteria for redistricting plan. Requires the commission to submit the plan to the general assembly no later than September 30, 2021. Requires the plan to be drafted as legislation to be introduced in the general assembly. Allows the commission to submit redistricting plans to the Tennessee supreme court if not enacted into law by November 1, 2021. (10 pp.)

~~Senate Status:~~ 02/23/17 - Referred to Senate Government Operations Committee.
~~House Status:~~ 02/14/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB840/HB1117 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Disabled veterans voting absentee.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Miller, Larry
Summary: Allows disabled veterans to vote absentee. Clarifies definition of disabled veteran.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/21/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Veterans Affairs Subcommittee.
House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB877/HB1314 EDUCATION: Providing students information on how to vote.

Sponsors: Sen. Harris, Lee , Rep. Turner, Johnnie
Summary: Beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, requires public and private schools to provide students in grade 12 information on how to vote. Specifies that such information should include how to register to vote, how to vote in an election using a ballot, and how to vote using an absentee ballot. Allows schools to provide this information through activities, written materials, internet resources, mock elections, and any other method chosen by the principal after consultation with teachers.
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Education Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Education Instruction and Programs Subcommittee.

SB925/HB671 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Members of a board of public utilities to serve as a member of a county election commission.

Sponsors: Sen. Ketron, Bill , Rep. Carr, Dale
Summary: Authorizes members of a board of public utilities to serve as a member of a county election commission; prescribes the process for certifying new voting systems for use in this state.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1017/HB1007 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Lobbyist gifts to candidates or officials.

Sponsors: Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. Holt, Andy
Summary: Removes the restriction that lobbyist gifts to candidates or officials be made for a non-business purpose if such gifts are based on a close personal friendship and authorized by the ethics commission.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB1025/HB953 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Early voting.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Fitzhugh, Craig
Summary: Requires the state election commission to promulgate rules prescribing a procedure by which a qualified person may register to vote and vote on the same day during the first week of early voting in any election for which there is early voting.
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1026/HB954 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Registering to vote on the day of an election.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Fitzhugh, Craig
Summary: Authorizes a person to register to vote on the day of the election, including any days of early voting. Requires county election commissions to make voter registration application forms available at all polling places. Allows any person who is already registered to vote to update any information on the day of election or on any day of early voting on a form prescribed by the state election commission. Declares that anyone who registers to vote on the day of of the election or any days of early voting must be permitted to vote a regular ballot. Requires the state election commission to promulgate rules for such purposes.
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1027/HB1310 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Voter Protection Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Turner, Johnnie
Summary: Requires county election commissions to post a voter's bill of rights at every voting place, which establishes that every registered voter has the right to: inspect sample ballots before voting, cast a ballot if in line when the polls are closing, receive language assistance, ask for a new ballot if a mistake is made, cast a provisional ballot, vote free from intimidation, and to cast a ballot using modern voting equipment that accurately counts all votes.
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1035/HB1183 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Elections for judicial and county constitutional offices to be nonpartisan.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Powell, Jason

Summary: Requires elections for judicial and county constitutional offices to be nonpartisan. Deletes provisions concerning primary elections for judicial and county constitutional offices. Requires run off election if no candidate receives a majority of votes cast for the office.

Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1047/HB944 GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: List of all state contracts and grants.

Sponsors: Sen. Bowling, Janice , Rep. Goins, Tilman

Summary: Requires the chief procurement officer to provide the comptroller of the treasury a list of all state contracts, grants, and the cost of each that are in effect when the list is provided. Requires the comptroller to make the list available on the comptroller's website. allows chief procurement officer to charge administrative fee for creating and maintaining the list.

Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 02/09/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - House sponsor changed from Moody to Goins.

SB1121/HB79 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Eligible identification for voting.

Sponsors: Sen. Kyle, Sara , Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

Summary: Permits the use of a photo identification card issued by the State of Tennessee, the United States, or an accredited postsecondary institution of education in Tennessee for purposes of verifying the identity of an eligible voter.

Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17, H: 01/30/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/01/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1265/HB550 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Political campaign committees definition.

Sponsors: Sen. Norris, Mark , Rep. Wirgau, Tim

Summary: Redefines a political campaign committee to include any group of persons receiving contributions or makes expenditures in a calendar year exceeding \$1,000.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 21, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1289 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Restoration of Voting Rights Act.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff ,

Summary: Enacts the "Restoration of Voting Rights Act". Allows a person who has been convicted of a felony and confined to a federal or state correctional institution in the United States to be restored the right to vote in a federal, state, county, or municipal election when that person has been discharged from confinement. Requires that when a person is restored the right to vote, the department of correction must provide that person with a voter registration form, assistance in filling out the form, and a document certifying the person is eligible to vote, and the department must deliver completed voter registration forms to the coordinator of elections. Requires the department on or before the fifteenth day of each month, to transmit to the coordinator of elections a list of persons convicted of a felony who, during the preceding period, have become ineligible to vote; and a list of persons convicted of a felony who, during the preceding period, have become eligible to vote. Adds language to state that before accepting a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a felony, and before imposing a felony sentence after trial, the court shall notify the defendant that conviction will result in loss of the right to vote as long as the person is confined and that voting rights are restored upon discharge. Requires the secretary of state to ensure that the statewide voter registration database is purged of the names of persons who are ineligible to vote because of a felony conviction and to likewise ensure that the names of persons who are eligible and registered to vote following restoration of voting rights are added to the statewide voter registration database in the same manner as all other names are added to that database. Allows pre-trial detainees who are eligible to register and vote to be given the opportunity and assistance to do so, including assistance in securing and casting absentee ballots. Deletes language forbidding a person convicted of first degree murder, aggravated rape, treason, or voter fraud from never being eligible to vote in Tennessee.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB1290/HB1354 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Voter registration through the department of safety.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Mitchell, Bo

Summary: Permits a person at least 15 years old but not more than 18 years old to be registered to vote upon turning 18 years old through the submission of an application for a driver's permit, driver license, or photo identification license with the department of safety.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1296/HB429 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Mobile electronic or communication devices at polling places.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbrow, Jeff , Rep. Hardaway, G.A.

Summary: Deletes language and adds that any voter using a mobile electronic or communication device shall be permitted to use the device for recording or taking photographs or videos of the voter's marked ballot; provided, that the voter does not show another voter's ballot. Authorizes poll watchers and election officials to prohibit any disruptive activity that threatens the voting process or the privacy of a voter.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2017) Increase State Expenditures – \$800/One-Time

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/06/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB1298/HB857 CRIMINAL LAW: Issuance of a certificate of voting rights restoration.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Miller, Larry

Summary: Requires an issuance of a certificate of voting rights restoration to a person who was convicted of an infamous crime and received a pardon, was discharged from custody after serving or expiration of the maximum sentence imposed for the crime, or was granted a certificate of final discharge from supervision by the board of parole or county correction authority. Requires the person to have paid all restitution to any victim and all court costs prior to receiving a certificate of voting rights restoration.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/09/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Status: 02/17/17 - Referred to House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

SB1333/HB1232 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Campaign signs on private property.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff , Rep. Beck, Bill

Summary: Prohibits HOA's from prohibiting the display of political or campaign posters or signs placed on private property that are not larger than 18 inches in height by 24 inches in width beginning 60 days before any election until the day after the election.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 16, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17

Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 02/28/17.

House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Committee 02/28/17.

SB1373/HB1363 GOVERNMENT REGULATION: Travel by members of the general assembly.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Mitchell, Bo

Summary: Adds language to require that no state funds be expended for member registration fees to, or for travel to or from, any conference, symposium, or workshop. Requires each member of the general assembly to disclose travel expenses received from an established and recognized organization of elected or appointed state government officials, staff of state government officials or both officials and staff, within ten (10) business days of returning for a trip for which travel expenses were received. Clarifies that "travel expenses" means any cost associated with a trip, including, but not limited to, transportation, food, lodging, entertainment, recreational activities, or conference fees and materials. Requires the office of legislative administration to develop a disclosure form and to receive such completed forms from members of the general assembly.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB1376/HB1123 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Disclosure of gifts from non-lobbyists or non-employers of lobbyists.

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Hulse, Bud

Summary: Prohibits a candidate for public office, an official in the legislative branch, or an official in the executive branch from soliciting gifts. Requires a candidate for public office, an official in the legislative branch, or an official in the executive branch that accepts a gift, within seven (7) days following the receipt of the gift, the candidate or public official must electronically; report the name of the official, nature and purpose of the event, name, address, and business of the person or entity that provided the gift, description of the gift, and the cost of the gift to the ethics commission. Provides exemptions to items that do not need to be disclosed to the ethics commission in 3-6-401(2)(b) of the bill.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1379/HB184 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Obtaining a photo identification license for voting purposes.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Favors, JoAnne

Summary: Adds language to allow any person who is 65 years of age or older, who has never been issued a birth certificate, to be issued a photo identification license for voting purposes by providing a social security card, Medicare card, health insurance card, or other satisfactory document substantiating the person's identity.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/01/17

Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/23/17 - Set for House Local Government Subcommittee 02/28/17.

SB1380/HB183 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: No Representation Without Population Act of 2017.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Favors, JoAnne

Summary: For purposes of legislative redistricting, specifies that after April 1, 2020 the population count used after each decennial census may not include individuals who were incarcerated in state or federal correctional facilities who were not residents of the state prior to their incarceration. Requires the count to include individuals who are incarcerated in state or federal correctional facilities and are residents of the state. Requires the office of legislative information systems, in consultation with the office of legal services and the department of correction, to adjust the actual decennial census population count in accordance with this act.

Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17, H: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/03/17 - Referred to House State Government Subcommittee.

SB1400/HB1341 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Publishing false campaign literature.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Camper, Karen
Summary: Amends language to make it a Class A misdemeanor for any person to publish or distribute any campaign literature in opposition to any candidate in any election if a person knows that a statement, charge, allegation, or other matter contained therein with respect to a candidate is false.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 21, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SB1401/HB1343 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Requests for voter registration lists.

Sponsors: Sen. Tate, Reginald , Rep. Camper, Karen
Summary: Amends language to allow the county election commission in Shelby and Davidson county to make voter registration lists available for purchase by any interested citizen upon request and payment. Requires the county election commission to act upon the request within seven (7) business days of receipt of the request, and if there are reasons for rejection or modification, it must be in writing, through electronic mail, or facsimile transmission.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 22, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/13/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.
House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

SJR57 JUDICIARY: Constitutional amendment - popular election of attorney general.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae ,
Summary: Proposes amendment of Article VI, Section 5 to provide for popular election of the attorney general and reporter for a regular term of six years.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 14, 2017) Increase State Expenditures – \$9,100/One-Time
Intro Dates: S: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate Judiciary Committee Regular Calendar 02/28/17.

SJR59 TRANSPORTATION GENERAL: Federal transportation funding to the states.

Sponsors: Sen. Beavers, Mae ,
Summary: Urges President Donald J. Trump and Congress to distribute federal transportation funding to the states by block grant.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 1, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/01/17
Senate Status: 02/16/17 - Senate adopted.

SJR88 JUDICIARY: Constitutional amendment - appointment of attorney general.

Sponsors: Sen. Yager, Ken ,
Summary: Proposes amendment to Article VI, Section 5 to provide for appointment of an attorney general and reporter for the state by joint vote of the general assembly.
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/23/17 - Set for Senate Judiciary Committee Regular Calendar 02/28/17.

SJR92 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Constitutional convention - term limits for congress.

Sponsors: Sen. Jackson, Ed ,
Summary: Makes application to Congress for the purpose of calling a constitutional convention for proposing a congressional term limit amendment.
Fiscal Note: (Dated February 13, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

SJR110 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Constitutional amendment - independent redistricting commission for senatorial and representative districts.

Sponsors: Sen. Yarbro, Jeff ,
Summary: Proposes amendment of Article II, Section 4 to establish an independent redistricting commission for senatorial and representative districts.
Intro Dates: S: 02/09/17
Senate Status: 02/13/17 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

HB130 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Social security number on voter registration forms.

Sponsors: Rep. Thompson , Dwayne
Summary: Changes voter registration form to require the last four digits of the registrant's social security number instead of entire social security number.
Intro Dates: H: 02/01/17
House Status: 02/03/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

HB587 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Tennessee Freedom of Political Speech Act.

Sponsors: Rep. Rudd, Tim

Summary: Enacts the "Tennessee Freedom of Political Speech Act" which prohibits during the period beginning sixty (60) days before a general election until the day after the next subsequent general election, any government entity from regulating the size, shape, content, or quantity of political or campaign posters or signs placed on private property that is located more than one hundred feet (100') from a polling place if the signs or posters are placed on the property by the owner. A homeowners' association cannot prohibit the display of political or campaign posters or signs placed on private property by the owner of the property, but allows a homeowners' association to adopt reasonable rules with respect to the placement of political or campaign posters or signs placed on common or other areas maintained by the homeowners' association.

Fiscal Note: (Dated February 21, 2017) NOT SIGNIFICANT

House Status: 02/09/17 - Withdrawn in House.

HB638 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Instant runoff voting.

Sponsors: Rep. White, Mark

Summary: Adds new language defining "instant runoff voting" to mean a method of voting that allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference conducted in a series of rounds. In each round, each ballot counts as a single vote for whichever non eliminated candidate is ranked highest. After each round, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, with the votes for that candidate redistributed to the remaining non-eliminated candidates based on the order of preferences indicated on each of the affected ballots. Prohibits a county or municipality from using instant runoff voting for the purpose of conducting any primary, general, or special election.

Intro Dates: H: 02/09/17

House Status: 02/14/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.

HB1313 CAMPAIGNS & LOBBYING: Exceptions to photo identification at polling places.

Sponsors: Rep. Turner, Johnnie

Summary: Allows a person sixty years of age or older who has a valid non-photo ID issued by Tennessee on or before January 1, 2013 to vote without presenting a photo ID at polling places. Adds a valid non-photo ID issued by Tennessee on or before January 1, 2013, to persons sixty years of age or older as evidence of identification for voting purposes.

House Status: 02/15/17 - Referred to House Local Government Subcommittee.