

SB 224 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Prepared By: Josh Nasbe, Counsel

Meeting Dates: 2/11

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Modifies method of determining major political party status and minor political party status. Requires disclosure of certain contributions and expenditures made in support of, or opposition to, initiative, referendum or recall petition. Alters method of nominating certain candidates and method of filling vacancy in state and federal legislative offices, in certain circumstances. Allows major political party to adopt rule authorizing nomination of candidate who is not member of party. Eliminates obligation of county clerk to classify elector as inactive when elector neither votes nor updates registration for five-year period. Modifies process by which major and minor political parties obtain certain lists of electors. Requires Secretary of State to reimburse county clerk for expense associated with statewide special election held on date other than primary or general election. Requires production and circulation of local recall petitions to conform to requirements applicable to state petitions. Eliminates liability of treasurer for certain petition-related violations. Repeals statute prohibiting appropriation of party name in whole or part. Eliminates prohibition on electioneering within 100 feet of certain buildings and obligation of major political parties to elect precinct committee persons of specified gender. Classifies community college districts and 911 communication districts as special districts for purposes of election laws. Modifies timing associated with certain hearings, obligation to randomize names on ballot and mechanism by which military and overseas voters may request ballot.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In many legislative sessions, the Secretary of State brings forward an omnibus election-related bill. Historically, the purpose of these bill has ranged from resolving statutory contradictions and aligning statutory time periods to clarifying legislative intent and repealing outdated statutes. Senate Bill 224 is the Secretary's omnibus election-related bill for the 2019 session.