SB 580 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 4/2, 4/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires a nominating petition, a declaration of candidacy or withdrawal, a certificate of nomination, or other document related to elections that are required to be filed, to be made publicly available on a county or city website, within two business days of those documents being filed.

Fiscal impact: The measure may have a fiscal impact, but a statement has not yet been issued. Revenue impact: The measure may have a revenue impact, but a statement has not yet been issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 The amendment establishes posting deadlines for certain information, and documents related to elections, that are required to be filed, and establishes that if the information is not posted, then it may be available, upon request.

Detailed Summary

Posting deadlines

- The candidate's name and office must be posted not more than five business days after a declaration of candidacy is filed
- The declaration of candidacy must be posted no more than two business days after a candidate is determined to be eligible to be a candidate, and does not apply to candidates for precinct committeepersons.
- A withdrawal must be posted no more than two business days after it is filed

Public records requests

- Information must be available within five business days of the request
- A county or city may charge a fee for physical copies
- A county or city may not charge a fee for digital copies or inspection at the county or city office

Fiscal impact: Minimal impact Revenue impact: No impact

BACKGROUND:

Nominating petitions, Declarations of Candidacy

Either a nominating petition, or declaration of candidacy, is required to be filed for an eligible elector who wants to become a candidate for public office for a major political party. These documents contain the candidate's name, residence address, the position they are seeking nomination for, certain statements, and their signature. They must be filed no sooner than the 250th day, and not later than the 70th day, before the nominating election. When filed, they are dated and time stamped by the filing officer.

<u>House Bill 3073 A (2023)</u> limited the public accessibility of a candidate's residence address listed on a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy on publicly available versions of these documents.

Certificate of nomination

A certificate of nomination is the document for being nominated by an entity other than a major political party, such as a minor political party, an assembly of electors, or an individual elector. The information collected is the

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same as that for nominating petitions and declarations of candidacy.

Declarations of Withdrawal

Any individual who filed a nominating petition or a declaration of candidacy may withdraw, no later than the 67th day before the election, by filing a declaration of withdrawal with the filing officer that accepted the nominating petition or declaration of candidacy.

