

HB 2945 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. McLane

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 04/20/17

Action: Do Pass.

Vote: 9-0-0-0

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Hack, Holvey, Kennemer, McLane, Nosse, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Williamson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires statewide incumbent who files for reelection to same office, to submit nominating petition or declaration of candidacy not later than 77 days before primary election. If incumbent files for reelection and then withdraws, other candidates may file for office not later than 70 days before date of primary or three business days after date of incumbent's withdrawal, whichever is later. Extends deadline to file voters' pamphlet portrait and statement to match candidacy deadline.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Instances when incumbent files for reelection, then withdraws, at or just after filing deadline
- Effect of incumbent filing or not filing for reelection on other candidates' filing decisions
- How much to extend filing deadline for new candidates when incumbent withdraws
- Possible amendment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The timeline for filing a petition or declaration to run for elected office in Oregon is set in statute: a nominating petition or declaration of candidacy must be submitted no sooner than the 250th day and not later than the 70th day before a primary election. A candidate may withdraw within three days of the end of the filing period (by the 67th day before the primary election).

House Bill 2945 requires an incumbent state office holder to file for reelection no later than the 77th day, rather than the 70th day, before a primary election. In addition, if an incumbent withdraws during the withdrawal period but after the filing period has ended, another candidate has three business days from date of the incumbent's withdrawal, to file for that office.