

**HB 2234 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Josh Nasbe, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 2/18

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Directs Secretary of State to create centralized candidate filing system for counties, cities and districts that choose to allow candidates to use system. Maintains responsibility of local filing officer to determine if candidate is qualified. Requires filing officer to collect filing fees at time of determination.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Current law requires that candidate filings be made with the Secretary of State, county clerk or city elections officer, depending on the class of office for which the candidate is filing. House Bill 2234 directs the Secretary of State to establish a centralized candidate filing system. Local jurisdictions who choose to participate in the centralized system must inform the Secretary of that decision at least 90 days before the candidate filing period begins. Candidates in those local jurisdictions would then be allowed to utilize the system. The bill retains the obligation of the local filing officer to determine whether candidates are qualified for the office and to collect the associated filing fees. House Bill 2234 takes effect on January 1, 2020 and applies to candidate filings made on or after September 1, 2021, unless the Secretary establishes earlier operative date by rule.