

HB 2491 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

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Meeting Dates: 2/27, 3/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Establishes process for person to nominate another person for precinct committeeperson. Replaces "county clerk" with "county elections official" in statutes relating to precinct committeepersons. Eliminates statutory, gender-based requirement applicable to precinct committeepersons.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Establishes process for person to declare write-in candidacy for precinct committeeperson. Requires write-in candidates to have declared candidacy, or have candidacy declared on their behalf, no later than 8 p.m. on date of primary election. Requires person who files declaration of candidacy for precinct committeeperson to be member of major political party at least 180 days before primary election and to file declaration at least 70 days before primary election. Authorizes person to continue to serve as precinct committeeperson in precinct for which person was not elected, provided that person serves in precinct in same county and same House district in which person was elected precinct committeeperson.

BACKGROUND:

Under current statutory law, a precinct committeeperson may be elected without declaring their candidacy in advance, precincts must be represented by a committeeperson of each gender and a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson must be filled by a person who resides in the precinct or in an adjoining precinct in the same county.

House Bill 2491 creates a process by which an elector may nominate another person for the office of precinct committeeperson, eliminates the obligation for major political parties to elect committeepersons of each gender and, for those statutes that address precinct committeepersons, renames county clerks as county elections officials.