

**SB 224 -2, -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Rules**

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**Prepared By:** Josh Nasbe, Counsel

**Meeting Dates:** 2/11, 6/5

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**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:**

-2 Replaces the measure. Eliminates obligation of county clerk to classify elector as inactive when elector neither votes nor updates registration within five-year period. Modifies signature requirements applicable to nominating petitions for statewide office. Requires the production and circulation of local recall petitions to conform to the requirements applicable to state recall petitions. Modifies process by which major and minor political parties may obtain certain lists of electors. Classifies community college and 911 districts as special districts for purposes of election law. Expressly authorizes submission of written request for military or overseas ballot by postal mail, electronic mail, facsimile machine or by other means identified by Secretary of State by rule. Limits the obligation of the Secretary of State to provide county clerks with randomized alphabet to those ballots that include a contested race. Modifies timing associated with determining the number of votes each county commission may cast in filing legislative vacancy. Reenacts House Bill 2491 (2019).

-4 Replaces the measure. Eliminates obligation of county clerk to classify elector as inactive when elector neither votes nor updates registration within five-year period. Modifies signature requirements applicable to nominating petitions for statewide office. Requires the production and circulation of local recall petitions to conform to the requirements applicable to state recall petitions. Modifies process by which major and minor political parties may obtain certain lists of electors. Classifies community college and 911 districts as special districts for purposes of election law. Expressly authorizes submission of written request for military or overseas ballot by postal mail, electronic mail, facsimile machine or by other means identified by Secretary of State by rule. Limits the obligation of the Secretary of State to provide county clerks with randomized alphabet to those ballots that include a contested race. Modifies timing associated with determining the number of votes each county commission may cast in filing legislative vacancy. Reenacts House Bill 2491 (2019). Extends sunset on calculation applicable to

determination of major political party status from November 6, 2018 to November 3, 2020.

**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.