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Conference Committee Synopsis

Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 445
124th General Assembly
(Second Conference Committee)

The Conference Committee recommends the bill as passed by the Senate with the following changes:

Topic	House Version	Senate Version	Conference Committee Recommendation
Filing of General Assembly candidate campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission	No provision.	No provision.	Postpones mandatory electronic filing of campaign finance statements by specified candidates for the office of member of the General Assembly from January 1, 2003 to March 1, 2004. Extends the computer disk filing option for those candidates for the same time period.
Emergency clause	No provision.	No provision.	Specifies that the bill is an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, so that specified candidates for the office of member of the General

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			Assembly who lack the technological means to file their campaign finance statements by electronic means of transmission will not be required to so file them beginning January 1, 2003, under existing law.
Ballot designation for certain candidates who file nominating petitions	No provision.	Requires the designation of "Independent" to be printed on a ballot under the name of a nonjudicial candidate who files a nominating petition and requests that designation.	Requires the designation of "nonparty candidate" or "other-party candidate" to be printed on a ballot under the name of a nonjudicial candidate who files a nominating petition and requests that designation. Permits such a candidate to request that no designation be so printed on a ballot. Specifies that no designation can be so printed if such a candidate fails to request designation as a nonparty candidate or other-party candidate. Removes a duplicative reference to "nonjudicial" in a provision only applicable to nonjudicial candidates.



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Elections for successors to vacant judgeships	No provision.	Requires a successor to be elected for the unexpired term of a vacant judgeship (the vacancy existing by reason of the incumbent judge's term having expired and no person having been elected as the judge's successor) at the first general election that occurs more than 40 days after the appointment by the Governor of a person to fill the vacancy.	Requires a successor to be elected for the unexpired term of a vacant judgeship at the first general election that occurs more than 40 days after the vacancy occurs, as required for certain judgeship vacancies by Article IV, Section 13 of the Ohio Constitution.
Timely withdrawal exception to prohibition against certain joint candidacies	No provision.	Defines a "timely withdrawal" as a withdrawal before the applicable deadline to become a candidate for the subsequent office for which the person is seeking to become a candidate.	Defines a "timely withdrawal" as a withdrawal before the applicable deadline to become a candidate for the subsequent office for which the person is seeking to become a candidate at the same election.
Gender neutralization	Gender neutralizes a reference to appointed members of the Ballot Board, stating that the member serves from the date of appointment until the end of the term for which appointed.	Identical to House of Representatives version.	Gender neutralizes a reference to appointed members of the Ballot Board, stating that the member serves from the date of appointment until the end of the term for which the member was appointed.

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