



*Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments**

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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 445

124th General Assembly

(S. State & Local Government and Veterans Affairs Committee)

Clarifies that the requirement in the House-passed version for the Ohio Ballot Board or a designated group to prepare arguments in support of or in opposition to a law, or section or item of law, means a *state* law.

Adds provisions to the House-passed version to do the following:

- Require the designation of "Independent" to be printed on a ballot under the name of each nonjudicial candidate who files a nominating petition and requests that designation.
- Include members of boards of elections within the definition of "election official" for purposes of the elections statutes.
- Prohibit the withdrawal of an elections petition filed in a public office.
- Prohibit a person from being a candidate for nomination or election to two or more state offices, two or more county offices, a state office and a county office, or two or more other local offices at the same election.
- Require the Secretary of State or a board of elections to disqualify candidates running for prohibited offices simultaneously from running for the subsequent office or a lower ranked office under specified circumstances.
- Require a board of elections to remove the name of a disqualified candidate from the ballots to the extent practicable before the election, and prohibit the counting of votes cast for a disqualified candidate.
- Remove the requirement that write-in candidates for positions as committeepersons of political party controlling committees must receive the same number of votes as petition signatures necessary to qualify them

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.

for the printing of their names on the ballot, thereby enabling the candidate with the greatest number of votes received to win the election.

- Specify that an election to fill an unexpired term of certain judicial offices must be held at the first general election for the office that occurs more than 40 days after the governor's appointment to fill the vacant office.

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