

One Hundred Fifth Legislature - First Session - 2017

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB451

Chairperson: Senator John Murante

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Date of Hearing: March 01, 2017

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 451 makes multiple changes to election law.

First, it eliminates the prohibition against election commissioners running for elected office.

Second, it moves the date that certain political subdivisions must certify to the appropriate filing official information regarding offices to be filled in an upcoming election from July 1 of an even numbered year to June 15 of an even numbered year.

Third, it changes provisions for filling a vacancy in the Legislature. Currently, if a vacancy occurs within 60 days of a general election, the vacancy will be filled in that election. A senator appointed during that intervening period shall only serve until the new senator takes office. Under the bill, the 60 day period would be expanded to be before February 1 of a year that has a general election or if the vacancy occurs within the first year of office.

Fourth, the bill makes the same changes for filling a vacancy on the Board of Regents. Currently, that period is 75 days.

Fifth, the bill codifies procedures for delivering an early ballot to a qualifying voter and for a voter returning an early ballot.

Finally, the bill closes a loophole that currently allows a candidate to fail to file a statement of financial interest and still appear on the ballot under certain circumstances.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator John Murante