

Subject Special Election Filing Periods

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Overview

This bill modifies standards related to special elections to fill a vacant seat in the legislature, including expanding the period of time in which a special election must be conducted as soon as possible, and setting a minimum and maximum length of the candidate filing period.

Summary

Section	Description
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1	Vacancy filled at general election.
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Amends the law that sets the filing period for a special legislative election that runs concurrently with the state general election. This section requires that the filing period for the special election be the same as the general election filing period, to the extent practicable. If this is not possible, the filing period must be a minimum of seven and a maximum of ten days in length, excluding holidays.

2	Special election when legislature will be in session.
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Amends the law that sets requirements for a special legislative election that will occur while the legislature is in session. This section extends the window during which a special election must be conducted as soon as possible to allow a member to be seated in session, so that vacancies occurring up to 50 days prior to the opening of the session are included. The section also requires the filing period for the special election be a minimum of seven days and a maximum of ten days in length, excluding holidays, and requires that the special election be held within 45 days, rather than 35 days, of the governor's issuance of the special election writ.

3	Special election at other times.
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Amends the law that sets requirements for a special legislative election that will occur during the traditional legislative interim period. This section requires that the filing period for the special election be a minimum of seven and a maximum of ten days in length, excluding holidays.

Section	Description
4	Effective date. Provides that this act is effective the day following final enactment.



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