

## Session 126 - (2025-2026)

### H 3556 General Bill, By B. Newton, Schuessler, Guest, Taylor and Hixon

**Summary:** Political parties and primaries

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 7-17-560, RELATING TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF A POLITICAL PARTY TO HEAR CERTAIN PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ALSO HEAR PROTESTS AND CONTESTS IN THE CASE OF COUNTY OFFICERS, LESS THAN COUNTY OFFICERS, AND MUNICIPAL OFFICERS, TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO REQUIRE THE FILING OF ANY PROTEST OR CONTEST TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A BOND WITH SURETY, AND TO PROVIDE FOR APPEALS FROM DECISIONS BY THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE; BY AMENDING SECTION 7-17-570, RELATING TO HEARINGS OF PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO EXTEND THE TIME IN WHICH THE STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MUST CONDUCT SUCH HEARINGS; BY AMENDING SECTION 5-15-80, RELATING TO MUNICIPAL PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT SUCH PROTESTS AND CONTESTS ARE TO BE FILED, HEARD, AND DECIDED IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN SECTIONS 7-17-560 AND 7-17-570; AND BY REPEALING SECTIONS 7-17-520, 7-17-530, 7-17-540, 7-17-550, 7-17-580, AND 7-17-590 ALL RELATING TO PRIMARY PROTESTS AND CONTESTS FOR CERTAIN OFFICES.

12/05/24	House	Prefiled
12/05/24	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary
01/14/25	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 243)
01/14/25	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 243)
03/20/25	House	Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (House Journal-page 8)
03/26/25	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Schuessler, Guest, Taylor, Hixon
03/26/25	House	Amended (House Journal-page 19)
03/26/25	House	Requests for debate-Rep(s). Pace, Edgerton, Magnuson, Frank, White, Beach, Cromer, Huff, Gilreath, Terribile, Morgan, Jordan, B Newton, Lowe, Ligon, Caskey, Oremus (House Journal-page 19)
03/26/25	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 47)
03/26/25	House	Roll call Yeas-91 Nays-15 (House Journal-page 48)
03/27/25	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 31)
03/27/25		Scrivener's error corrected
04/01/25	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 8)
04/01/25	Senate	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 8)