

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 ACCCOMPANIED 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.

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| 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) |