

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

H*3557 (Rat #0178, Act #0137 of 2026) General Bill, By B. Newton, Pedalino, Taylor, Guest, Crawford, Schuessler and Hixon

AN ACT TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY AMENDING SECTION 7-11-15, RELATING TO QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN AS A CANDIDATE IN GENERAL ELECTIONS, SO AS TO SHORTEN THE CANDIDATE FILING PERIOD, TO PROVIDE FILING FEES FOR CANDIDATES SEEKING NOMINATION BY POLITICAL PARTY PRIMARY OR CONVENTION, TO ALLOW POLITICAL PARTIES TO CHARGE CANDIDATES A CERTIFICATION FEE, AND TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR A STATE OR COUNTY COMMITTEE TO ALLOW ENTRY OF OTHER CANDIDATES IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES AFTER A CANDIDATE HAS DIED OR WITHDRAWN; BY AMENDING SECTION 7-11-210, RELATING TO THE FILING OF PARTY PLEDGES BY CANDIDATES, SO AS TO MAKE CONFORMING CHANGES; BY AMENDING SECTION 7-13-40, RELATING TO THE CONDUCT OF PARTY PRIMARIES, SO AS TO DELETE LANGUAGE REGARDING THE TRANSMISSION AND USE OF CANDIDATE FILING FEES; AND BY AMENDING SECTION 7-13-190, RELATING TO SPECIAL ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES IN OFFICE, SO AS TO AMEND THE APPLICABLE DATES FOR CANDIDATE FILING AND THE CONDUCT OF SPECIAL PRIMARIES, SPECIAL RUNOFF PRIMARIES, AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS. -

RATIFIED TITLE

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 244)
01/14/25	House	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 244)
02/26/25	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Guest, Crawford
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, Hixon
03/26/25	House	Requests for debate-Rep(s). Magnuson, Beach, Pace, Frank, White, Cromer, Gilreath, Ligon, Terribile, B Newton, Jordan, Guest (House Journal-page 25)
03/26/25	House	Amended (House Journal-page 49)
03/26/25	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 49)
03/26/25	House	Roll call Yeas-87 Nays-18 (House Journal-page 51)
03/27/25	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 32)
03/27/25		Scrivener's error corrected
04/01/25	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 9)
04/01/25	Senate	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 9)
02/18/26	Senate	Committee report: Favorable with amendment Judiciary (Senate Journal-page 11)
03/31/26	Senate	Amended (Senate Journal-page 27)
03/31/26	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 27)
03/31/26	Senate	Roll call Ayes-40 Nays-1 (Senate Journal-page 27)
04/01/26	Senate	Read third time and returned to House with amendments (Senate Journal-page 31)
04/01/26		Scrivener's error corrected
04/15/26	House	Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled (House Journal-page 82)
04/15/26	House	Roll call Yeas-85 Nays-22 (House Journal-page 82)
05/14/26		Ratified R 178
05/15/26		Signed By Governor
05/26/26		Effective date See Act for Effective Date
05/26/26		Act No. 137