

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 5054

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As of January 16, 2009

**Title:** An act relating to special elections for changing the form of government of a noncharter code city.

**Brief Description:** Regarding special elections for changing the form of government of a noncharter code city.

**Sponsors:** Senator Rockefeller.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Government Operations & Elections:

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS & ELECTIONS

**Staff:** Aaron Gutierrez (786-7448)

**Background:** A noncharter code city is one that does not have a charter, and has elected to be incorporated subject to the optional municipal code under Title 35A.

A noncharter code city may abandon its classification as a noncharter code city and move to a different form of government. This process can be initiated upon passage of a resolution by the city's legislative body or upon filing of a petition with the county auditor. The number of signatures on the petition must be no less than 10 percent of the number of votes cast in the last general municipal election.

Once initiated, the proposal is submitted to the voters at the next municipal general election.

**Summary of Bill:** If initiated by a resolution of the legislative body, the proposal may also be submitted to the voters at a special election held prior to the next general election if such special election is called for in the resolution.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Effective Date:** The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.