
Government Operations & Elections Committee

HB 2106

Brief Description: Concerning primaries for county offices.

Sponsors: Representatives Hawkins, Bergquist, Condotta, Fitzgibbon, Manweller, Pollet, Hunt, Wylie, Haler and Appleton.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Adds a provision to election law that if no more than one candidate files for any single county partisan office to fill an unexpired term, a primary for that office may not be held.

Hearing Date: 1/17/14

Staff: Amanda Ondrick (786-7296); and Marsha Reilly (786-7135).

Background:

In Washington's qualifying primary, generally the names of all candidates that file for office will appear on the primary ballot. A primary must be held for all partisan offices, regardless of the number of candidates who file for a single office. If no more than two candidates have filed for a nonpartisan office, no primary is held.

Summary of Bill:

If only one candidate has filed for a single county partisan office position to fill an unexpired term, no primary is necessary. The county must wait until the last allowed day for candidates to withdraw before deciding not to hold a primary.

Appropriation: None.

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.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.