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H.B. 582
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Loychik

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SUMMARY

- Reduces the term of office of a member of a school district board of education from four years to two years.
- Limits school district board members to four successive terms of two years.
- Moves the election for school district board of education members from the nonpartisan to the partisan ballot, and provides for primary elections for school district board members.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

School district boards of education

The bill generally reduces from four years to two years the term of office of a member of a school district board of education who takes office on or after the bill's effective date.¹ Board members who take office prior to bill's effective date will serve the remainder of their terms, as prescribed under current law.

It also precludes school district board members from serving more than four successive two-year terms. Under the bill, terms are considered "successive" unless separated by a period of four or more years. In addition, the bill specifies that only terms that begin on or after the bill's effective date count toward a member's eligibility to hold office.²

¹ R.C. 3313.09(A) and (B); conforming changes in R.C. 3302.11(G) and 3311.73(D).

² R.C. 3313.09(C).

Partisan ballot and primary election

The bill moves elections for school district board of education members, which does not include the state board of education, from the nonpartisan ballot to the partisan ballot, and provides for primary elections for school district board members. Candidates for member of a school district board of education appear between judges of courts of appeals and county commissioners on the partisan ballot. Continuing law requires a partisan ballot to include the name of the political party of which a candidate was nominated or certified under the candidate's name. Under current law, candidates for member of a school district board of education appear between state board of education members and municipal and township offices on the nonpartisan ballot.

Appearing on the partisan ballot, instead of the nonpartisan ballot, creates some changes to the requirements for candidates for member of a school district board of education. Under the bill, candidates first must seek election in a primary election like other partisan offices, which requires the candidates to file declarations of candidacy rather than nominating petitions, for instance. Then, only those candidates nominated at the primary election would appear on the partisan ballot at an election.³

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-28-22

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³ R.C. 3501.01, 3505.03, 3505.04, 3513.04, 3513.052, 3513.261, 3513.254, repealed, 3513.255 repealed, and 3513.256, repealed. Please see Chapter 3513 of the Revised Code for more information on primary procedures.