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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 365 |
| By: Springer |
| Elections |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that elections for local officials and relating to the issuance of bonds would increase voter turnout if they were to occur on a standard November election date.  H.B. 365 seeks to study the feasibility and desirability of implementing a single uniform election held in November. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  H.B. 365 amends the Election Code to require the secretary of state no later than January 1, 2018, to conduct a study and report to the standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over election procedures recommendations regarding the feasibility of implementing a single uniform election held in November. The bill requires that the study include an explanation and investigation of the experience of jurisdictions, including other states, that have implemented this practice; the anticipated cost expenditures or savings to the state and counties upon implementation of this practice; and the anticipated increase or decrease in voter turnout upon implementation of this practice. The bill's provisions expire September 1, 2018. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2017. |