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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| C.S.H.B. 2323 |
| By: Israel |
| Elections |
| Committee Report (Substituted) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Interested parties contend that the deadline for an application for a place on the ballot for a special election to fill a vacancy in office held on the date of the general election for state and county officers should be clarified. C.S.H.B. 2323 seeks to make this clarification. |
| **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**  C.S.H.B. 2323 amends the Election Code to specify that the filing deadline for an application for a place on the ballot for a special election to fill a vacancy in office, when the election is to be held on the date of the general election for state and county officers, is 6 p.m. of the 75th day before election day. The bill requires a declaration of write-in candidacy for a special election to fill a vacancy in office to be filed not later than the applicable filing deadline for an application for a place on a special election ballot. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2017. |
| **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**  While C.S.H.B. 2323 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill. |
| | INTRODUCED | HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE | | --- | --- | | SECTION 1. Section 201.054, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (f) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:  (f) For a special election to be held on the date of the general election for state and county officers, the [~~day of the~~] filing deadline is 5 p.m. of the 75th day before election day.  (g) A declaration of write-in candidacy for a special election must be filed not later than the filing deadline prescribed by this section. | SECTION 1. Section 201.054, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (f) and adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:  (f) For a special election to be held on the date of the general election for state and county officers, the [~~day of the~~] filing deadline is 6 p.m. of the 75th day before election day.  (g) A declaration of write-in candidacy for a special election must be filed not later than the filing deadline prescribed by this section. | | | SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017. | SECTION 2. Same as introduced version. | |