

Senate Substitute for HOUSE BILL NO. 2715

By Committee on Ethics and Elections

AN ACT concerning certain elections; amending K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 2-624 and 24-414 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 2-624 is hereby amended to read as follows: 2-624. (a) The governing body of each extension district shall be composed of four representatives from each county included in the extension district. At the conclusion of the terms of the members first appointed to membership on the governing body of the district, the four members representing each county in an extension district shall be elected in a county-wide election by the qualified electors of the county.

(b) At the conclusion of the terms of the members first appointed to membership on the governing body of the district, each member of the governing body shall hold office for a term of four years and until such member's successor is elected and qualified. Each such term of office shall commence on the date of receipt of certification of election by the member elected and shall continue until the member's successor is elected and qualified.

(c) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, an election to elect successors to members of the governing body whose terms are expiring shall be held on the first Tuesday in April in each odd-numbered year.

(2) Elections to choose members of the governing body of an extension district shall be conducted, the returns made and the results ascertained in the manner provided by law for general county elections except as otherwise provided by this act. Not later than 12 noon of the Tuesday, 10 weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April in ~~odd-numbered~~election years, each person desiring to be a candidate for membership on the governing body, in any election, shall

file a declaration of candidacy, accompanied by a filing fee of \$5, with the county election officer of the county represented by the member of the governing body whose successor is to be elected, as a candidate in such election. The county election officer shall remit such filing fees to the county treasurer for deposit in the county general fund. The county election officer in making up the ballots and in placing the names thereon shall place the names on the ballots in alphabetical order.

(3) The county election officer of each county within the extension district shall appoint election boards as provided by law for other elections and shall designate places for holding the election. The county election officer shall cause to be ascertained the names of all persons within the district who are qualified electors, and shall furnish lists thereof to the judges of the election. Notice of the time and place of holding each election, signed by the county election officer, shall be given in a newspaper published in the county and posted in a conspicuous place in the office of the governing body at least five days before the holding thereof.

(4) All election expenses shall be paid by the extension district. Election officials shall receive the same compensation as provided under the general election laws.

(d) Any vacancy in the membership of the governing body of an extension district shall be filled by appointment by the governing body for the unexpired term of office. Each member so appointed shall be a resident of the county which was represented by the member creating the vacancy.

(e) The governing body of each extension district shall organize annually in July by electing from among its members a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary and treasurer.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 24-414 is hereby amended to read as follows: 24-414. (a)

Elections to choose directors shall be conducted, the returns made and the results ascertained in the manner provided by law for general county elections except as otherwise provided by law, and all persons desiring to be voted upon as director, in any election, shall, not later than ~~12:00~~ 12 noon of the ~~Wednesday next following the primary election as such term is defined in subsection (b) of K.S.A. 25-2006, and amendments thereto~~ Tuesday, 10 weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April in election years, file a declaration of candidacy, accompanied by a filing fee of \$5, with the county election officer of the county wherein the district is located, as a candidate in such election, and the election officer in making up the ballots and in placing the names thereon shall place the names on the ballots in alphabetical order, but the returns of all special or bond elections shall be made to the secretary and canvassed by the board of directors. The county election officer shall remit such filing fees to the county treasurer for deposit in the county general fund. The county election officer of the county wherein the drainage district is situated shall appoint election boards as provided by law for other elections and shall designate places for holding the election. The county clerk shall cause to be ascertained the names of all persons within the district who are also qualified electors, and shall furnish lists thereof to the judges of the election.

(b) Notice of the time and place of holding each election, signed by the county election officer, shall be given in a newspaper published in the county and posted in a conspicuous place in the office of the board of directors at least five days before the holding thereof. At all elections and meetings held under the provisions of this act, only persons who are qualified electors shall be entitled to vote. In counties having a population of more than 150,000, at all elections and meetings held under the provisions of this act, only persons who are taxpayers and residents of

the district who are qualified electors shall be entitled to vote. All election expenses shall be paid for out of the general fund of the drainage district. Election officials shall receive the same compensation as provided under the general election laws.

(c) As used in this section, "taxpayer" means any person who owns any real property or tangible property within the district who pays taxes assessed on such property.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2011 Supp. 2-624 and 24-414 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.