

HB 1647 -- Incorporation of Cities

Sponsor: Wood

This bill changes the requirements for the incorporation of a city or town. The number of persons in the proposed incorporated area who must sign the petition requesting incorporation is increased from 15% of the voters casting ballots in the last gubernatorial election to 25% of all registered voters. The county governing body can submit the issue to the voters if it finds that the petition is valid and the proposed area is contiguous, contains at least one square mile and 100 residents, has sufficient assessed valuation of property for an ad valorem tax base, has the potential to function as a municipality, and is able to provide municipal services within a reasonable time. Currently, the issue must be submitted to the residents if the requisite number of registered voters sign the petition.