

HB 1250 -- ELECTIONS

(Vetoed by the Governor)

This bill changes the laws regarding elections. The bill:

(1) Allows the City of Farmington to enact an ordinance prohibiting smoking in certain areas and establishments in the city by a petition of the voters for the ordinance. The procedures for the petition process are specified in the bill. If a petition containing the signatures of at least 25% of the eligible voters who cast votes for all mayor candidates in the last preceding election is filed and the required signatures are certified by the city clerk, the city council must adopt the smoking ordinance within 20 days or submit the question to the voters at the next municipal election. If the smoking ordinance is proposed by petition and adopted by a majority of the voters, it may be repealed or amended only by a vote of the people at any municipal election;

(2) Allows certain third class cities organized under Sections 78.010 - 78.400, RSMo, to eliminate, by order or ordinance, any primary election for the office of mayor and councilman that is currently held in February. A person wishing to become a candidate for one of these offices must file a signed statement of candidacy with the city clerk in order to be placed on the ballot in the next municipal election for the office; and

(3) Removes the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February and June as a date for a public election, allows a bond election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February but no other issue can be included on the ballot, adds a tax election necessitated by a financial hardship due to a decline of 5% or more in per-pupil state revenue from the previous year to the list of specified exceptions to the requirement that an election on certain issues can be held only on specific dates, and changes the date for an election for a presidential primary from the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February.