

HB 533 -- CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINES

SPONSOR: Dugger

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Select Committee on Rules by a vote of 10 to 0.

Currently, if after filing a declaration of candidacy, a candidate files a statement of withdrawal within two working days prior to the deadline specified in law, the time of filing for that office must be extended until 5:00 p.m. of the first Friday following the specified deadline. This bill specifies that if a candidate files a statement of withdrawal within two working days prior to the deadline, the time of filing for that office must immediately cease so that no other candidate may file for that office until the reopening of filing on the first Tuesday after the deadline expires until 5:00 p.m. on the immediately following Friday.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows adequate time for notice to file in local election races.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dugger; Darryl Kempf, Missouri Association Of County Clerks and Election Authorities; and Missouri Press Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.