

HB 1265 -- CANDIDATE NAMES

SPONSOR: Schroer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elections and Elected Officials by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Administrative Oversight Committee by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill requires candidates for all statewide offices, the General Assembly, political subdivisions, and special districts to use his or her legal last name as changed by marriage or court order, or maiden name as it appears on his or her birth certificate when declaring his or her candidacy to run for office.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will help prevent voter confusion based on the use of identical or similar names to incumbent candidates or nicknames. The use of birth or maiden names will provide voter access to case.net and other resources to research candidates.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Schroer.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.