

HCS HB 685 -- PUBLIC OFFICES

SPONSOR: Chipman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elections and Elected Officials by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 685.

This bill lowers the minimum age requirement to 21 years for holding various county offices and special district board memberships. Included in the offices and districts affected are: county clerk; county auditor; county coroner; county surveyor; seven-director school board; ambulance district board; sewer district trustee; public water supply district board; emergency telephone services board; hospital district board; public water supply district board; fire protection district board; court clerk; and mayor for third or fourth class cities.

The bill also requires a person appointed to elective public office not be delinquent in the payment of state income tax, personal property tax, municipal tax or real property tax.

A residency requirement for the Office of Attorney General is also repealed.

This bill is the same as the perfected HCS HB 1787 (2020).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill has received overwhelming support in past years and there is no reason to restrict local offices to a minimum age requirement in excess of the standard 21 years of age.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Chipman; and Arnie C. Dienoff.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.