



# HOUSE BILL 124: Eliminate Second Primaries

2015-2016 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Elections, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 21, 2015
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Floyd, Michaux, C. Graham, Jordan	<b>Prepared by:</b>	R. Erika Churchill
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Counsel

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**SUMMARY:** *House Bill 124 would repeal the statutory authority for second primaries.*

## CURRENT LAW:

G.S. 163-111 permits the holding of a second primary if no nominee in a first primary receives a substantial plurality of the vote, which is statutorily defined as more than 40% of the primary vote. A candidate entitled to call for a second primary must do so by 12:00 noon on the ninth day following the first primary. Once requested and called for, the second primary is to be held seven weeks after the first primary.

Other than certain requirements related to registration of voters, the second primary is held under the laws, rules, and regulations provided for the first primary. Voters may not be registered between the first and second primaries, except for persons whose qualifications mature between the two primaries, as the second primary is a continuation of the first.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would repeal the statutory authority to request a second primary. The bill would further provide that the candidate, or candidates if the nominees are running for a group of offices, receiving the highest number of votes in the primary would be declared the nominee of the party.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law.

O. Walker Reagan  
Director



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Research Division  
(919) 733-2578