



HOUSE BILL 263: City of Trinity Terms of Election

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee: House Local Government
Introduced by: Rep. Hurley
Analysis of: First Edition

Date: March 26, 2015
Prepared by: Kelly Tornow
Committee Counsel

SUMMARY: *House Bill 263 would reduce the size of the Trinity City Council from eight members to five members and would reduce the terms for Mayor and City Council members from four years to two years.*

CURRENT LAW: Currently, the Trinity City Council consists of eight members who serve staggered four-year terms. The city is divided into four wards, each with two members, and the voters of the entire city elect candidates who reside in that ward. The Mayor is elected by the voters and serves a four-year term.

Four members of the City Council (one from each of the four wards) were elected in 2011, and four members (one from each ward) were elected in 2013.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 263 would decrease the size of the City Council from eight members to five members. One member from each of the four wards would be elected by all the voters in the city, and one member would be elected at-large.

The bill would also decrease the terms of the Mayor and Council members from four years to two years. Terms for Council members would no longer be staggered.

The four seats (one from each ward) that would be up for reelection in 2015 would be eliminated, and the at-large member would be elected in the 2015 election. The four remaining ward seats would be up for reelection in 2017, along with the Mayor's seat.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held on or after that date and to vacancies occurring on or after that date.

BACKGROUND: The City of Trinity was incorporated in 1997 and is located in Randolph County.

