



# HOUSE BILL 457: Elections Clarifications

2015-2016 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Elections	<b>Date:</b>	April 21, 2015
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Lewis, Jones, Speciale	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Kelly Tornow
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Committee Counsel

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**SUMMARY:** *House Bill 457 would change the date of the presidential primary to the Tuesday after the first Monday in March, beginning in 2016.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 163-213.2 requires that the presidential primary be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in May, beginning in 1992, and every four years thereafter. However, if South Carolina holds its presidential primary before March 15th, the North Carolina presidential primary is held on the Tuesday after the first South Carolina presidential primary of that year. G.S. 163-213.4 requires that the chair of each political party submit to the State Board of Elections (SBOE) a list of its presidential candidates to be placed on the presidential primary ballot no later than 90 days preceding the primary. The SBOE convenes on the first Tuesday in March preceding the presidential primary to nominate presidential primary candidates who have been submitted to the SBOE.

Under current law, because South Carolina's 2016 primary is expected to take place on February 20, 2016, North Carolina's primary will be held on February 23, 2016.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 457 would require the presidential primary to be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in March 2016 and every four years thereafter, and would make a conforming change to the statute requiring the SBOE to convene in Raleigh preceding the presidential primary to nominate presidential primary candidates.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act is effective when it becomes law.

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Director



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