



HOUSE BILL 447: Lexington City Bd. of Ed./Change to Election.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government I. If favorable, re-refer to Elections and Ethics Law	Date:	April 4, 2017
Introduced by:	Reps. Potts, Watford	Prepared by:	Giles Perry
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H447-CSBK-12		Jessica Sammons Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *The proposed committee substitute (PCS) for House Bill 447 would change the Lexington City Board of Education from nine appointed members to seven members elected on a nonpartisan basis in odd-numbered years.*

The PCS removes the provision in House Bill 447 that no member of the Lexington City Board of Education may serve for more than two consecutive full terms without an intervening period of four years.

CURRENT LAW: The Lexington City Board of Education consists of nine members appointed for three-year terms. The Lexington City Council appoints eight of the members: one member from each of the six wards of the city and two at-large members. The Board of County Commissioners of Davidson County appoints the ninth member, who must reside within the limits of the Lexington City School Administrative Unit but outside of the corporate limits of the City of Lexington. If the Board of County Commissioners does not make the appointment within 60 days of receiving the request from the City Council, the City Council may then make the appointment.

No member of the Board may serve for more than two consecutive full terms without an intervening period of three years.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS for House Bill 447 would make the following changes to the Lexington City Board of Education:

- Composition of the Board: The size of the Board would be reduced to seven members.
- Term Length: Members would serve staggered four-year terms.
- Selection of Members: Members would be elected in nonpartisan plurality elections held at the general election in odd-numbered years. Newly-elected members would take office and qualify on the first Monday in December following the election. To implement the staggering of terms, the following would apply:
 - In 2017, members from Wards 4, 5, and 6, as well as from the area outside of the City of Lexington's corporate limits, would stand for election for a four-year term.
 - In 2017, members from Wards 1, 2, and 3 would stand for election for a two-year term. In 2019, members from these wards would stand for election for a four-year term.

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- The terms of the current members would expire upon the qualification of members elected in 2017.
- Filing Vacant Seats: Vacancies on the Board would be filled by the remaining members of the Board, with the appointee serving until the next election of Board members, at which time the remaining unexpired term will be filled by election.
- Residency Requirement: Members would be required to remain a resident of the ward or area from which the member was elected or appointed to serve.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would be effective when it becomes law.