



HOUSE BILL 115: Even-Yr. Elections/Town of Biltmore Forest.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 18, 2019
Introduced by:	Rep. B. Turner	Prepared by:	Kristen L. Harris*
Analysis of:	Second Edition		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 115 would change the regular municipal election cycle from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years for the Town of Biltmore Forest, authorize the Buncombe County Board of Elections to set the filing deadlines for candidates seeking office, extend the terms of the current mayor and commissioners by one year to implement the new election schedule, and change the date of the next municipal election in the town to 2020.*

CURRENT LAW: Generally, municipal elections are held in odd-numbered years. G.S. 163A-1585. In the Town of Biltmore Forest, officers consist of a mayor and three commissioners serving four-year non-staggered terms. Except in the first two years following a federal decennial census, candidates must file their notices of candidacy no earlier than 12:00 noon on the first Friday in July and no later than 12:00 on the third Friday in July preceding the election. G.S. 163A-1620. Elections are conducted on a nonpartisan basis and the results are determined using the plurality method in G.S. 163A-1616. Nonpartisan elections determined by a plurality are held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. G.S. 163A-1585. Terms of the current town officers expire in 2019.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 115 would amend the Charter of the Town of Biltmore Forest to require regular municipal elections to be held in even-numbered years. To implement this change, municipal elections would not be conducted in 2019 and the terms of the current mayor and commissioners would be extended by one year to 2020 when the next municipal election would be held.

The Bill would also authorize the Buncombe County Board of Elections to set the filing deadlines for the candidates seeking office.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act is effective when the bill becomes law and applies to elections held on or after that date.

*Staff Attorney Jessica Sammons substantially contributed to this summary.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578