



HOUSE BILL 477: Four-Year Terms/Town of Bethel.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House State and Local Government. If favorable, re-refer to Elections and Ethics Law. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 10, 2019
Introduced by:	Rep. K. Smith	Prepared by:	Jessica Sammons Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 477 would increase the Town of Bethel's term of office for mayor and commissioners from two years to four years, beginning in 2021.*

[As introduced, this bill was identical to S198, as introduced by Sen. D. Davis, which is currently in Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate.]

CURRENT LAW: The Charter of the Town of Bethel provides that officers for the town consist of a mayor and five commissioners, elected at-large for two-year terms.

Municipal elections in the Town are conducted in odd-numbered years on a nonpartisan basis, and the results are determined using the plurality method in G.S. 163A-1616. Election for mayor and commissioners must be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. G.S. 163A-1585. Terms of office for both the mayor and commissioners begin on the first Monday in December following their election.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 477 would increase the terms of the mayor and commissioners from two years to four years, effective with the 2021 election.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law.

BACKGROUND: The Town of Bethel is located in Pitt County, and has a population of 1,577.

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