

HOUSE BILL 1017: Even-Yr. Elections/City of Jacksonville.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the **Date:** June 5, 2024

House

Introduced by: Reps. Cleveland, Shepard Prepared by: Nicholas Giddings and

Analysis of: Second Edition

William Brewer Staff Attorneys

OVERVIEW: House Bill 1017 would change the time of elections for the City of Jacksonville from odd to even-years.

CURRENT LAW:

The City of Jacksonville is represented by a mayor and six councilmembers serving staggered, four-year terms. Two of the councilmembers run at-large, and four councilmembers run in wards established by the city where only the qualified voters residing in each ward may vote for the councilmember from that ward. The City of Jacksonville conducts its municipal elections using the nonpartisan plurality method, in accordance with G.S. 163-292.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would provide that beginning in 2026 municipal elections in the City of Jacksonville will be held in the even-numbered years. To implement this change, no elections would be conducted in 2025, and the current terms of office for the mayor and the six councilmembers would be extended by one year. The two at-large councilmembers and the councilmembers from Ward 1 and Ward 2 would be elected in 2026 and every four years thereafter. The mayor and the councilmembers from Ward 3 and Ward 4 would be elected in 2028 and every four years thereafter.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective December 1, 2026, and elections should be conducted accordingly.

