



# HOUSE BILL 135: Even-Year Elections/City of Trinity.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	June 1, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Hardister, Biggs	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Erika Churchill
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 135 would change the regular municipal election cycle from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years for the City of Trinity, beginning with the 2024 election, by extending the terms of the current Mayor and City Council for one year to implement the new election cycle.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The Trinity City Council consists of five members who serve staggered four-year terms. The city is divided into four residency wards. One member is elected from each ward, with the voters of the entire city voting on the candidates of that ward. One member is elected from the city at-large. The Mayor is elected to serve a four-year term.

The City of Trinity conducts municipal elections in odd-numbered years, held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Elections are conducted using the nonpartisan plurality method.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would amend the charter for the City of Trinity to require regular municipal elections be held in even-numbered years, beginning in 2024. To implement this change, municipal elections would not be conducted in the City of Trinity in 2023 and the next municipal election would be conducted in the City of Trinity in 2024. Terms of office would be extended as follows:

- The terms of the three Council members elected in 2019 whose terms are set to expire in 2023 would be extended until 2024.
- The terms of the Mayor and the two Council members elected in 2021 whose terms are set to expire in 2025 would be extended until 2026.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held on or after that date.

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