



This Bill Analysis reflects the contents of the bill as it was presented in committee.

HOUSE BILL 174: Stagger Winston-Salem/Forsyth Bd. of Ed. Term.

2023-2024 General Assembly

Committee:	House Local Government. If favorable, re- refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	March 7, 2023
Introduced by:	Rep. Lambeth	Prepared by:	Hillary Woodard
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H174-CSCH-3		Anna Parsons Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) to House Bill 174 would create staggered terms of office for members of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth Board of Education.*

CURRENT LAW: The Winston-Salem/Forsyth Board of Education (Board) consists of nine members, elected to four-year terms of office on a partisan basis in even-numbered years from a combination of electoral districts and at-large seats. Two members are elected from District 1, four members are elected from District 2, and three members are elected from the county at-large. For the district seats, only qualified voters of the district are eligible to be candidates and only qualified voters of the district are eligible to vote. For the at-large seats, any qualified voter of the county is eligible to be a candidate and all qualified voters of the county are eligible to vote.

All members of the Board are elected in the same election at the time of the general election of other county officers. Vacancies are filled by the remaining members of the Board, with the appointee serving for the unexpired term of the vacating member. Members of the Board were last elected in 2022, with terms expiring in 2026.

BILL ANALYSIS: The PCS would create staggered terms of office for members of the Board, beginning with the 2026 election, as follows:

- District 1: Two members would be elected in 2026. The person receiving the highest number of votes would serve a four-year term of office. The person receiving the next highest number of votes would serve a two-year term of office.
- District 2: Four members would be elected in 2026. The two persons receiving the first and second highest number of votes would serve a four-year term of office. The two persons receiving the third and fourth highest number of votes would serve a two-year term of office.
- At-large: Three members would be elected in 2026. The two persons receiving the first and second highest number of votes would serve a four-year term of office. The person receiving the third highest number of votes would serve a two-year term of office.

In subsequent elections, all members would be elected to a four-year term of office. The act would not affect the terms of office for those elected in 2022 or appointed to fill a vacancy for a term beginning in 2022.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held in 2026 and thereafter.

Jeffrey Hudson
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division