



# HOUSE BILL 229: Stagger/Extend Terms of Town Officers/Halifax.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	May 17, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Wray	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Sammons
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 229 would amend the Charter for the Town of Halifax to change the terms of the mayor and commissioners to staggered four-year terms.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The Town of Halifax consists of a mayor and five commissioners, each serving two-year terms. Municipal elections are conducted in odd-numbered years using the nonpartisan plurality method. The terms of office of the current mayor and commissioners all expire in 2023.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would amend the Charter for the Town of Halifax to change the terms of the mayor and the commissioners to staggered four-year terms.

To implement this change, in 2023, terms of those elected would be as follows:

- The mayor would be elected to a four-year term.
- The two commissioners receiving the highest number of votes would be elected to four-year terms.
- The three commissioners receiving the next highest number of votes would be elected to two-year terms.

In 2025 and thereafter, commissioners would be elected to four-year terms.

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

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