



# HOUSE BILL 334: Establish At-Large Seat/W-S City Council.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 18, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Lambeth	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Billy Godwin
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Anna Parsons Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 334 would amend the Charter for the City of Winston-Salem to provide for one additional seat on the City Council, to be elected from the city at-large.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The City Council for the City of Winston-Salem consists of eight members serving four-year terms. Each of the eight council members is elected from a single-member ward by the voters of that ward, and each council member must be a resident of the ward in which they are elected. Regular municipal elections are held in the City of Winston-Salem in even-numbered years and are conducted on a partisan basis. The primary and election are conducted in the same manner and at the same time as elections for county officers.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 334 would amend the Charter for the City of Winston-Salem to expand the number of seats on the City Council from eight members to nine members. The additional seat on the City Council would be elected at-large by the qualified voters of the entire City of Winston-Salem. Any resident of the City of Winston-Salem could be a candidate for the at-large seat. The at-large member would be elected in a partisan primary and election like the current eight members of the City Council.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act would be effective when it becomes law and apply to elections held on or after that date.

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division