



# SENATE BILL 286: Make Pamlico Bd. of Ed. Elect. Partisan.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	March 30, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sen. Sanderson	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Hillary Woodard
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Second Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 286 would change the method of election for members of the Pamlico County Board of Education from nonpartisan to partisan.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The Pamlico County Board of Education (Board) consists of seven members. Two members are elected from the county at-large. One member is elected from each of the five districts, with residents of each district voting for that district's member. Members are elected using the nonpartisan plurality method to serve staggered four-year terms. Elections are held in even-numbered years at the time of the primary election for county officers.

Vacancies on the board are filled by the remaining members of the Board with the appointees serving until the next election. At the next election, a new member is elected to fill the unexpired term. G.S.115C-37.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would change the method of election, from nonpartisan to partisan elections, for the Board members, beginning in 2024. A primary and general election would be held at the time of elections for other county officers in even-numbered years.

Beginning in 2024, a vacancy for members elected on a partisan basis would be filled in accordance with G.S. 115C-37.1, which requires the remaining members of the Board to consult with the county executive committee of the relevant political party before filling a vacancy and to appoint that executive committee's nominee, if the recommendation is made within 30 days after the seat becomes vacant.

The term of any member appointed to fill a vacancy of a member elected on a nonpartisan basis in 2020 or 2022 are not affected and members will continue to serve until a successor has been elected or qualified.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held in 2024 and thereafter.

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