HOUSE BILL 17:
Faith and China Grove.

Committee:	Senate Elections. If favorable, re-refer to Rules and Operations of the Senate	**Date:**	May 20, 2025
Introduced by:	Rep. Pyrtle	**Prepared by:**	William Brewer
Analysis of:	Amendment to Second Edition H17-ACMe-9		Committee Co-Counsel

OVERVIEW: The amendment to House Bill 17 would add to the bill the following:

- *Provide that, beginning in 2026, regular municipal elections in the Town of Faith would be held at the time of the general election in even-numbered years and extend the terms of office for members of the Board of Aldermen in the Town of Faith from two years to four years.*

- *Change the regular municipal election cycle from odd-numbered years to even-numbered years for the Town of China Grove, beginning with the 2026 election, and extend the terms of the current Mayor and Aldermen by one year to implement the new election cycle.*

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

Town of Faith:

G.S. 163-279 provides for odd-numbered year municipal elections statewide. Officers for the Town of Faith consist of a five-member Board of Aldermen, with the Board of Aldermen selecting one of its members to serve as the mayor. Aldermen are elected from the Town of Faith at-large to serve a two-year term. The Town of Faith 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. G.S. 163-279(a)(1) and G.S. 163-292.

The amendment to House Bill 17 would provide that municipal elections in the Town of Faith would be conducted in even-numbered years, beginning with the 2026 election. To implement this change, there would be no municipal election in the Town of Faith in 2025, and the current terms of office would be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections would resume in 2026 at the time of the general election.

The amendment to House Bill 17 would also extend the terms of office for the Board of Aldermen, which would include the member selected as the mayor, from two years to four years, beginning in 2026.

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

China Grove:

G.S. 163-279 provides for odd-numbered year municipal elections statewide. Officers for the Town of China Grove consist of a Mayor that serves a four-year term and five Aldermen that serve staggered four-year terms. The Town of China Grove conducts municipal elections in odd-numbered years at the time of the general election. Elections are conducted using the nonpartisan plurality method.

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The amendment to House Bill 17 would provide that municipal elections in the Town of China Grove would be conducted in even-numbered years, beginning with the 2026 election. To implement this change, municipal elections would not be conducted in the Town of China Grove in 2025 and the next municipal elections would be conducted in the Town of China Grove in 2026. Terms of office would be extended as follows:

- The terms of the three Aldermen whose terms are set to expire in 2025 would be extended until 2026.

- The terms of the Mayor and two Aldermen whose terms are set to expire in 2027 would be extended until 2028.

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: Except as otherwise provided, effective when it becomes law.