



HOUSE BILL 958: Election Law Changes, Part III: Conduct of Elections

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: House Bill 958 (Ratified), Part III

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Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
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Part III of House Bill 958 would make the following changes with respect to the conduct of elections:

- Reduce the number of early one-stop voting days for primaries, second primaries, and runoff elections, from 17 days to 10 days, and set the number of early one-stop voting days for congressional vacancies, special elections, and municipal elections (if early voting is authorized by the municipality) at 10 days. (**Section 3.1**)
- Allow ballots cast during early one-stop voting to be challenged no later than 5:00 P.M. on the third business day after the election (Friday). (**Section 3.2**)
- Require the State Auditor to randomly select counties to conduct post-election audits of election systems and controls after each general election, with all county boards of elections being audited at least once every six years; authorize election officials to be present during the audit; and require the State Auditor to produce annual reports of the audits conducted and make them accessible on the Office of the State Auditor's website in perpetuity. (**Section 3.3**)

House Bill 958 was ratified on August 6, 2026, but was vetoed by the Governor on August 17, 2026, and is not current law. If the General Assembly overrides the veto, Part III of House Bill 958 would become effective on January 1, 2027, and apply to elections held on or after that date.

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