

HB 163 -- CERTAIN THIRD CLASS CITY PRIMARY ELECTIONS

SPONSOR: Fitzpatrick

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill allows certain third class cities organized under Sections 78.010 - 78.400, RSMo, to eliminate, by order or ordinance, any primary election for the office of mayor and councilman that is currently held in February. A person wishing to become a candidate for one of these offices must file a signed statement of candidacy with the city clerk in order to be placed on the ballot in the next municipal election for the office.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say the bill will save Monet and West Plains substantial amounts of money over time and that all other third class cities have the discretion to hold nonpartisan primary elections.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Fitzpatrick.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.