

HCS HB 556 -- BALLOT NAMING

SPONSOR: Eggleston

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elections and Elected Officials by a vote of 7 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 556.

This bill imposes a labeling requirement for political subdivision and special district ballot measures beginning with "Proposition A" and so on consecutively to "Proposition Z" and continuing with double letters in alphabetical order if necessary. If a measure is labeled, but not voted upon at the next election, then it retains its letter designation until it has been voted on. Certain ballots involving multiple jurisdictions will be labeled using numbers in a similar fashion. This practice is identical to the current law on statewide ballot measure labeling.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will designate each measure with a unique identifying letter or number and will present ballot measures in a neutral and objective fashion.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Eggleston; and Arnie Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.