

## HOUSE BILL No. 2640

By Committee on Ethics and Elections

1-29

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AN ACT concerning primary elections; pertaining to a limitation on the number of such elections; amending K.S.A. 25-2021, 25-2108a and 71-1415 and repealing the existing sections.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

Section 1. K.S.A. 25-2021 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2021. (a) In school districts in which a member district method of election is in effect, if there are more than ~~two (2)~~ *three* qualified candidates for one ~~(1)~~ member position in any member district, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election in each such member district and, if there are more than ~~two (2)~~ *three* qualified candidates for the at-large member position, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election in such school district. ~~The~~ *If a primary election is held, the* names of the two ~~(2)~~ candidates receiving the greatest number of votes for any member position at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

(b) In school districts having the election at large method, if there are more than two ~~(2)~~ times the number of candidates as there are board members to be elected, the county election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election. The names of twice the number of candidates as there are board members to be elected who received the greatest number of votes at the primary election shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

(c) If a member is to be elected to fill an unexpired term the rules in this section shall be modified consistent with the provisions of this subsection. If there are more than ~~two (2)~~ *three* candidates for such unexpired term, the county election officer shall call and there shall be held, a primary election. ~~The~~ *If a primary election is held, the* names of the two ~~(2)~~ candidates for such unexpired term receiving the greatest number of votes shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

(d) No ballot in a primary school election shall have either names or write-in blanks for any board member position unless more than ~~two (2)~~ *three* candidates have filed for such position. *If there are three or fewer candidates, the names of all candidates shall appear on the ballots in the general election.*

1 (e) On the ballots in general school elections, blank lines for the name  
2 of write-in candidates shall be printed at the end of the list of candidates  
3 for each different office equal to the number to be elected thereto. The  
4 purpose of such blank lines shall be to permit the voter to insert the name  
5 of any person not printed on the ballot for whom such voter desires to  
6 vote for such office. No lines for write-in candidates shall appear on pri-  
7 mary school election ballots.

8 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-2108a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-  
9 2108a. (a) There shall be a primary election of city officers on the Tuesday  
10 preceding by five weeks the first Tuesday in April of every year that such  
11 city has a city election, except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of  
12 this section.

13 (b) No primary election of city officers shall be held unless by holding  
14 such primary ~~one (1)~~ two or more persons will be eliminated as candidates  
15 for office. In the event there are not more than ~~two (2)~~ three candidates  
16 for any one office, the names of the candidates for such office shall not  
17 appear on the primary election ballots, and there shall be no primary  
18 election for such office, but the names of such candidates shall be placed  
19 on the general city election ballot.

20 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 71-1415 is hereby amended to read as follows: 71-  
21 1415. (a) In any college district having a district method and in which  
22 there are more than ~~two~~ three *qualified* candidates for a member position,  
23 the election officer shall call, and there shall be held, a primary election  
24 *in each such member district. If there are more than three qualified can-*  
25 *didates for the at-large member position, the election officer shall call, and*  
26 *there shall be held, a primary election for the at-large member position.*  
27 ~~The~~ *If a primary election is held, the names of the two candidates re-*  
28 *ceiving the greatest number of votes for any member position shall appear*  
29 *on the ballots in the general election.*

30 (b) In any college district having the election-at-large method and in  
31 which there are more than two times the number of candidates as there  
32 are trustees to be elected, the election officer shall call, and there shall  
33 be held, a primary election. The names of twice the number of candidates  
34 as there are trustees to be elected who receive the greatest number of  
35 votes in the primary shall appear on the ballots in the general election.

36 (c) In the general election, there shall appear on the ballots a line  
37 appropriate for write-in candidates. No lines for write-in candidates shall  
38 appear on the primary election ballots.

39 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-2021, 25-2108a and 71-1415 are hereby repealed.

40 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
41 publication in the statute book.