

## 1 HOUSE BILL NO. 448

2 INTRODUCED BY R. BRODEHL

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING DEADLINES FOR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TRUSTEE  
5 CANDIDACY FILINGS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 20-15-219 AND 20-15-221, MCA."

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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9 **Section 1.** Section 20-15-219, MCA, is amended to read:10 **"20-15-219. Qualifications for office of trustee -- nominating petitions.** (1) Any person who is  
11 qualified to vote in a community college district under the provisions of 20-20-301 is eligible for the office of  
12 community college trustee.13 (2) Any five electors of a community college district qualified under the provisions of 20-20-301 may  
14 nominate as many trustee candidates as there are trustee positions subject to election at the ensuing election.  
15 A nominating petition containing the signatures of the five electors and the name of each person nominated for  
16 candidacy must be submitted to the election clerk designated by the board of trustees no less than ~~30~~ 40 days  
17 before the regular school election day at which the person is to be a candidate. If there are different terms to be  
18 filled, the term for which each candidate is nominated must also be indicated."

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20 **Section 2.** Section 20-15-221, MCA, is amended to read:21 **"20-15-221. Election of trustees after organization of community college district.** (1) After  
22 organization, the registered electors of the community college district qualified to vote under the provisions of  
23 20-20-301 shall annually vote for trustees on the regular school election day provided for in 20-3-304. The  
24 election must be conducted in accordance with the election provisions of this title whenever the provisions are  
25 made applicable to community college districts. Elections must be conducted by the component elementary  
26 school districts within the community college district upon the order of the board of trustees of the community  
27 college district. The order must be transmitted to the appropriate trustees not less than 40 days prior to the  
28 regular school election day.29 (2) Notice of the community college district trustee election must be given by the board of trustees of the  
30 community college district by publication in one or more newspapers of general circulation within each county,

1 not less than once a week for 2 consecutive weeks, with the last insertion to be no more than 1 week prior to the  
2 date of the election. This notice is in addition to the election notice to be given by the trustees of the component  
3 elementary districts under the school election laws.

4 (3) If trustees are elected other than at large throughout the entire district, then only those qualified voters  
5 within the area from which the trustee or trustees are to be elected may cast their ballots for the trustee or  
6 trustees from that area. In addition to the nominating petition required by 20-15-219(2), all candidates for the  
7 office of trustee shall file their declarations of candidacy with the secretary of the board of trustees of the  
8 community college district not less than ~~30~~ 40 days prior to the date of election. If an electronic voting system is  
9 not used in the component elementary school district or districts that conduct the election, the board of trustees  
10 of the community college district shall cause ballots to be printed and distributed for the polling places in the  
11 component districts at the expense of the community college district, but in all other respects the elections must  
12 be conducted in accordance with the school election laws. All costs incident to election of the community college  
13 trustees must be borne by the community college district, including one-half of the compensation of the judges  
14 for the school elections. However, if the election of the community college district trustees is the only election  
15 conducted, the community college district shall compensate the district for the total cost of the election."

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