

ELECTION JUDGES

LEGISLATOR NOTICE

The Legislative Services Division is required to offer a brief history on the subject matter of a bill draft request prior to drafting. (5-4-105, MCA; [Chapter 309, Laws of 2017](#)) The history must include related legislation introduced over the last five sessions and hyperlinks to the bill, hearing information, and fiscal notes. The links below open to the introduced bill. The other information is available by selecting the Additional Bill Links hyperlink at the top of the bill and then the link “Status of this Bill.”

Legislation can be complex and this history is not intended to be exhaustive. Please contact the drafter of the requested bill for more information.

Background Materials and Research

Topic Summary: [Title 13, chapter 4, MCA](#), provides for the qualifications, duties, and selection of election judges. Current law requires election judges to be “electors,” which means the individual must be 18 years of age or older. Election judges are selected by the governing body of a county from lists of qualified, registered electors. Judges are paid at least the state or federal minimum wage, whichever is higher. Political parties submit lists of election judges to the county election administrator, who, if possible, uses the lists to appoint boards of election judges from all political parties that submit lists. If a political party doesn’t submit a list, the election administrator must try to select judges from all of the parties represented on the ballot. Election judges must undergo training.

Legislative Services Division Materials:

Other Materials:

[Serve As An Election Judge](#) – Montana Secretary of State’s Office

[Montana Election Judge Manual 2018](#) – Montana Secretary of State’s Office

[Missoula County Election Judge Resource Center](#) – Missoula County, Montana

Introduced Legislation

2017

[House Bill No. 86](#) -- (S) Died in Standing Committee -- AN ACT ALLOWING FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CERTAIN LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES WHO MAY SERVE; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-101, 13-4-101,

ELECTION JUDGES

13-4-102, 13-4-107, 13-13-226, 13-15-112, 20-20-109, AND 20-20-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING A TERMINATION DATE.

[Senate Bill No. 163](#) -- Chapter Number Assigned -- AN ACT REVISING QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION JUDGES; PROVIDING THAT ELECTION JUDGES MUST BE CHOSEN FROM LISTS OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS IN A COUNTY; REVISING PROVISIONS RELATED TO CANDIDATES OR RELATIVES SERVING AS ELECTION JUDGES; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-4-102, 13-4-103, 13-4-107, AND 13-13-226, MCA.

2015

[House Bill No. 18](#) -- (H) Missed Deadline for General Bill Transmittal -- AN ACT ALLOWING FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES AT POLLING PLACES AND ON COUNTING BOARDS AND ABSENTEE ELECTION BOARDS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-101, 13-4-101, 13-4-102, 13-4-107, 13-13-226, 13-15-112, 20-20-109, AND 20-20-203, MCA.

2013

[House Bill No. 327](#) -- (H) Died in Standing Committee -- AN ACT ALLOWING FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES AT POLLING PLACES AND ON COUNTING BOARDS AND SPECIAL ABSENTEE ELECTION BOARDS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-101, 13-4-101, 13-4-102, 13-4-107, 13-13-226, 13-15-112, 20-20-109, AND 20-20-203, MCA.

2011

[House Bill No. 88](#) -- (H) Died in Standing Committee -- AN ACT ALLOWING FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES AT POLLING PLACES AND ON COUNTING BOARDS AND SPECIAL ABSENTEE ELECTION BOARDS; AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-101, 13-4-101, 13-4-102, 13-4-107, 13-13-226, 13-15-112, 20-20-109, AND 20-20-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING A TERMINATION DATE.

2009

[House Bill No. 30](#) -- (S) Died in Process -- AN ACT ALLOWING FOR YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING CRITERIA FOR SCHOOL ELECTION JUDGES AND YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES; ESTABLISHING LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF YOUTH ELECTION JUDGES AT POLLING PLACES AND ON COUNTING BOARDS AND SPECIAL ABSENTEE ELECTION BOARDS; AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-101, 13-4-101, 13-4-102, 13-4-107, 13-13-226, 13-15-112, AND 20-20-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.