

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

619Y0004

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by: _____

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to establish the initial procedures for election to river basin
2 district councils in the 2018 general election.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 Each river basin district shall have a governing council consisting of six council members.
6 Two council members shall be elected from each subdistrict. For a person to be eligible for a
7 council position, the person shall be a registered voter in the subdistrict for which the person is
8 seeking election.

9 Section 2. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

10 The initial council members shall be elected at the 2018 general election.

11 Section 3. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

12 Before the 2018 election, each county auditor shall give public notice of each district council
13 position for which nominating petitions may be filed in that county. Notice shall be published
14 in all county legal newspapers at least once a week for two consecutive weeks. The last
15 publication may not be less than ten nor more than fifteen days before the deadline for filing of
16 nominating petitions.



Section 4. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

Nominating petitions shall be made available at the Office of the Secretary of State and each county auditor's office on a form prescribed by the State Board of Elections. A candidate shall be nominated by a petition signed by at least twenty-five registered voters of the subdistrict area to be represented by the candidate. No candidate for the initial election may circulate any petition for signatures before January 1, 2018.

A candidate seeking election to a river basin natural resource district council shall submit a nominating petition to the secretary of state by five p.m. on July 1, 2018. A petition shall be considered filed if the petition is mailed by registered mail by five p.m. on July 1, 2018.

The initial council members from each subdistrict, elected in the 2018 general election, shall be elected to serve staggered terms. One member shall be elected to serve a four-year term and the second member shall be elected to serve a two-year term. A candidate shall declare at the time the candidate submits a nominating petition if the candidate is seeking the two-year term position or the four-year term position. After the 2018 general election the term for each council member shall be a four-year term.

Section 5. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

Any person who is a registered voter of the river basin natural resource district subdistrict is eligible to vote in an election for a council member for that subdistrict.

Section 6. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

If no candidate receives a majority of the vote in the general election then the council position shall be filled by the candidate who receives the most votes.

Section 7. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

A council member shall take office on the second Tuesday in January of 2019. Before assuming the duties of office, all council members shall take an official oath pursuant to § 3-1-5

1 and execute an official bond. The official bond shall be in an amount not less than one thousand
2 dollars. Each official bond shall comply with chapter 3-5. The cost of an official bond may be
3 paid by the district.