

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT MOVING MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS TO EVEN-NUMBERED
5 YEARS; PROVIDING A TRANSITION FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICERS; AMENDING SECTION 13-1-104, MCA;
6 AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

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

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10 **Section 1.** Section 13-1-104, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"13-1-104. Times for holding general elections.** (1) A general election must be held throughout the
12 state on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

13 (2) In every even-numbered year, the following elections must be held on general election day:

14 (a) an election on any ballot issue submitted to electors pursuant to Article III, section 6, unless the
15 legislature orders a special election, or Article XIV, section 8, of the Montana constitution;

16 (b) an election of federal officers, members of the legislature, state officers, multicounty district
17 officers elected at a statewide election, district court judges, and county officers; and

18 (c) an election of officers for municipalities required by law to hold the election; and

19 (d) any other election required by law to be held on general election day in an even-numbered
20 year.

21 (3) ~~In every odd-numbered year, the following elections must be held on the same day as the~~
22 ~~general election:~~

23 (~~_____~~ a) ~~an election of officers for municipalities required by law to hold the election; and~~

24 (~~_____~~ b) ~~any other~~ Only an election required by law to be held on general election day in an odd-
25 numbered year may be held in an odd-numbered year."

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27 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Transition.** (1) For a municipal officer whose term of office ends in
28 January 2026, there must be an election in 2025 for a one-year term of office.

(2) For a municipal officer whose term of office ends in January 2028 or January 2030, there must be a special election for a one-year term proceeding when their term of office is set to end. This special election must take place during the preceding even-numbered year general election.

5 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Saving clause.** [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured,
6 penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

8 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

10 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Applicability.** [This act] applies to all municipal elections scheduled on
11 or after [the effective date of this act].

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