

Government Administration and Elections Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: SB-393 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT CONCERNING SPECIAL ELECTIONS TO FILL VACANCIES DUE TO

Title: THE DEATH OF AN ELECTED OFFICIAL.

Vote Date: 3/23/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/13/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

The Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

SB 393's main goal is to enforce that if a sudden absence of a legislator occurs, the Governor must issue a writ of election to the late legislator represented in the span of ten days. This special election would have to be held on the one hundred and fiftieth day after the writ was issued and on any day besides Saturday and Sunday. The bill delays when the governor may issue a writ calling an election because recently multiple state representatives sadly passed away and many of their friends and family had to start campaign work on their successors while simultaneously grieving and attending their funeral processions. This will allow friends and family to be able to grieve a little before they have to begin the work of politics again.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

[Gales Ferry, Resident, Jacob Hurt](#) supports SB 393 as it would provide the family of elected members to mourn their loss before an election goes underway. He expresses how he felt uncomfortable when Representative Ryan passed away and before his funeral an announcement for a special election occurred. He urges the committee to take three points into consideration: the timeframe must require the final funeral arrangements to be completed before the special election is announced, the special election takes place on a Tuesday and include a budget for the town(s) partaking in special election.

[Anonymous 84](#) expressed support for SB 393 as they believe it would be a practical cleanup.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

[Anonymous 95](#) opposes SB 393 as they believe it has too many items and politely requests the number for bills to be decreased to seven.

Reported by: Rachel Casasnovas

Date: 3/31/26