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Municipal Elections Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Todd D. Weiler 2 3 **LONG TITLE** 4 **General Description:** 5 This bill amends the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project. 6 **Highlighted Provisions:** This bill: 7 8 • extends the expiration of the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project from 9 January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2036; and 10 makes a conforming change. 11 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:** 12 None 13 **Other Special Clauses:** 14 This bill provides a special effective date. **Utah Code Sections Affected:** 15 16 AMENDS: 17 **20A-4-602**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 170 18 **63I-2-220**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Fourth Special Session, Chapter 2 19 20 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:* 21 Section 1. Section **20A-4-602** is amended to read: 20A-4-602. Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project -- Creation --22 23 Participation. 24 (1) There is created the Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project. 25 (2) The pilot project begins on January 1, 2019, and ends on January 1, [2026] 2036. (3)(a) A municipality may participate in the pilot project, in accordance with the 26 27 requirements of this section and all other applicable provisions of law, during any 28 odd-numbered year that the pilot project is in effect, if, before May 1 of the 29 odd-numbered year, the legislative body of the municipality: 30 (i) votes to participate; and (ii) provides written notice to the lieutenant governor and the county clerk stating that 31

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32 the municipality intends to participate in the pilot project for the year specified in 33 the notice. 34 (b) The legislative body of a municipality that provides the notice of intent described in Subsection (3)(a) may withdraw the notice of intent, and not participate in the pilot 35 36 project, if the legislative body of the municipality provides written notice of 37 withdrawal to the lieutenant governor and the county clerk before May 1. 38 (4) The lieutenant governor shall maintain, in a prominent place on the lieutenant 39 governor's website, a current list of the municipalities that are participating in the pilot 40 project. 41 (5)(a) An election officer of a participating municipality shall, in accordance with the 42 provisions of this part, conduct a multi-candidate race during the municipal general 43 election using instant runoff voting. 44 (b) Except as provided in Subsection 20A-4-603(9), an election officer of a participating 45 municipality that will conduct a multi-candidate race under Subsection (5)(a) may not 46 conduct a municipal primary election relating to that race. 47 (c) A municipality that has in effect an ordinance described in Subsection 20A-9-404(3) 48 or (4) may not participate in the pilot project. 49 (6) Except for an election described in Subsection 20A-4-603(9), an individual who files a 50 declaration of candidacy or a nomination petition, for a candidate who will run in an 51 election described in this part, shall file the declaration of candidacy or nomination 52 petition during the office hours described in Section 10-3-301 and not later than the 53 close of those office hours, no sooner than the second Tuesday in August and no later 54 than the third Tuesday in August of an odd-numbered year. 55 Section 2. Section **63I-2-220** is amended to read: 56 63I-2-220. Repeal dates: Title 20A. 57 (1) Section 20A-7-103.1, Constitutional amendments proposed during specified timeframe 58 -- Analysis -- Arguments -- Publication, is repealed July 1, 2025. 59 (2) Title 20A, Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, is 60 repealed January 1, [2026] 2036. 61 Section 3. Effective Date. 62 This bill takes effect on January 1, 2026.