

January 17, 2024

SB 249 and SB 254 – Proponent testimony for both

Name:

Representing:

Chairman Thompson and Members of the Committee,

I'm writing this testimony to support the passing of SB 249 and SB 254. These bills deal with the important act of selecting replacements for the positions of State Insurance Commissioner and State Treasurer (SB 249) and United States Senate (SB 254) respectively.

In both cases the bills give the power of selection to the political party of the previous office holder rather than giving the governor the unilateral power of appointment. It is appropriate for the selection of replacements to be entrusted to the people via the representative system of the political parties holding that office rather than a single official having carte blanche to award the vacant seat as they wish.

This method of filling vacancies via selection by an elected body is used for nearly all positions within the state and should be extended to these statewide elected offices as well.

Thank you for your consideration,