

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Don Myers at 3:30 p.m. on February 10, 2003 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Yonally, Excused

Committee staff present: Ken Wilke, Revisor  
Dennis Hodgins, Research  
Kathie Sparks, Research  
Shirley Weideman, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Representative Frank Miller

Others attending: See attached list.

Chairman Myers opened the hearing on **HCR 5005 - Elections; Concurrent Resolution urging Congress to simplify the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 regarding removal of voters from voter registration lists.**

Chair Myers asked Ken Wilke, Revisor of Statutes, to explain the resolution, **HCR 5005.** He said that, currently, it is possible to remove someone from the voter registration list if they request in writing to be removed, if there is a court order for the name to be removed, or if there is notification from the Department of Vital Statistics that the person has died. If a person on the voter registration list moves outside the county, does not notify the county elections officer, and fails to respond to a notice sent by that officer, then a second notice must be sent to them. If no response is received after the second notice, then the officer must wait 45 days before putting that voter on the suspended list. Ken also said that this resolution would allow the county election officer to remove the name from the voter's registration list if the voter had not voted in 3 consecutive federal elections, and after having published their name in the newspaper if they missed the 2 preceding federal elections.

Representative Frank Miller appeared before the committee as a proponent for **HCR 5005.** He said that current law requires that the local elections official send out a letter to persons who do not vote in the previous two general elections, asking if their name and address is still current. This first letter is non-forwardable. If the first letter is returned, then a second forwardable letter is sent out with a self-addressed postage prepaid card included for the person to fill out indicating his/her new address. Representative Miller said that this procedure is very time consuming, costly, and in many cases inaccurate. He said this bill would greatly simplify the procedure for the removal of a name from the voter registration list by removing the name if the voter has not voted in 3 consecutive federal elections. (Attachment 1)

Representative Miller answered questions asked by committee members.

Chairman Myers closed the hearing on **HCR 5005.**

Committee Chair Myers said the committee would work **HCR 5005.**

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE ETHICS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE at on February 10, 2003 in Room 521-S of the Capitol.

Representative Huff moved to **amend HCR 5005** by removing “only to” from line 36. Representative Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Representative Huff moved and the motion was seconded by Representative McLeland that **HCR 5005 as amended** be passed favorably from committee. Motion passed.

Chair Myers directed the committee’s attention to the five sets of minutes they received for January 22, 27, 29 and February 3, 5. They can look them over, with approval scheduled at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is February 12.