

## SENATE BILL No. 211

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 3-13-11.

**Synopsis:** Cancellation of caucus meeting. Allows a notice of a caucus meeting to be rescinded if only one candidate seeks to fill a vacancy in a local office or a school board office held by a major party.

**Effective:** July 1, 2026.

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### Holdman

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January 8, 2026, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections.

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Introduced

Second Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2026)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2025 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 211

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A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning elections.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1        SECTION 1. IC 3-13-11-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,  
2        SECTION 162, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3        [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) Except as provided in  
4        subsections (b) and (e) and section 3.5 of this chapter, after a vacancy  
5        occurs and not later than ten (10) days after a vacancy occurs in an  
6        office subject to this chapter, the county chairman:

7                (1) of the county in which the greatest percentage of the  
8                population of the election district of the office is located; and  
9                (2) of the same political party that elected or selected the official  
10                who vacated the office;

11        shall give notice of a caucus to all eligible precinct committeemen.

12        (b) A county chairman may give notice of a caucus before the time  
13        specified under subsection (a) if a vacancy will exist because the  
14        official has:

15                (1) submitted a written resignation under IC 5-8-3.5;  
16                (2) been elected to another office; or  
17                (3) submitted a notice under IC 5-9-4 to take a leave of absence



1 for active duty in the armed forces or national guard.

2 (c) Notwithstanding IC 5-8-4, a person may not withdraw the  
 3 person's resignation after the resignation has been accepted by the  
 4 person authorized to accept the resignation less than seventy-two (72)  
 5 hours before the announced starting time of a caucus under this section.

6 (d) Except as provided in subsections (e) and (f) and ~~section~~  
 7 **sections 3.5 and 10(c)** of this chapter, a caucus under this section shall  
 8 be held after giving notice to caucus members under section 4 of this  
 9 chapter and not later than thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs.

10 (e) If a vacancy exists in an office because of the death of the  
 11 officeholder, the caucus shall meet and select an individual to fill the  
 12 vacancy not later than thirty (30) days after the county chairman  
 13 receives notice of the death under IC 5-8-6. The county chairman shall  
 14 give notice to caucus members under section 4 of this chapter. The  
 15 county chairman may not give the notice required by section 4 of this  
 16 chapter until the county chairman receives notice of the death under  
 17 IC 5-8-6.

18 (f) If a person or entity that receives notice of a resignation under  
 19 IC 5-8-3.5-1(b) fails to provide timely notice of the resignation to the  
 20 person or entity with the power to fill the vacancy or call the caucus,  
 21 the person or entity with the power to fill the vacancy or call that  
 22 caucus:

23 (1) may immediately proceed to fill the vacancy or call the caucus  
 24 without prior receipt of the notice; and

25 (2) must do so not later than thirty (30) days after receiving the  
 26 notice from the person or entity that received the notice of  
 27 resignation.

28 SECTION 2. IC 3-13-11-3.5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.119-2005,  
 29 SECTION 24, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 30 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3.5. (a) If a vacancy exists on a town council  
 31 because a circumstance has occurred under IC 36-5-2-6.5(3), **except as**  
 32 **provided in section 10(c) of this chapter**, the caucus shall meet and  
 33 select an individual to fill the vacancy not later than thirty (30) days  
 34 after the county chairman receives a notice of the vacancy under  
 35 IC 5-8-5.

36 (b) The county chairman shall:

37 (1) give notice of the caucus meeting to caucus members under  
 38 section 4 of this chapter; and

39 (2) keep the notice of the vacancy with the records of the caucus.

40 SECTION 3. IC 3-13-11-10, AS AMENDED BY P.L.240-2025,  
 41 SECTION 34, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 42 JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 10. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), the



1 members of a caucus held under this chapter shall select, by a majority  
2 vote of those casting a vote for a candidate, a person to fill the vacancy  
3 described in the written notice of the caucus.

4 (b) If more than one (1) person seeks to fill the vacancy, the  
5 selection shall be conducted by secret ballot.

6 (c) The following apply if only one (1) person seeks to fill the  
7 vacancy:

8 **(1) The notice for a caucus sent under section 4 of this chapter**  
9 **may be rescinded and the caucus is not required to meet.**  
10 (†) (2) A vote under subsection (a) is not required.  
11 (‡) (3) The county chairman may select that person to fill the  
12 vacancy.

