



**Minutes  
Legislation & Rules Committee  
Tuesday, June 24, 2025  
2:00 PM  
Kennedy Room**

**Minutes are preliminary and may change until finally approved**

**I. Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll and the following members answered their names: Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan, Ms. Keys, Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Devoti, Chair Velazquez, and President Green. **7 members were present. A quorum was established.**

**III. Approval of Minutes**

None

**IV. Board Bills for Review**

(The committee will discuss the following and take public comment on the following)

**Board Bill Number 5**

**Introduced by Michael Browning, Rasheen Aldridge**

An ordinance changing the filing fee of citywide elected offices, including mayor, comptroller, and President of the Board of Aldermen, to two hundred and fifty dollars and changing the filing fee for Aldermen to one hundred dollars.

Chair Velazquez recognized Mr. Browning for introducing Board Bill Number 5 before the committee.

Mr. Browning presented a PowerPoint presentation outlining the reasons for the changes to the filing fees for the city-wide elected offices and how it

would affect future candidates.

After no further discussion, the Chair recognized Casey Millburg, Policy Director for the Mayor's Office.

Ms. Millburg spoke in support of Board Bill Number 5. She stated that it's a simple fix with a substantially broad positive and smart impact that is commensurate with other jurisdictions. She stated that it is not a sum of money that is dependent upon in the annual budget. She stated that it's based upon the number of folks who file every single year, so we would not be short-changing anything that is completely and totally relied upon in a consistent way by our board of elections.

After no further discussion, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Mr. Narayan stated that he is not in favor of Board Bill Number 5 the way it is right now. He stated that the issues that Prop D has caused need to be cleaned up. He stated that if candidates paid personally for the filing fees, he would be behind it. He stated that a signature barrier would be a much stricter barrier to entry than funds that could be raised through a campaign account. He stated that much more work needs to be done on Board Bill Number 5.

Mr. Devoti stated that in Kansas City, Missouri there is no filing fee requirement but a signature petition requirement. He asked what those requirements were and if they were comparable to the City of St. Louis.

Mr. Browning stated that there are 300 signatures for the wards and 500 at large. So, depending on the turnout, it could be higher. He stated that the City of St. Louis is higher dependent on how many people voted for mayor the last time around, so the more engaged electorate you have, the higher the signature requirement would be. If you base the amount off of the last election, St Louis would have a slightly higher signature requirement.

President Green stated that she is in support of Board Bill Number 5. She stated that it is a good common sense clean-up Board Bill. She stated that paying pretty hefty ballot filing fees is more of a product of the salary increases that happened when the Board of Aldermen went from part-time to full-time. She stated that the change to Prop D was that instead of the money

going to the political party, it went to the city. President Green asked to be added as a co-sponsor to Board Bill Number 5.

Chair Velazquez stated that she is in support of Board Bill Number 5 and agreed with everything President Green stated.

After no further questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair recognized Mr. Borgmeyer, Democratic Director, Board of Elections.

Mr. Borgmeyer explained the filing fee to run for office in the City of St. Louis is out of whack with other state offices. He stated that Board Bill Number 5 allows for the fees to align more with other states. He explained that initially when the Bill was filed there was a note that stated that the fiscal impact on the Election Board does not collect those fees and that would go to the general revenue.

After no further discussion, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the committee for questions and comments.

Hearing no questions or comments from members of the committee, the Chair opened the discussion up to members of the public for public testimony.

### **Not In Support of Board Bill Number 5**

#### 1. Sean Fauss

Hearing no further testimony from members of the public, the Chair Velazquez entertained a motion to pass Board Bill Number 5 out of committee with a **Do Pass Recommendation**.

Mr. Devoti moved to pass Board Bill Number 5 out of committee with a **Do Pass Recommendation**.

Seconded by Ms. Velazquez.

The Chair directed the Associate Clerk to call the roll.

The Associate Clerk called the roll and the following votes were recorded. The following voted Aye: Mr. Devoti, President Green and Chair

Velazquez **3 Aye votes were cast.**

The following voted No: Mr. Cohn, Mr. Narayan  
Two

The following voted Present: Ms. Keys, Ms. Sonnier  
Two

The following Abstained:  
None

**A total of 3 Aye votes, 2 No votes and 2 Present votes were cast. The motion failed.**

After no further discussion, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

**V. Resolutions for Review**

None

**VI. Committee Discussions**

None

**VII. Acknowledgment of Any Written Testimony**

None

**VIII. Announcements**

None

**IX. Excused Members**

All members were present.

**X. Adjournment**

Having no other business to discuss, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Sonnier moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Cohn.

**The motion was carried by unanimous consent.**

**The meeting adjourned at 2:38 p.m.**

[MIN\_SIGNATURES]