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HOUSE BILL NO. 55

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled December 19, 2011

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-515 of the Code of Virginia, relating to dates of primaries; presidential year primaries.*

 Patron—Cole

 Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 24.2-515 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 24.2-515. Primary dates; presidential election year primaries.

~~Primaries~~A. *Except as provided in subsection B, primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election date in November shall be held on the second Tuesday in June next preceding such election, except that beginning with the year 2012 and in presidential election years thereafter, primaries to choose among presidential candidates may be held as provided in Article 7 (§ 24.2-544 et seq.).* Primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election date in May shall be held on the first Tuesday in March next preceding such election.

B. *In presidential election years beginning in the year 2016, primaries to choose among presidential candidates shall be held as provided in Article 7 (§ 24.2-544 et seq.), and primaries for the nomination of candidates for offices to be voted on at the general election in November shall be held on the same date as the presidential primary. The schedule and deadlines applicable to notices, filings, and ballots for the presidential primary shall be applicable to other primaries held on the date of the presidential primary. The State Board of Elections shall promulgate instructions to implement the provisions of this subsection.*

INTRODUCED

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