

House File 157 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 157
BY BARKER

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to petitions for special elections to fill
2 vacancies in city offices.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 372.13, subsection 2, paragraph a,
2 subparagraph (2), unnumbered paragraph 1, Code 2025, is amended
3 to read as follows:

4 If the council chooses to proceed under this paragraph,
5 it shall publish notice in the manner prescribed by section
6 362.3, stating that the council intends to fill the vacancy by
7 appointment but that the electors of the city or ward, as the
8 case may be, have the right to file a petition requiring that
9 the vacancy be filled by a special election if the remaining
10 balance of the unexpired term is at least one year. The council
11 may publish notice in advance if an elected official submits
12 a resignation to take effect at a future date. The council
13 may make an appointment to fill the vacancy after the notice
14 is published or after the vacancy occurs, whichever is later.
15 However, if within fourteen days after publication of the notice
16 or within fourteen days after the appointment is made, there is
17 filed with the city clerk a petition which requests a special
18 election to fill the vacancy and the remaining balance of the
19 unexpired term is at least one year, an appointment to fill
20 the vacancy is temporary and the council shall call a special
21 election to fill the vacancy permanently, under paragraph "b".
22 The number of signatures of eligible electors of a city for a
23 valid petition shall be determined as follows:

24 EXPLANATION

25 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
26 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

27 This bill relates to the filling of vacancies in elective
28 city offices. If a city council chooses to fill a vacancy in
29 an elective city office by appointment, the bill allows eligible
30 electors of a city to submit a petition to fill the vacancy by a
31 special election only if the remaining balance of the unexpired
32 term is at least one year.