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Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

H.B. 93 of the 134th General Assembly

Senate Local Government and Elections

Emily E. Wendel, Attorney

Changes to Address Confidentiality Program

Removes a provision of the bill that would have allowed a participant in the Address Confidentiality Program who was seeking to acquire real property to provide a confidentiality notice to any private party involved in the acquisition process, such as a realtor, lawyer, or seller, and require the person to keep the program participant's information confidential.

Specifies that a real estate professional and or county official is not liable for damages resulting from the person's failure to discover a defect in title, failure to properly index or record a person's interest in property, or failure to alert a professional to rely on confidential information, when that failure was the proximate result of an individual's participation in the Address Confidentiality Program, *unless the person was negligent*, instead of notwithstanding any negligence.

Clarifies the criminal penalties related to unlawful disclosure of a program participant's confidential information to prohibit a person who obtains that confidential information from a government office from redisclosing the information, but not to penalize a private party who discloses a program participant's confidential information after receiving it directly from the program participant.

2022 primary election

Delays certain election deadlines for the May 3, 2022 primary election, to account for delays in Ohio's redistricting processes.

Modifies certain petition requirements for candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives, the General Assembly, and party central committees in order to allow filings to be considered valid if the petitions were circulated or even filed before the new district plans were known.

Relaxes requirements regarding the district number and the candidate's residence address indicated on the filing, the board of elections with which the documents are filed, the date of the petition signatures, and where the signers reside.

Emergency clause

Declares an emergency, and specifies that the provisions of the bill related to the 2022 primary election take effect immediately.