

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2498

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LOVASCO.

5098H.02I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 182, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to public library administration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 182, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 182.951, to read as follows:

182.951. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a public library that is authorized by state law to levy or collect taxes of any kind shall be governed by an elected public library board, subject to the following:

(1) A public library board shall have five members. Any library board that exists before August 28, 2024, may elect to continue with its current number of board members, provided that the total membership is an odd number;

(2) An election for public library board members shall be on the general election day established under section 115.121 only. No primary election shall be held for a public library board member;

(3) A public library board member shall serve a term of two years;

(4) A candidate for a public library board elected under this section shall be at least eighteen years of age and shall not have pled guilty to or been convicted of any offense that would prohibit such candidate from being present in a public library; and

(5) A candidate may declare a political party affiliation to be listed next to the candidate's name on the ballot. If a candidate does not declare a political party affiliation, the candidate shall be listed on the ballot as an Independent.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **2. Notwithstanding any existing or future duties assigned by ordinance, statute,**
18 **or county charter, a public library board shall, at a minimum, be responsible for the**
19 **oversight and final approval or rejection of:**

20 **(1) Selecting, curating, and removing materials made available for public**
21 **lending or use at the public library;**

22 **(2) All current or prospective public library employees, contractors, or**
23 **volunteers;**

24 **(3) All events or activities to be held on public library property; and**

25 **(4) Any building, infrastructure, or capital improvement projects related to**
26 **public library facilities.**

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