

**ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2011**  
**COMMITTEE STATEMENT**  
**LB503**

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**Hearing Date:** Wednesday February 16, 2011  
**Committee On:** Government, Military and Veterans Affairs  
**Introducer:** Pirsch  
**One Liner:** Change provisions for filling a vacancy on a ballot

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**Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:**  
Advanced to General File

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**Vote Results:**

<b>Aye:</b>	6	Senators Avery, Brasch, Karpisek, Price, Schumacher, Sullivan
<b>Nay:</b>		
<b>Absent:</b>	2	Senators Janssen, Pahls
<b>Present Not Voting:</b>		

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**Proponents:**

Senator Pete Pirsch  
Neal Erickson

**Representing:**

Introducer  
Secretary of State

**Opponents:**

**Representing:**

**Neutral:**

**Representing:**

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**Summary of purpose and/or changes:**

LB 503 harmonizes provisions dealing with a vacancy created by a declination of a candidate and a vacancy created when a candidate withdraws.

First, the bill makes changes when a person is nominated for elective office for the general election and the person declines the nomination. With the bill, the filing officer is required to inform the chair or secretary of the campaign or political party committee of the declination if there is one within the jurisdiction of the filing officer. If there is not, the filing officer will inform at least three of the prominent members of the candidate's political party within the jurisdiction of the filing officer of the declination. Such declination will create a vacancy on the ballot.

Under current law, if a vacancy of the ballot arises for any partisan office, the chair and secretary of the executive committee of the political party must file with the filing officer a certificate setting forth the cause of the vacancy and the name and address of the new nominee. LB 503 provides that if there is no executive committee of the political party or in lieu of the executive committee filling the vacancy, a mass convention of the political party may fill the vacancy.

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Bill Avery, Chairperson