

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Florida House Revises the Date of the Presidential Preference Primary**

**Tallahassee, Fla.**—The Florida House of Representatives today passed HB 7035 which sets the date for the Presidential Preference Primary as the third Tuesday in March in each presidential election year.

“With the passage of HB 7035, Chair Workman has maximized the impact Florida voters will have on selecting the Republican and Democrat presidential nominees in 2016,” said House Speaker Steve Crisafulli (R-Merritt Island). “I applaud his work on this good piece of legislation.”

“Florida is now the third largest state in the country, and our voters should have an important and meaningful role in selecting the presidential nominees of both parties for 2016,” said Rep. Ritch Workman (R-Melbourne), Chair of the Rules, Calendar & Ethics Committee and sponsor of the bill. “With this bill, we set Florida’s Presidential Preference Primary on the date allowed by both parties’ rules that gives the political parties the most flexibility and that will encourage candidates to spend more time here talking to Floridians about issues that are important to our state.”

The presidential preference primary is an election for Florida’s major political parties to determine which party candidates should be nominated at the parties’ national conventions to be their presidential candidates in the November general election. Florida law requires the primary to be held on the first Tuesday that the rules of the major political parties provide for state delegations to be allocated without penalty.

The bill revises the date of the primary. Specifically, the bill requires the primary to be held on the third Tuesday in March in each presidential election year.

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