**APRIL 9, 2024** 

## **Elections and Measures**

The Primary Election is on June 11 (62 days!) Let's take a little closer look...

**New faces coming to the Senate.** Of the 25 State Senate seats up for grabs this election, 9 candidates have no primary or general election opponent, including three newcomers. Eight (8) seats are considered open (the incumbent chose not to run). That still ensures *at least* a 17% turnover in the upper house. Five (5) seats will have primary races (all Republican), 2, 6, 14, 30 and 42.

**House races abound.** There are 49 House of Representative seats on the general ballot this November. Nine (9) seats are considered open (the incumbent chose not to run). Five (5) districts have no primary or general election opponents (12, 15, 20 and 44 and 4b). The following Districts will have a Primary Election: 2, 6, 8, 9 (both GOP and D-NPL), 14, 26, 30, 32, 34, 38, 42.

**Statewide races**. The Governor's race and the race for ND's solo US House of Representative's seat is certainly going to dominate our screens and advertising space in the next 60 days. The GOP Primary Election will feature five (5) candidates while the Dem-NPL side will have two candidates vying for a spot on the November ballot.

**Initiated measure on the primary ballot** So far, one Initiated Constitutional Measure has filed signatures for the June 11 primary election. Ballot Measure #1 aims to limit Federal office seekers from being over the age of 80 (in North Dakota). <u>Link to measure language here</u>. Experts have speculated it might be legally challenged if passed and Legislative leaders are considering setting aside up to \$1 million if that transpires.

**Other Ballot Measures petitions being circulated** – Elimination of property taxes in North Dakota. The deadline to file 31,164 VALID signatures is June 29, after which the Secretary of State's office will certify or deny the measure to be placed on the November 5 ballot. Also in circulation mode is the initiated Constitutional Measure "Election Integrity Act" which amends Article III of the ND Constitution related to measures, mail-in voting, and limiting legislative authority over certain election activities, among other items. Read the entire measure here. This group has until July 8 to submit the required valid signatures.

Three November ballot measures were approved by the 2023 Legislative Assembly. Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 4001 relates to terminology describing public institutions, SCR 4013 addresses initiated constitutional measures, and HCR 3033 deals with spending and transfers of funds from the State's Legacy Fund. We'll break these down in a future issue, after the dust settles from the Primary Election. Get a head start reviewing these measures by clicking here.

