

Senate File 383 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 383

BY WAHLS

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to courts of contest for disputed congressional
2 elections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 60.5, Code 2021, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **60.5 Organization and trial.**

4 1. The clerk of the court shall, immediately after the
5 filing of the statement, notify the judges herein named, and
6 fix a day for the organization of the court within two days
7 thereafter, and also notify the parties to the contest. The
8 judges shall meet on the day fixed, and organize the court, and
9 make and announce such rules for the trial of the case as they
10 shall think necessary for the protection of the rights of each
11 party and a just and speedy trial of the case, and commence the
12 trial of the case as early as practicable thereafter, and so
13 arrange for and conduct the trial that a final determination
14 of the same and judgment shall be rendered at least six days
15 before the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December
16 next following, except as provided in subsection 2.

17 2. When the court hears a case for an election for a seat
18 in the United States senate or the United States house of
19 representatives, final determination and judgment shall be
20 rendered after such time as the court deems necessary for the
21 completion of the trial.

22 EXPLANATION

23 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
24 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

25 This bill relates to courts of contest organized to hear
26 contests for seats in the United States senate or the United
27 States house of representatives. The bill requires the
28 court to render a final determination and judgment after
29 such time as the court deems necessary for the completion of
30 the trial. Under current law, courts of contest for both
31 presidential electors and seats in congress must render a final
32 determination and judgment at least six days before the first
33 Monday after the second Wednesday in December.