

State Board to Look at Watauga Elections Issues

Written by Steve Frank

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Complaints loudly lodged with the Watauga Board of Elections Monday are now being heard in Raleigh, that as the N.C. State Board of Elections is reviewing complaints stemming from quite a few changes made by the Republican-majority Watauga County Board of Elections. The changes voted upon in a series of 2 to 1 votes affect voting precincts, the management of the local elections office and the way public meetings are conducted. The state board is looking at the change of Boone precincts from three to one, eliminating the voting site used primarily by Appalachian State University students — a move roundly criticized by Democrats member Kathleen Campbell at Monday's meeting. Don Wright, the general counsel of the state board of elections, told the Winston-Salem Journal "We are making no prejudgments, but we'll carefully review the matter." Under the plan, the new precinct has 9,340 active and inactive voters.