

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
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HOUSE BILL 91
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/22/07
Senate Select Committee on Government and Election Reform Committee
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Short Title: Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 8, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR IN-PERSON REGISTRATION AND VOTING AT
ONE-STOP ABSENTEE VOTING SITES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is amended
by adding a new section to read:

"§ 163-82.6A. In-person registration and voting at one-stop sites.

(a) Who May Register in Person. – In accordance with the provisions in this section, an individual who is qualified to register to vote may register in person and then vote at a one-stop voting site in the person's county of residence during the period for one-stop voting provided under G.S. 163-227.2. For purposes of this section, a one-stop voting site includes the county board of elections office, if that office is used for one-stop voting.

(b) Both Attestation and Proof of Residence Required. – To register and vote under this section, the person shall do both of the following:

(1) Complete a voter registration form as prescribed in G.S. 163-82.4, including the attestation requirement of G.S. 163-82.4(b) that the person meets each eligibility requirement. Such attestation is signed under penalty of a Class I felony under G.S. 163-275(13); and

(2) Provide proof of residence by presenting any of the following valid documents that show the person's current name and current residence address: a North Carolina drivers license, a photo identification from a government agency, or any of the documents listed in G.S. 163-166.12(a)(2). The State Board of Elections may designate additional documents or methods that suffice and shall prescribe procedures for establishing proof of residence.

1 **(b1) Materials in English.** – No registration form or ballot used pursuant to this
2 section shall be printed in any language other than English, except as otherwise required
3 by federal law.

4 **(c) Voting With Retrievable Ballot.** – A person who registers under this section
5 shall vote a retrievable absentee ballot as provided in G.S. 163-227.2 immediately after
6 registering. If a person declines to vote immediately, the registration shall be processed,
7 and the person may later vote at a one-stop voting site under this section in the same
8 election.

9 **(d) Verification of Registration; Counting of Ballot.** – Within two business days
10 of the person's registration under this section, the county board of elections in
11 conjunction with the State Board of Elections shall verify the North Carolina drivers
12 license or Social Security number in accordance with G.S. 163-82.12, update the
13 statewide registration database and search for possible duplicate registrations, and
14 proceed under G.S. 163-82.7 to verify the person's address. The person's vote shall be
15 counted unless the county board determines that the applicant is not qualified to vote in
16 accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

17 **(e) Change of Registration at One-Stop Voting Site.** – A person who is already
18 registered to vote in the county may update the information in the registration record in
19 accordance with procedures prescribed by the State Board of Elections, but an
20 individual's party affiliation may not be changed during the one-stop voting period
21 before any first or second partisan primary in which the individual is eligible to vote."

22 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-82.6(c) reads as rewritten:

23 "(c) **Registration Deadlines for an Election.** – In order to be valid for an election,
24 except as provided in G.S. 163-82.6A, the form:

- 25 (1) If submitted by mail, must be postmarked at least 25 days before the
26 election, except that any mailed application on which the postmark is
27 missing or unclear is validly submitted if received in the mail not later
28 than 20 days before the election,
- 29 (2) If submitted in person, by facsimile transmission, or by transmission of
30 a scanned document, must be received by the county board of elections
31 by a time established by that board, but no earlier than 5:00 P.M., on
32 the twenty-fifth day before the election,
- 33 (3) If submitted through a delegatee who violates the duty set forth in
34 subsection (a) of this section, must be signed by the applicant and
35 given to the delegatee not later than 25 days before the election, except
36 as provided in subsection (d) of this section."

37 **SECTION 3.** G.S. 163-227.2(a) reads as rewritten:

38 "(a) Any voter eligible to vote by absentee ballot under G.S. 163-226 may request
39 an application for absentee ballots, complete the application, and vote under the
40 provisions of this ~~section~~ section and of G.S. 163-82.6A, as applicable."

41 **SECTION 4.** The State Board of Elections shall monitor the implementation
42 of this act and determine the feasibility and timetable for expanding same-day
43 registration and voting to all voting places on Election Day. The State Board shall report

1 its findings no later than March 1, 2009, to the Joint Legislative Commission on
2 Governmental Operations of the General Assembly.

3 **SECTION 5.** Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act become effective July 1, 2007,
4 and shall apply to all primaries and elections held on or after that date, except that if this
5 act is given preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act later than August 15,
6 2007, this act shall not apply to registration and voting for a primary or election held
7 before October 3, 2007, and if this act is given preclearance later than September 15,
8 2007, this act shall not apply to registration and voting for a primary or election held
9 before November 7, 2007. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.