

1 HB30
2 180718-1
3 By Representative Ford
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections
5 First Read: 07-FEB-17
6 PFD: 12/15/2016

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, voters in Alabama may
9 vote only on election day.

10 This bill would require each county to
11 provide at least one early voting center to be open
12 for a period of four to six days during the week
13 immediately preceding election day, that allows
14 registered voters to vote prior to the official
15 election day.

16 This bill would prescribe the hours of
17 operation for each early voting center.

18 This bill would clarify that this act does
19 not impair or affect the powers and duties of
20 boards of registrars, judges of probate, and other
21 election officials.

22 This bill would also require the Secretary
23 of State to promulgate rules.

24
25 A BILL
26 TO BE ENTITLED
27 AN ACT

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2 Relating to elections; to require each county to
3 provide at least one early voting center to be open for a
4 period of four to six days during the week immediately
5 preceding election day, that allows registered voters to vote
6 prior to the official election day; to prescribe the hours of
7 operation for each early voting center; and to clarify that
8 this act does not impair or affect the powers and duties of
9 boards of registrars, judges of probate, and other election
10 officials.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

12 Section 1. (a) As used in this section, early voting
13 center means a location where registered voters may vote
14 during a period of four to six days immediately preceding
15 election day.

16 (b) The governing body of each county shall
17 designate and provide at least one early voting center. If a
18 governing body designates more than one, it shall have the
19 sole authority to configure boundaries for each early voting
20 center in the county. The governing body, in its discretion,
21 shall determine the days an early voting center will be open
22 for early voting; provided, however, an early voting center
23 must be open not less than four days nor more than six days
24 during the one-week period immediately preceding election day.
25 Hours of operation for each early voting center shall be as
26 follows:

1 (1) On weekdays and Saturdays, early voting centers
2 shall be open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

3 (2) On Sundays, early voting centers shall be open
4 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

5 (c) Any registered voter may vote in the appropriate
6 early voting center located in his or her county.

7 (d) Nothing in this section shall impair or affect
8 the powers and duties of boards of registrars, judges of
9 probate, and other election officials under Title 17, Code of
10 Alabama 1975, nor shall it affect the procedures and
11 requirements for election day voting.

12 (e) The Secretary of State shall adopt rules
13 pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act required to
14 implement this section.

15 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
16 first day of the third month following its passage and
17 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.