

House Bill 210

By: Representatives McLeod of the 105th, McClain of the 100th, Bruce of the 61st, Carpenter of the 4th, Wilensky of the 79th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the times for opening and closing of the
3 polls; to provide for a later closing time if the polling place is late opening; to provide for
4 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
8 primaries generally, is amended by revising Code Section 21-2-403, relating to time for
9 opening and closing of polls, as follows:

10 "21-2-403.

11 (a) At all primaries and elections the polls shall be opened at 7:00 A.M. eastern standard
12 time or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, and shall remain open continuously
13 until 7:00 P.M. eastern standard time or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, at
14 which time they shall be closed; provided, however, that, in all cities having a population
15 of 300,000 or more according to the United States decennial census of 1970 or any future
16 such census, the polls shall remain open continuously until 8:00 P.M. eastern standard time
17 or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, during the cities' general elections, at
18 which time they shall be closed and provided, further, that, in a special election held to fill
19 a vacancy in an office in which the district represented by such office lies wholly within
20 the boundaries of a city, the polls shall close at the same time as for a municipal general
21 election in such city.

22 (b) If a polling place does not open for voting at 7:00 A.M. eastern standard time or
23 eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, such polling place shall remain open for a
24 time beyond the closing time set forth in subsection (a) of this Code section equal to the
25 time that the polling place was delayed in opening for voting. All persons waiting in line

26 to vote at such polling place during the delay in opening shall be informed that the polling
27 place will stay open later to accommodate the delay in opening."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.