

House Bill 559

By: Representatives Draper of the 90th, Olaleye of the 59th, Gullett of the 19th, Blackmon of the 146th, Carpenter of the 4th, 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 primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for preferential treatment during advance
3 voting to voters accompanied by children of five years of age or under; to provide for
4 preferential treatment during certain hours on election day to voters accompanied by children
5 of five years of age or under; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and
9 elections generally, is amended by revising Code Section 21-2-385.1, relating to preferential
10 treatment for older and disabled voters, as follows:

11 "21-2-385.1.

12 During the period of advance voting established pursuant to subsection (d) of Code
13 Section 21-2-385, each elector who is 75 years of age or older, who is accompanied by one
14 or more children of five years of age or under, or who is disabled and requires assistance
15 in casting an absentee ballot in person at the registrar's office, absentee ballot clerk's office,
16 or other locations as provided for in Code Section 21-2-382 shall, upon request to a

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17 designated office employee or other individual, be authorized to vote immediately at the
18 next available voting compartment or booth without having to wait in line if such location
19 utilizes direct recording electronic voting systems or be authorized to go to the head of any
20 line necessary to cast a written absentee ballot. Notice of the provisions of this Code
21 section shall be prominently displayed in the registrar's office or absentee ballot clerk's
22 office."

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 Said chapter is further amended by revising Code Section 21-2-409.1, relating to voting by
25 electors who are 75 years of age or older or disabled electors without having to wait in line,
26 as follows:

27 "21-2-409.1.

28 On election day between the hours of 9:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., each elector who is 75
29 years of age or older, who is accompanied by one or more children of five years of age or
30 under, or who is disabled and requires assistance in voting as authorized by Code Section
31 21-2-409, shall, upon request to a poll officer, be authorized at any primary or election to
32 vote immediately at the next available voting compartment or booth without having to wait
33 in line. Notice of the provisions of this Code section shall be prominently displayed in the
34 voting place."

35 **SECTION 3.**

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