

House Bill 772

By: Representatives Clark of the 147<sup>th</sup>, Brockway of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, Harden of the 148<sup>th</sup>, Epps of the 144<sup>th</sup>, Hightower of the 68<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 21-2-385 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, so as to revise the period of time  
3 for advance voting with regard to Saturday voting; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Code Section 21-2-385 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to procedure for  
8 voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of  
9 subsection (d) as follows:

10 "(d)(1) There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence:

11 (A) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election;

12 (B) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general primary;

13 (C) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general election in  
14 which there are candidates for a federal office on the ballot in the runoff; and

15 (D) As soon as possible prior to a runoff from any other general election in which there  
16 are only state or county candidates on the ballot in the runoff

17 and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff.

18 Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period

19 and shall be conducted on the second Saturday prior to a primary or election during the

20 hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in primaries and elections

21 in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours

22 shall be required; and provided, further, that, if such second Saturday is a public and legal

23 holiday pursuant to Code Section 1-4-1, if such second Saturday follows a public and

24 legal holiday occurring on the Thursday or Friday immediately preceding such second

25 Saturday, or if such second Saturday immediately precedes a public and legal holiday

26 occurring on the following Sunday or Monday, such advance voting shall not be held on

27 such second Saturday but shall be held on the third Saturday prior to such primary,  
28 election, or runoff. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, counties and  
29 municipalities may extend the hours for voting beyond regular business hours and may  
30 provide for additional voting locations pursuant to Code Section 21-2-382 to suit the  
31 needs of the electors of the jurisdiction at their option."

32 **SECTION 2.**

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