

Senate Bill 178

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Gooch of the 51st, Harper of the 7th, Miller of the 49th, Walker III of the 20th 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 provide that absentee ballot applications shall not
3 be sent by the Secretary of State or by a county or municipal election official to an elector
4 without first receiving a request for such an application from such elector; to provide for an
5 exception; to provide for related matters; 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 elections and
9 primaries generally, is amended by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code
10 Section 21-2-381, relating to making of application for absentee ballot, determination of
11 eligibility by ballot clerk, furnishing of applications to colleges and universities, and persons
12 entitled to make application, as follows:

13 "(3) Except as provided in this paragraph, absentee ballot applications shall not be sent
14 by the Secretary of State or by a county or municipal election official to an elector
15 without first receiving a request for such an application from such elector. If the
16 Secretary of State desires to send out or to authorize county or municipal election

17 officials to send out absentee ballot applications to electors who have not requested such
18 applications, the Secretary of State shall obtain legislative authorization to do so by
19 obtaining written approval from the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
20 Lieutenant Governor Reserved."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.