

Senate Bill 26

By: Senators Fort of the 39th, Davenport of the 44th, Henson of the 41st, Orrock of the 36th,
Tate of the 38th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to absentee voting, so as to change the time periods for advance voting; to provide
3 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

6 Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
7 absentee voting, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Code
8 Section 21-2-385, relating to procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, as
9 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~~ and third Saturdays prior to a primary or

20 election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in

21 primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no

22 Saturday voting hours shall be required. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph,

23 counties and municipalities may extend the hours for voting beyond regular business

24 hours and may provide for additional voting locations pursuant to Code Section 21-2-382

25 to suit the needs of the electors of the jurisdiction at their option."

26

SECTION 2.

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.