

Senate Bill 38

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Butler of the 55th, Jackson of the 2nd, Orrock of the 36th,
Jordan of the 6th 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 a permanent absentee voter list; to
3 provide for procedures regarding such list; to provide for maintenance of such list; to provide
4 for 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 primaries and
8 elections generally, is amended by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code
9 Section 21-2-381, relating to making of application for absentee ballot, determination of
10 eligibility by ballot clerk, furnishing of applications to colleges and universities, and persons
11 entitled to make application, as follows:

12 "(3)(A) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an elector may request
13 to receive absentee ballots for all future regularly scheduled primaries, elections, and
14 runoffs in which such elector is eligible to vote. Each absentee ballot application
15 prepared by the Secretary of State for electors to use to request an absentee ballot shall
16 contain a place for the elector to select this option. If an elector selects this option, it

17 shall not be necessary for such elector to make subsequent application for an absentee
18 ballot for regularly scheduled primaries, elections, and runoffs unless:

19 (i) The elector is moved to the inactive list of electors as prescribed by Code
20 Section 21-2-235; provided, however, that, if an elector returns a confirmation notice
21 pursuant to Code Section 21-2-234 and verifies or updates his or her address inside
22 of the State of Georgia, the address to which the elector's absentee ballot is mailed
23 shall likewise be verified or updated; or

24 (ii) The elector opts out of receiving absentee ballots without having to make an
25 application as provided in this Code section.

26 (B) Whether or not an elector has selected the option to receive absentee ballots for all
27 future regularly scheduled primaries, elections, and runoffs in which such elector is
28 eligible to vote shall be included in the data collected and maintained on electors by the
29 Secretary of State and available for public inspection pursuant to Code
30 Section 21-2-225 Reserved."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.