

HOUSE BILL 1099

By Davis

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2 and Title 3, relative to voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-101, is amended by deleting subsection (b).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 6, Part 1, is amended by deleting Sections 2-6-102 – 2-6-113.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-129(a)(3), is amended by deleting the language "and the officials at each early voting site".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-133(d), is amended by deleting the language "beginning with the first day of any period of early voting" and substituting instead "beginning twenty (20) days before the day of the election".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-107(b)(1)(A), is amended by deleting the language "and during the early voting period".

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-109(e)(2)(B), is amended by deleting the language "or during the early voting period".

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-301(c), is amended by deleting the last sentence of the subsection.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-302(i), is amended by deleting the language ", and during the early voting period if that polling location was used as an early voting center,".

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-207(f), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead:

The absentee voting ballot envelope must include a place for the voter's precinct and district number and a statement for the administrator of elections to sign stating that the voter's signature has been verified and appears to be valid. The absentee voting ballot envelope need not contain a certificate for an attesting official.

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-211(b), is amended by deleting the language "At least five (5) days before the beginning of an early voting period and at least five (5) days before an election" and substituting instead "At least twenty-five (25) days before an election".

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-211(b)(1), is amended by deleting the language:

A sample ballot does not have to be published in a newspaper of general circulation if a sample ballot that complies with this section has been mailed at least five (5) days prior to the beginning of the early voting period to every active registered voter.

and substituting instead:

A sample ballot does not have to be published in a newspaper of general circulation if a sample ballot that complies with this section has been mailed at least twenty-five (25) days before the election to every active registered voter.

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-201, is amended by deleting the language "during the early voting period and" in subdivision (1); deleting the language "and is medically unable to go to the commission office for the purpose of early voting" in subdivision (3)(A); deleting the language "during the early voting period or" in subdivision (4); deleting the language "during the early voting period or" in subdivision (8); and deleting the language "during the early voting period and" in subdivision (9)(A).

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-202(a)(2), is amended by deleting the language "and during the period established for early voting".

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-202(c)(6), is amended by deleting the language "until the end of the early voting period" and substituting instead "until five (5) days before the election".

SECTION 15. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-304, is amended by deleting the language "and early voting ballots" in subdivision (a)(1); deleting the language "and the early voting ballot votes" in subsection (c); and deleting subsection (e).

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-307, is amended by deleting the section.

SECTION 17. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-308, is amended by deleting the language "early voting and".

SECTION 18. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-309(a), is amended by deleting the language:

The coordinator of elections shall determine distinguishable colors to be used in the printing of the ballot envelopes for early voting and absentee voting. Both envelopes shall include a place for the voter's precinct and district number and a statement for the administrator to sign stating that the voter's signature has been verified and appears to be valid. The absentee voting ballot envelope need not contain a certificate for an attesting official.

and substituting instead:

The absentee voting ballot envelope must include a place for the voter's precinct and district number and a statement for the administrator of elections to sign stating that the voter's signature has been verified and appears to be valid. The

absentee voting ballot envelope need not contain a certificate for an attesting official.

SECTION 19. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-401(d), is amended by deleting the language "by personal appearance set out in §§ 2-6-102 and 2-6-109" and substituting instead "set out in part 2 of this chapter".

SECTION 20. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-601(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting instead:

(a) In the case of individuals who are full-time residents of a nursing home, in the county of the voter's residence, the county election commission of each county shall send one (1) absentee voting deputy representing the majority party and one (1) absentee voting deputy representing the minority party to the institution for the purpose of processing, assisting the voter who may be entitled to assistance under § 2-7-116, and attesting absentee ballot applications and ballots. Both absentee voting deputies shall attest the voter's ballot. The procedure for voting in this section is the only method by which individuals may vote in an election if such individuals are full-time residents of a nursing home. This section does not prohibit an individual from voting in person on election day at either the commission office, in accordance with the provisions of § 2-3-109(e), or the individual's polling place, if such an individual is a full-time resident in such home or institution and the individual is medically able to go to the commission office, the person's polling place, or a location established for early voting for the purpose of voting. The county election commission may begin the voting at the nursing homes twenty-nine (29) days before an election.

SECTION 21. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-140, is amended by deleting the language "or the appropriate election official at an early voting site" in subsection (b) and deleting subdivision (c)(1).

SECTION 22. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-141, is amended by deleting the language "or the appropriate election official at an early voting site" in subdivision (b)(1) and deleting the language "at an early voting site or" in subsection (c).

SECTION 23. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-143(b), is amended by deleting the language "during the period beginning sixty (60) days before the first day voting begins pursuant to § 2-6-102(a)(1) for an election" and substituting instead "during the period beginning eighty (80) days before an election".

SECTION 24. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-12-201, is amended by deleting subdivision (16).

SECTION 25. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-14-202(d)(4)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision.

SECTION 26. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-20-103, is amended by deleting the language ", early voting ballots," in subdivision (b)(5)(A); deleting the last sentence of subdivision (b)(5)(C); deleting the language ", all ballots cast during the early voting period," in subdivision (b)(7); and deleting subdivision (b)(8)(C)(i).

SECTION 27. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-20-103(b)(6), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead:

(6) After the polls close, and at a place open to the public, the county election commission shall randomly select the voting precinct or precincts, as appropriate. The commission shall announce to the public the results of the random drawing. The random selection utilized by the county election commission must ensure that all voting precincts in the county have an equal chance of being selected.

SECTION 28. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-120(b), is amended by deleting subdivision (1).

SECTION 29. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112, is amended by deleting the language:

The requirement to present one (1) form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter shall apply to persons voting pursuant to § 2-6-109; provided, however, that a person voting in accordance with § 2-6-401(a) and (b) or § 2-6-601 shall not be required to show an identification with a photograph of the voter.

and substituting instead:

The requirement to present one (1) form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter does not apply to persons voting pursuant to § 2-6-401(a) and (b) or § 2-6-601.

SECTION 30. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-203, is amended by deleting the section.

SECTION 31. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.