

SENATE BILL 449

By Overbey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 6, Part 1, relative to early voting.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-103, is amended by deleting such section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

2-6-103.

(a)

(1) The county election commission office or another polling place appropriately designated by the county election commission shall be open each weekday between the hours of nine o'clock a.m. (9:00 a.m.) and five o'clock p.m. (5:00 p.m.) prevailing time during the period provided to apply to vote early and shall be open on Saturdays during such period between the hours of nine o'clock a.m (9:00 a.m.) and four-thirty p.m. (4:30 p.m.). For a municipality with a population of less than five thousand (5,000), according to the 1990 federal census or any subsequent federal census, the municipal governing body may determine the Saturday schedule of early voting for municipal elections.

(2) If the proper notice under subsection (c) is made, a county election commission may close its office on a state holiday during the period established for early voting.

(b)

(1) On at least two (2) days during the early voting period for those offices listed in § 2-13-202, or for any state or federal election, the county election commission office shall remain open between five o'clock p.m. (5:00

p.m.) and seven o'clock p.m. (7:00 p.m.). The county election commission shall determine the appropriate dates for both late and regular hours at the commission office. This subsection (b) shall apply only to those counties with a population in excess of one hundred fifty thousand (150,000), according to the 1970 census.

(2) In counties affected by this subsection (b), this subsection (b) shall also apply to municipal elections for the principal municipality of the county. For such municipal elections, the municipal governing body and the county election commission shall jointly determine the appropriate dates for additional hours. The municipality shall be responsible for the costs of such additional hours.

(c) Notice of the office hours shall be given by the county election commission not less than twenty-five (25) days prior to the day of election by publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.