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SENATE BILL 524

By Briggs

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, relative to releasing the results of early and absentee voting.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-304, is amended by deleting the last sentence in subsections (c) and (e), redesignating the existing subsection (f) as subsection (g), and adding the following as a new subsection (f):

(f) The counting board shall release the results from early and absentee voting at eight o'clock p.m. (8:00 p.m.) prevailing time in counties in the eastern time zone and at seven o'clock p.m. (7:00 p.m.) prevailing time in counties in the central time zone, but in no event may the votes for any candidate be released as long as voters in the county are still waiting in line to vote. This subsection (f) does not prohibit the counting board from making preparations to total votes before the polls are required to close.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.