

SENATE BILL 906

By Yager

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-10-101(b); Section 2-2-111(b); Section 2-3-107(b)(1); Section 2-4-102(a)(2); Section 2-5-151(f)(2); Section 2-5-208(f)(1); Section 2-6-102(a)(1); Section 2-6-201(9); Section 2-6-401(a)(3); Section 2-7-112(a)(2)(B); Section 2-7-112(a)(3)(A); Section 2-2-109(a); 2-2-109(b); Section 5-1-104(b)(1) and Section 40-29-203(b), relative to elections.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109(a), is amended by adding the language "except as provided in subsection (b)" after the language "twenty-nine (29) days before an election" in the first sentence.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109(b), is amended by deleting the language "twenty-ninth day" and substituting instead "next business day".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-111(b), is amended by deleting the language "for a period of at least four (4) hours".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-3-107(b)(1), is amended by adding the language "on election day and during the early voting period" after the language "for polling places".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-4-102(a)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-151(f)(2), is amended by deleting the language "sixty (60)" and by substituting instead the language "ninety (90)" in the first and second sentence of the subdivision.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-208(f)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following language:

(1) Whenever a question is submitted to the vote of the people, it shall be placed at the end of the ballot, followed by the words "Yes" and "No," so that the voter can vote a preference by making a cross mark (X) opposite the proper word. If a retention judicial question is on the ballot as provided for in subdivision (c)(3), this question shall be placed after the retention judicial question, provided, that whenever the question of a state constitutional amendment is submitted to the vote of the people pursuant to Tenn. Const., art. XI, § 3, para. 1, it shall be printed upon the ballot directly after the list of candidates for governor followed by the words "Yes" and "No" so that the voter can vote a preference by making a cross mark (X) opposite the proper word. Any question submitted to the people shall be worded in such a manner that a "yes" vote would indicate support for the measure and a "no" vote would indicate opposition.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-201(9), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

(9) A voter who possesses a valid commercial driver license or a valid transportation worker identification credential and who certifies that the voter:

(A) Will be working outside of the county or state where the voter is registered during the early voting period and on election day during all the hours the polls are open; and

(B) Has no specific out-of-county or out-of-state location to which mail may be sent or received during such time;

may complete an application to vote absentee by mail at the voter's county election commission office or complete an absentee by-mail application pursuant to § 2-6-202(a)(3); provided, that if applicable, such voter satisfies the requirements of § 2-2-115 (b)(7). In order for the absentee application to be processed, the voter must provide a photocopy of the commercial driver license or transportation worker identification credential, the commercial driver license number on the voter's current commercial driver license, if applicable, and provide a current residential address and a mailing

address to which the ballot shall be mailed. This subsection (9) also applies to the spouse of the person who possesses the commercial driver license.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-102(a)(1), is amended by deleting the words “five (5) days” and by substituting instead the language “seven (7) days”.

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, 2-6-401(a)(3), is amended by deleting the language “and by a notary public”.

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(2)(B), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and substituting instead the following language:

(B) For those counties using the electronic poll book, the following procedure shall be followed: After completing the application for ballot which shall include the voter’s signature, if, upon comparison of the information, the registrar determines that the voter is entitled to vote, the registrar shall initial the application for ballot and shall give the voter the ballot application, which is the voter’s authorization to vote.

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-112(a)(3)(A), is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision thereto:

(vii) A county election commission may establish a centrally located site or sites to be designated by such commission for voters voting under subdivision (a)(3)(A).

SECTION 13. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-10-101(b), is amended by deleting the language “five hundred dollars (\$500)” and substituting instead the language “one thousand dollars (\$1,000)”.

SECTION 14. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 5-1-104(b)(1), is amended by deleting the language “; provided, that the candidates have sufficient time to qualify for the office, as provided for in § 2-14-106” in the first sentence of the subdivision.

SECTION 15. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-203(b)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety.

SECTION 16. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-29-203(b)(2), is amended by deleting the language “also” after the language “issuing authority shall”.

SECTION 17. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013, the public welfare requiring it.