

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5557

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit an election official from requiring an individual to present a piece of identification that has an associated cost as a condition of voting or registering to vote in an election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2016

Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. LEE, Mr. ELLISON, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. DINGELL, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Miss RICE of New York, and Mr. RANGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to prohibit an election official from requiring an individual to present a piece of identification that has an associated cost as a condition of voting or registering to vote in an election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Poll Tax Prohibition
3 Act of 2016”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN VOTER IDENTIFICATION**
5 **REQUIREMENTS.**

6 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subtitle A of title III of the Help
7 America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21081 et seq.) is
8 amended by inserting after section 303 the following new
9 section:

10 **“SEC. 303A. PROHIBITING AN ELECTION OFFICIAL FROM**
11 **REQUIRING IDENTIFICATION WITH ASSOCI-**
12 **ATED COST AS CONDITION FOR VOTING.**

13 “(a) **IN GENERAL.**—An election official may not re-
14 quire an individual to present a piece of identification that
15 has an associated cost as a condition of voting in an elec-
16 tion for Federal office or, in the case of an individual who
17 wishes to vote by mail in such an election, a copy of a
18 piece of identification that has an associated cost.

19 “(b) **ASSOCIATED COST.**—For purposes of this sec-
20 tion, a piece of identification for an individual has an asso-
21 ciated cost if, to obtain such identification, the individual
22 is required—

23 “(1) to pay a fee for such identification; or

24 “(2) to provide a supplemental document that
25 the individual is required to pay a fee to obtain.

1 “(c) SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT.—For purposes of
2 this section, a supplemental document, in relation to a
3 piece of identification, is a document that an individual
4 is required to present in order to receive that piece of iden-
5 tification.

6 “(d) DEFINITION OF FEE.—For purposes of this sec-
7 tion, the term ‘fee’ includes any administrative fee or other
8 cost that an individual must pay as a condition of receiv-
9 ing a piece of identification or supplemental document.”.

10 (b) ENFORCEMENT.—Section 401 of such Act (52
11 U.S.C. 2111) is amended by striking “and 303” and in-
12 serting “303, and 303A”.

13 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
14 this section shall apply with respect to elections held after
15 the end of the 90-day period which begins on the date
16 of the enactment of this Act.

17 (d) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
18 of such Act is amended by adding after the item relating
19 to section 303 the following new item:

“Sec. 303A. Prohibiting an election official from requiring identification with
associated cost as condition for voting.”.

20 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN VOTER REGISTRATION**
21 **REQUIREMENTS.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9 of the National Voter
23 Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20508) is amended—

24 (1) in subsection (b)—

1 (A) by striking “and” at the end of para-
2 graph (3);

3 (B) by striking the period at the end of
4 paragraph (4) and inserting “; and”;

5 (C) by adding at the end the following new
6 paragraph:

7 “(5) may not require the inclusion of a piece of
8 identification that has an associated cost or a copy
9 of a piece of identification that has an associated
10 cost.”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
12 section:

13 “(c) SPECIAL RULES REGARDING COST OF IDENTI-
14 FICATION.—

15 “(1) ASSOCIATED COST.—For purposes of this
16 section, a piece of identification for an individual has
17 an associated cost if, to obtain such identification,
18 the individual is required—

19 “(A) to pay a fee for such identification; or

20 “(B) to provide a supplemental document
21 that the individual is required to pay a fee to
22 obtain.

23 “(2) SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT.—For pur-
24 poses of this section, a supplemental document, in
25 relation to a piece of identification, is a document

1 that an individual is required to present in order to
2 receive that piece of identification.

3 “(3) DEFINITION OF FEE.—For purposes of
4 this section, the term ‘fee’ includes any administra-
5 tive fee or other cost that an individual must pay as
6 a condition of receiving a piece of identification or
7 supplemental document.”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
9 this section shall apply with respect to voter registration
10 forms submitted on or after the date that is 90 days after
11 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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