

SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB1213:

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
 2 elections and primaries generally, so as to clarify the definition of precinct; to change the
 3 requirements concerning the electronic filing of election returns by precinct; to change the
 4 information required on candidate affidavits; to change the qualifications of county
 5 registrars and deputy registrars; to provide that persons who move their residence outside
 6 a county or municipality may not continue to vote in elections in that county or
 7 municipality; to change the qualifications for voting by absentee ballot; to prohibit
 8 distribution of absentee ballot applications under certain circumstances; to provide for the
 9 use of direct electronic recording voting systems for voting by absentee ballot in certain
 10 circumstances; to require that absentee ballots returned too late to be counted shall be
 11 delivered to the appropriate clerk for storage as provided by law; to prohibit certain
 12 persons from providing assistance in voting; to change the forms of identification
 13 authorized to identify electors at the polls; to require that optical scan tabulators return or
 14 reject ballots with overvotes in certain circumstances; to provide for a vote review panel
 15 to examine rejected optical scan ballots to determine voter intent; to authorize the
 16 Secretary of State to correct election returns when errors are found in the certified returns
 17 or in the tabulation, computation, or canvassing of the returns; to authorize the extension
 18 of deadlines to certify returns under certain circumstances; to require that appeals of
 19 election contests be heard by the Supreme Court; to provide for special election dates in
 20 the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States
 21 decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and
 22 the United States House of Representatives; to amend Code Section 21-5-34.1 of the
 23 Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to filing campaign contribution disclosure
 24 reports electronically, so as to delay the effective date of electronic filing of reports
 25 relative to candidates for county and municipal offices; to amend Code Section 27-2-2 of
 26 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to issuance and sale of hunting, fishing,
 27 and trapping licenses, identification required of purchasers, and withdrawal of agents´

1 authority to sell licenses, so as to change certain provisions relating to duties of license
 2 agents prior to selling of licenses; to require license agents to offer mail voter registration
 3 applications to certain persons; to provide for related matters; to provide effective dates;
 4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
 8 primaries generally, is amended by striking paragraph (28) of Code Section 21-2-2,
 9 relating to definitions, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (28) to read as
 10 follows:

11 "(28) 'Precinct' is synonymous with the term 'voting precinct' and means a
 12 geographical area, established in accordance with this chapter, ~~within~~ from which all
 13 electors vote at one polling place."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-77,
 16 relating to electronic election returns, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to
 17 read as follows:

18 "(b) Beginning with the election cycle in the year ~~2002~~ 2004, the superintendent of
 19 elections of each county shall provide electronically to the Secretary of State, within 45
 20 days after the close of voting, election returns divided by precinct for each precinct in
 21 their respective counties for all primaries, elections, special primaries, special elections,
 22 and runoffs for such elections for federal, state, ~~or~~ and county offices held in that year
 23 or any following year."

24 **SECTION 3.**

25 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (f) of Code Section 21-2-132,
 26 relating to filing notice of candidacy, nomination petition, and affidavit, and inserting in
 27 lieu thereof a new subsection (f) to read as follows:

28 "(f) Each candidate required by this Code section to file a notice of candidacy shall
 29 accompany his or her notice of candidacy with an affidavit stating:

30 (1) His or her full name and the name as the candidate desires it to be listed on the
 31 ballot;

1 found to be disqualified to vote shall be promptly entered on the list of registered
 2 electors and shall be entitled to vote in any primary or election; provided, however, that
 3 an elector, voting in the primary or primaries held by a single party for the nomination
 4 of candidates to seek public offices to be filled in an election, shall not vote in a primary
 5 held by any other party for the nomination of candidates to seek public offices to be
 6 filled in the same such election."

7 SECTION 7.

8 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new subsection (e) to Code Section
 9 21-2-300, relating to provision of new voting equipment by state, to read as follows:

10 "(e) At such time as the General Assembly appropriates funds to implement this Code
 11 section, county governments shall utilize the voting equipment furnished to them by the
 12 state in all future county, state, and federal elections under terms and conditions
 13 specified by the Secretary of State. Counties shall be authorized to contract with
 14 municipal governments for the use of such voting equipment in municipal elections
 15 under terms and conditions specified by the Secretary of State to assure that the
 16 equipment is properly used and kept secure."

17 SECTION 8.

18 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-301, relating to a pilot
 19 program, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-301 to read
 20 as follows:

21 "21-2-301.

22 (a) ~~The Secretary of State is authorized to conduct a pilot project to test and evaluate~~
 23 ~~the use of electronic recording voting systems during the 2001 municipal elections. The~~
 24 ~~Secretary of State in his or her discretion may select a number of municipalities to~~
 25 ~~participate in such pilot program.~~

26 (b) ~~Electronic recording voting systems used in the pilot program shall meet the~~
 27 ~~requirements contained in Part 5 of Article 9 of this chapter and shall have been~~
 28 ~~certified by the Secretary of State as provided in Code Section 21-2-379.2. Such voting~~
 29 ~~systems shall be required to have an independent audit trail for each vote cast.~~

30 (c) ~~The Secretary of State shall furnish the electronic recording voting systems to the~~
 31 ~~selected municipalities for use in the pilot project, provided that the municipalities~~
 32 ~~provide polling places with adequate electrical outlets, telephone lines, and other~~
 33 ~~facilities necessary to operate such electronic recording voting systems.~~

1 ~~(d) The Secretary of State is authorized to use different types of electronic recording~~
 2 ~~voting systems in the pilot project. However, the same type system must be used in all~~
 3 ~~precincts within a municipality and there shall not be any other voting systems used in~~
 4 ~~that municipality for voting at the polling places on election day unless there is an~~
 5 ~~emergency declared by the Secretary of State due to the failure of the system or due to~~
 6 ~~the inability for any reason of the electors to be able to cast their ballots on the system.~~
 7 ~~In the event of such declared emergency situation, the Secretary of State may direct the~~
 8 ~~use of any method of voting authorized by this chapter in the municipal election.~~

9 (e)(1) There is created the Twenty-first Century Voting Commission. The
 10 commission shall be composed of two members appointed by the Speaker of the
 11 House of Representatives, two members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, two
 12 members appointed by the Governor, the chief information officer for the State of
 13 Georgia or his or her designee, eight members appointed by the Secretary of State of
 14 which six shall be county or municipal election officials, the director of the Elections
 15 Division of the office of the Secretary of State, one member designated by each
 16 political body that qualified candidates in the 2000 November general election, and
 17 the Secretary of State, who shall be the chairperson of the commission. In appointing
 18 members to such commission, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the
 19 President of the Senate, the Governor, and the Secretary of State shall ensure equal
 20 representation on the commission by each political party in their respective
 21 appointments; provided, however, that nothing contained herein shall prohibit the
 22 Secretary of State from appointing election officials to the commission who have no
 23 political party affiliation or who are nonpartisan. The commission shall ~~coordinate~~
 24 ~~and oversee the pilot project authorized by this Code section~~ evaluate improvements
 25 to the state's elections and voter registration systems and processes.

26 (2) The commission may work with the Board of Regents of the University System of
 27 Georgia and the Department of Education in seeking avenues and incentives to
 28 encourage student participation as poll workers and in other areas of the election
 29 process.

30 (3) The commission shall make a report to the Governor and the General Assembly
 31 by December 31, ~~2001,~~ of each year the commission is in existence on the results of
 32 the ~~pilot project and shall further advise the Secretary of State on the choice of voting~~
 33 ~~equipment to be used state wide in all counties pursuant to Code Section 21-2-300~~
 34 work of the commission.

35 (4) Any members of the General Assembly serving on the commission shall receive
 36 the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees.

1 The public members of the commission who are not public employees shall receive a
 2 daily expense allowance as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21. Any
 3 public employee serving on the commission shall receive no compensation but may be
 4 reimbursed for expenses.

5 (5) The commission shall continue its work through December 31, 2002, after which
 6 time it shall stand abolished unless reauthorized and continued by the General
 7 Assembly.

8 (6) The ~~Commission~~ commission shall have at least one meeting in North Georgia
 9 (outside of Atlanta), one meeting in Central Georgia, and one meeting in South
 10 Georgia."

11 SECTION 9.

12 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-380, relating to definition
 13 of absentee elector, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section
 14 21-2-380 to read as follows:

15 "21-2-380.

16 As used in this article, the term 'absentee elector' means an elector of this state or a
 17 municipality thereof who:

18 (1) Is required to be absent from his or her precinct during the time of the primary or
 19 election he or she desires to vote in;

20 (2) Will perform any of the official acts or duties set forth in this chapter in
 21 connection with the primary or election he or she desires to vote in;

22 (3) Because of physical disability or because of being required to give constant care
 23 to someone who is physically disabled, will be unable to be present at the polls on the
 24 day of such primary or election;

25 (4) Because the election or primary falls upon a religious holiday observed by such
 26 elector, will be unable to be present at the polls on the day of such primary or election;

27 (5) Is required to remain on duty in his or her place of employment for the protection
 28 of the health, life, or safety of the public during the entire time the polls are open
 29 when such place of employment is within the precinct in which the voter resides; or

30 (6) Is 75 years of age or older; or

31 (7) Has a limited proficiency in reading the English language but is proficient in
 32 reading and speaking another language."

33 SECTION 10.

1 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (a) of Code
 2 Section 21-2-381, relating to making of application for absentee ballot, and inserting in
 3 lieu thereof a new paragraph (3) to read as follows:

4 "(3) All applications for an official absentee ballot that are distributed by a person,
 5 entity, or organization shall list thereon all of the legally acceptable categories of
 6 absentee electors contained in Code Section 21-2-380 and shall require the elector to
 7 select the category which qualifies the elector to vote by absentee ballot. Applications
 8 for an official absentee ballot may not be physically attached to a publication when
 9 such publication is distributed by any person, entity, or organization which advocates
 10 for or against a particular candidate, issue, or political party or body."

11 SECTION 11.

12 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-383, relating to
 13 preparation and delivery of absentee ballots, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a
 14 new Code Section 21-2-383 to read as follows:

15 "21-2-383.

16 (a) Ballots for use by absentee electors shall be prepared sufficiently in advance by the
 17 superintendent and shall be delivered to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk
 18 as provided in Code Section 21-2-384. Such ballots shall be marked 'Official Absentee
 19 Ballot' and shall be in substantially the form for ballots required by Article 8 of this
 20 chapter, except that in counties using voting machines or vote recorders the ballots may
 21 be in substantially the form for the ballot labels required by Article 9 of this chapter or
 22 in such form as will allow the ballot to be machine tabulated. Every such ballot shall
 23 have printed with other instructions thereon the following:

24 'I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote
 25 for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this
 26 election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law.'

27 The form for either ballot shall be determined and prescribed by the Secretary of State,
 28 except in municipal primaries or elections, in which the form of absentee ballots which
 29 follows the paper ballot format shall be determined and prescribed by the
 30 superintendent.

31 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code section, direct recording
 32 electronic (DRE) voting systems may be used for casting absentee ballots in person at a
 33 registrar's office or in accordance with Code Section 21-2-382 providing for additional
 34 sites. In such cases, the absentee ballots shall be coded in such a way that the ballot of a

1 challenged voter can be separated from other valid ballots at the time of tabulation until
 2 the challenge is resolved."

3 SECTION 12.

4 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (1) of subsection (a) and striking
 5 subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-386, relating to safekeeping, certification, and
 6 validation of absentee ballots, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (1) and a new
 7 subsection (e) to read as follows:

8 "(a)(1) The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall keep safely and unopened
 9 all official absentee ballots received from absentee electors prior to the closing of the
 10 polls on the day of the primary or election except as otherwise provided in this
 11 subsection. Upon receipt of each ballot, a registrar or clerk shall write the day and
 12 hour of the receipt of the ballot on its envelope. The registrar or clerk shall then
 13 compare the identifying information on the oath with the information on file in his or
 14 her office, shall compare the signature or mark on the oath with the signature or mark
 15 on the absentee elector's application for absentee ballot or a facsimile of said
 16 signature or mark taken from said application, and shall, if the information and
 17 signature appear to be valid, so certify by signing or initialing his or her name below
 18 the voter's oath. Each elector's name so certified shall be listed by the registrar or
 19 clerk on the numbered list of absentee voters prepared for his or her precinct. If the
 20 elector has failed to sign the oath, or if the signature does not appear to be valid, or if
 21 the elector has failed to furnish required information or information so furnished does
 22 not conform with that on file in the registrar's or clerk's office, or if the elector is
 23 otherwise found disqualified to vote, the registrar or clerk shall write across the face
 24 of the envelope 'Rejected,' giving the reason therefor. The board of registrars or
 25 absentee ballot clerk shall promptly notify the elector of such rejection, a copy of
 26 which notification shall be retained in the files of the board of registrars or absentee
 27 ballot clerk for at least one year. Three copies of the numbered list of voters shall also
 28 be prepared for such rejected absentee electors, giving the name of the elector and the
 29 reason for the rejection in each case. Three copies of the numbered list of certified
 30 absentee voters and three copies of the numbered list of rejected absentee voters for
 31 each precinct shall be turned over to the poll manager in charge of counting the
 32 absentee ballots and shall be distributed as required by law for numbered lists of
 33 voters. All absentee ballots returned to the board or absentee ballot clerk after the
 34 closing of the polls on the day of the primary or election shall be safely kept unopened
 35 by the board or absentee ballot clerk and then transferred to the appropriate clerk for

1 storage for the period of time required for the preservation of ballots used at the
 2 primary or election and shall then, without being opened, be destroyed in like manner
 3 as the used ballots of the primary or election. The board of registrars or absentee
 4 ballot clerk shall promptly notify the elector by first-class mail that the elector's ballot
 5 was returned too late to be counted and that the elector will not receive credit for
 6 voting in the primary or election. All such late absentee ballots shall be delivered to
 7 the appropriate clerk and stored as provided in Code Section 21-2-390."

8 "(e) If an absentee elector's right to vote has been challenged for cause, a poll officer
 9 shall open the envelopes and write 'Challenged,' the elector's name, and the alleged
 10 cause of challenge on the back of the ballot, without disclosing the markings on the face
 11 thereof, and shall deposit the ballot in the box; and it shall be counted as other
 12 challenged ballots are counted. In the case of absentee votes cast on direct recording
 13 electronic (DRE) voting systems, the ballots shall be coded in such a way that the
 14 ballot of a challenged voter can be separated from other valid ballots at the time of
 15 tabulation and the ballots shall be counted or rejected in accordance with Code Section
 16 21-2-230. The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall promptly notify the
 17 elector of such challenge."

18 SECTION 13.

19 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of Code
 20 Section 21-2-409, relating to assisting electors who cannot read English or who have
 21 physical disabilities, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2) to read as follows:

22 "(2) In all other elections, any elector who is entitled to receive assistance in voting
 23 under this Code section shall be permitted by the managers to select (1) any elector,
 24 except a poll officer or poll watcher, who is a resident of the precinct in which the
 25 elector requiring assistance is attempting to vote; or (2) the mother, father, sister,
 26 brother, spouse, or child of the elector entitled to receive assistance, to enter the voting
 27 compartment or booth with him or her to assist in voting, such assistance to be
 28 rendered inside the voting compartment or booth. No person shall assist more than
 29 ten such electors in any primary, election, or runoff covered by this paragraph. No
 30 person whose name appears on the ballot as a candidate at a particular election nor the
 31 mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece,
 32 nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law,
 33 brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of that candidate may offer assistance during that
 34 particular election under the provisions of this Code section to any voter who is not
 35 related to such candidate. For the purposes of this paragraph, 'related to such

1 candidate' shall mean the candidate's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister,
 2 brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law,
 3 daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law."

4 SECTION 14.

5 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and
 6 elections generally, is amended by striking Code Section 21-2-417, relating to
 7 presentation of identification to poll workers, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code
 8 Section 21-2-417 to read as follows:

9 "21-2-417.

10 (a) Each elector shall present proper identification to a poll worker at or prior to
 11 completion of a voter's certificate at any polling place and prior to such person's
 12 admission to the enclosed space at such polling place. Proper identification shall consist
 13 of any one of the following:

14 (1) A valid Georgia driver's license;

15 (2) A valid identification card containing a photograph of the elector and issued by a
 16 branch, department, agency, or entity of the State of Georgia, any other state, or the
 17 United States authorized by law to issue personal identification;

18 (3) A valid United States passport;

19 (4) A valid employee identification card containing a photograph of the elector and
 20 issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the United States government,
 21 this state, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or other entity of this state;

22 (5) A valid employee identification card containing a photograph of the elector and
 23 issued by any employer of the elector in the ordinary course of such employer's
 24 business;

25 (6) A valid student identification card containing a photograph of the elector from any
 26 public or private college, university, or postgraduate technical or professional school
 27 located within the State of Georgia; or

28 ~~(7) A valid Georgia license to carry a pistol or revolver;~~

29 ~~(8) A valid pilot's license issued by the Federal Aviation Administration or other~~
 30 ~~authorized agency of the United States;~~

31 ~~(9) (7)~~ A valid United States military identification card containing a photograph of
 32 the elector;

33 ~~(10) A certified copy of the elector's birth certificate;~~

34 ~~(11) A valid social security card;~~

35 ~~(12) Certified naturalization documentation; or~~

1 federal officers, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-499
2 to read as follows:

3 "21-2-499.

4 (a) Upon receiving the certified returns of any election from the various
5 superintendents, the Secretary of State shall immediately proceed to tabulate, compute,
6 and canvass the votes cast for all candidates described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph
7 (4) of Code Section 21-2-497 and upon all questions voted for by the electors of more
8 than one county and shall thereupon certify and file in his or her office the tabulation
9 thereof. In the event an error is found in the certified returns presented to the Secretary
10 of State or in the tabulation, computation, or canvassing of votes as described in this
11 Code section, the Secretary of State shall notify the county submitting the incorrect
12 returns and direct the county to correct and recertify such returns. Upon receipt by the
13 Secretary of State of the corrected certified returns of the county, the Secretary of State
14 shall issue a new certification of the results and shall file the same in his or her office.

15 (b) The Secretary of State shall also, upon receiving the certified returns for
16 presidential electors, proceed to tabulate, compute, and canvass the votes cast for each
17 slate of presidential electors and shall immediately lay them before the Governor. Not
18 later than 5:00 P.M. on the fourteenth day following the date on which such election
19 was conducted, the Secretary of State shall certify the votes cast for all candidates
20 described in subparagraph (A) of paragraph (4) of Code Section 21-2-497 and upon all
21 questions voted for by the electors of more than one county and shall no later than that
22 same time lay the returns for presidential electors before the Governor. The Governor
23 shall enumerate and ascertain the number of votes for each person so voted and shall
24 certify the slates of presidential electors receiving the highest number of votes. The
25 Governor shall certify the slates of presidential electors no later than 5:00 P.M. on the
26 fifteenth day following the date on which such election was conducted.

27 Notwithstanding the deadlines specified in this Code section, such times may be altered
28 for just cause by an order of a judge of superior court of this state.

29 ~~(b)~~(c) The Secretary of State shall not count, tabulate, or publish the names of any
30 write-in candidates for whom the notice of intention of candidacy has not been provided
31 in compliance with Code Section 21-2-133."

32 SECTION 17.

33 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-528, relating to appeals
34 from court's determination on contest petition, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
35 a new Code Section 21-2-528 to read as follows:

1 "21-2-528.

2 An appeal from the final determination of the court may be taken within ten days from
 3 the rendition thereof to the Supreme Court ~~or the Court of Appeals~~ as in other civil
 4 cases. The filing of a notice of appeal shall not act as a stay or supersedeas. The
 5 appellant may apply to the Supreme Court ~~or the Court of Appeals, as appropriate,~~ for a
 6 stay or supersedeas, and such ~~courts~~ court shall consider applications for stays or
 7 supersedeas in such cases without regard to whether any notice of appeal has been filed
 8 or the record docketed in such cases."

9 **SECTION 18.**

10 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Code
 11 Section 21-2-540, relating to conduct of special elections generally, and inserting in lieu
 12 thereof a new paragraph (1) to read as follows:

13 "(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a special election
 14 to present a question to the voters or a special primary or special election to fill a
 15 vacancy in a county or municipal office shall be held only on one of the following
 16 dates which is at least 29 days after the date of the call for the special election:

17 (A) In odd-numbered years any such special election shall only be held on:

- 18 (i) The third Tuesday in March;
- 19 (ii) The third Tuesday in June;
- 20 (iii) The third Tuesday in September; or
- 21 (iv) The Tuesday after the first Monday in November; ~~and~~

22 (B) In even-numbered years any such special election shall only be held on:

- 23 (i) The third Tuesday in March; provided, however, that in the event that a special
 24 election is to be held under this provision in a year in which a presidential
 25 preference primary is to be held, then any such special election shall be held on the
 26 date of and in conjunction with the presidential preference primary;
- 27 (ii) The date of the general primary;
- 28 (iii) The third Tuesday in September; or
- 29 (iv) The Tuesday after the first Monday in November; and

30 (C) In the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the
 31 United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of
 32 the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, any such special
 33 election shall only be held on:

- 34 (i) The third Tuesday in March; provided, however, that in the event that a special
 35 election is to be held under this provision in a year in which a presidential

1 preference primary is to be held, then any such special election shall be held on the
 2 date of and in conjunction with the presidential preference primary;

3 (ii) The third Tuesday in June;

4 (iii) The date of the general primary; or

5 (iv) The Tuesday after the first Monday in November."

6 SECTION 18A.

7 Code Section 27-2-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to issuance and
 8 sale of hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses, identification required of purchasers, and
 9 withdrawal of agents' authority to sell licenses, is amended by striking subsection (d) and
 10 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "(d) Prior to selling any license, except for a license sold over the telephone by an
 12 approved telephone license agent or over the Internet by an approved Internet license
 13 agent, each license agent shall ~~require~~:

14 (1) Require each person desiring to purchase a license to display a driver's license or
 15 equally reliable identification of the individual and the current residence and age of
 16 such individual. In the event the department determines that a license agent has
 17 intentionally or negligently sold a resident license to a person who is a nonresident or
 18 who is underage, the department may immediately withdraw the authority of such
 19 license agent to issue and sell licenses on behalf of the department, provided that the
 20 department shall not withdraw the license agent's authority until the license agent has
 21 been given ten days' written notice of intention to withdraw authority setting forth the
 22 reason or reasons for the withdrawal and giving the license agent a hearing in the
 23 county of said agent's residence on the reasons for withdrawal; and

24 (2) Ask the person desiring to purchase a license whether he or she desires to register
 25 to vote. If the license applicant expresses his or her desire to register to vote, the
 26 license agent shall provide the applicant with an official mail voter registration
 27 application with postage prepaid thereon and preaddressed to the Elections Division
 28 of the Office of the Secretary of State. The department shall provide each license
 29 agent with an adequate and continuing supply of such official mail voter registration
 30 applications."

31 SECTION 19.

1 Code Section 21-5-34.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to filing
2 campaign contribution disclosure reports electronically, is amended by striking subsection
3 (c) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

4 "(c) Beginning January 1, ~~2003~~ 2005, candidates seeking election to county or
5 municipal offices shall use electronic means to file their campaign contribution
6 disclosure reports with the election superintendent of their county or the municipal clerk
7 or chief executive officer of their municipality, as specified in Code Section 21-5-34,
8 upon having raised or spent a minimum of \$10,000.00 in an election cycle, but
9 contributions and expenditures received or made prior to reaching such threshold need
10 not be electronically filed if previously reported, except as cumulative totals. Under that
11 threshold, electronic filing is permitted and encouraged but not required."

12 **SECTION 20.**

13 (a) Section 18A of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2002.

14 (b) All other sections of this Act shall become effective upon approval of this Act by
15 the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

16 **SECTION 21.**

17 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.