

The House Committee on Rules offers the following substitute to HB 25EX2:

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 provide additional duties of the Secretary of State
3 relative to the approval of the purchase and lease of voting equipment; to provide for
4 different qualifying and election dates, absentee ballot dates, write-in candidacy dates, and
5 related procedures for the general primary in the even-numbered year immediately following
6 the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of
7 redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives; to authorize
8 certain political bodies to nominate candidates for the United States House of
9 Representatives by convention without additional nominating petitions; to provide for
10 qualifications for such political bodies; to provide for time for holding of political body
11 conventions in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the
12 United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the
13 legislatures and the United States House of Representatives; to provide for qualifying by
14 political party candidates for nomination to federal and state offices under rules and
15 regulations promulgated by the Secretary of State; to provide for poll closing times; to
16 provide for a straight party or body voting option and procedures relative thereto; to provide
17 for a modified straight party or body voting option and procedures relative thereto; to require
18 the Secretary of State to approve the purchase or lease of voting equipment by counties and
19 municipalities; to provide for penalties for vendors who fail to have sales or leases of voting
20 equipment approved by the Secretary of State; to provide definitions; to provide for related
21 matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

23 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
24 primaries generally, is amended by striking paragraph (10) of Code Section 21-2-2, relating
25 to definitions, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (10) to read as follows:
26

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1 (7) To furnish upon request a certified copy of any document in the Secretary of State's
 2 custody by virtue of this chapter and to fix and charge a fee to cover the cost of furnishing
 3 same;

4 (8) To perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law;

5 (9) To determine and approve the form of ballots for use in special elections;

6 (10) To prepare and provide a notice to all candidates for federal or state office advising
 7 such candidates of such information, to include requirements of this chapter, as may, in
 8 the discretion of the Secretary of State, be conducive to the fair, legal, and orderly
 9 conduct of primaries and elections. A copy of such notice shall be provided to each
 10 superintendent for further distribution to candidates for county and militia district offices;

11 (11) To conduct training sessions at such places as the Secretary of State deems
 12 appropriate in each year, for the training of registrars and superintendents of elections;

13 (12) To prepare and publish, in the manner provided in this chapter, all notices and
 14 advertisements in connection with the conduct of elections which may be required by
 15 law;

16 (13) To prepare and furnish information for citizens on voter registration and voting; ~~and~~

17 (14) To maintain the official list of registered voters for this state and the list of inactive
 18 voters required by this chapter; and

19 (15) To approve the purchase and lease of voting equipment by counties and
 20 municipalities."

21 "(c) The Secretary of State is authorized to formulate, adopt, and promulgate such rules
 22 and regulations, consistent with law, as are necessary or conducive to the fulfillment of the
 23 duties of the Secretary of State as set forth in this chapter.

24 SECTION 3.

25 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-130, relating to procedures
 26 for qualification of candidates generally, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
 27 Code Section 21-2-130 to read as follows:

28 "21-2-130.

29 Candidates may qualify for an election by virtue of:

30 (1) Nomination in a primary conducted by a political party;

31 (2) Filing a nomination petition either as an independent candidate or as a nominee of
 32 a political body, if duly certified by the chairperson and the secretary of the political body
 33 as having been nominated in a duly constituted political body convention as prescribed
 34 in Code Section 21-2-172;

35 (3) Nomination for a state-wide office or member of the United States House of
 36 Representatives by a duly constituted political body convention as prescribed in Code

1 Section 21-2-172 if the political body making the nomination has qualified to nominate
 2 candidates ~~for state-wide public office~~ under the provisions of Code Section 21-2-180;
 3 (4) In the case of an election for presidential electors, nomination as prescribed by rules
 4 of a political party;
 5 (5) Substitute nomination by a political party or body as prescribed in Code Sections
 6 21-2-134 and 21-2-155, respectively;
 7 (6) Candidacy in a special election as prescribed in subsection (e) of Code Section
 8 21-2-132; or
 9 (7) Being an incumbent qualifying as a candidate to succeed such incumbent as
 10 prescribed in subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-132."

11 SECTION 4.

12 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-132, relating to filing notice
 13 of candidacy, nomination petition, and affidavit, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof
 14 a new Code Section 21-2-132 to read as follows:

15 "21-2-132.

16 (a) The names of nominees of political parties nominated in a primary and the names of
 17 nominees of political parties for the office of presidential elector shall be placed on the
 18 election ballot without their filing the notice of candidacy otherwise required by this Code
 19 section.

20 (b) Candidates seeking election in a nonpartisan election shall comply with the
 21 requirements of subsections (c) and (f) of this Code section, as modified by subsection (g)
 22 of this Code section, by the date prescribed and shall by the same date pay to the proper
 23 authority the qualifying fee prescribed by Code Section 21-2-131 in order to be eligible to
 24 have their names placed on the nonpartisan election ballots.

25 (c) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, all ~~All~~ candidates seeking
 26 ~~nomination~~ election in a nonpartisan election shall file their notice of candidacy and pay
 27 the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this subsection in order to be eligible
 28 to have their names placed on the nonpartisan election ballot by the Secretary of State or
 29 election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:

30 (1) Each candidate for the office of judge of the superior court, Judge of the Court of
 31 Appeals, or Justice of the Supreme Court, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his
 32 or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy,
 33 giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the
 34 Secretary of State no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April immediately
 35 prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth
 36 Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and

1 (2) Each candidate for a county judicial office, a local school board office, or an office
 2 of a consolidated government, except those offices which on July 1, 2001, were covered
 3 by local Acts of the General Assembly which provided for election in a nonpartisan
 4 election without a prior nonpartisan primary, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have
 5 his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file notice of candidacy in
 6 the office of the superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April
 7 immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following
 8 the fourth Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal
 9 holidays.

10 (d) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, all political body and
 11 independent ~~All other~~ candidates shall file their notice of candidacy and pay the prescribed
 12 qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this subsection in order to be eligible to have their
 13 names placed on the election ballot by the Secretary of State or election superintendent, as
 14 the case may be, in the following manner:

15 (1) Each candidate for federal or state office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his or
 16 her name placed on the election ballot shall file a notice of his or her candidacy, giving
 17 his or her name, residence address, and the office he or she is seeking, in the office of the
 18 Secretary of State no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately
 19 prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth
 20 Monday in June in the case of a general election and no earlier than the date of the call
 21 of the election and no later than 25 days prior to the election in the case of a special
 22 election;

23 (2) Each candidate for a county office, including those offices which on July 1, 2001,
 24 were covered by local Acts of the General Assembly which provided for election in a
 25 nonpartisan election without a prior nonpartisan primary, or his or her agent, desiring to
 26 have his or her name placed on the election ballot shall file notice of his or her candidacy
 27 in the office of the superintendent of his or her county no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the
 28 fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on
 29 the Friday following the fourth Monday in June in the case of a general election and no
 30 earlier than the date of the call of the election and no later than 25 days prior to the
 31 election in the case of a special election;

32 (3) Each candidate for municipal office or a designee shall file a notice of candidacy in
 33 the office of the municipal superintendent of such candidate's municipality during the
 34 municipality's qualifying period. Each municipal superintendent shall designate the days
 35 of the qualifying period, which shall be no less than three days and no more than five
 36 days. The days of the qualifying period shall be consecutive days. Qualifying periods
 37 shall comply with the following:

1 (A) In the case of a general election held in an odd-numbered year, the municipal
 2 qualifying period shall commence no earlier than 8:30 A.M. on the second Monday in
 3 September immediately preceding the general election and shall end no later than
 4 4:30 P.M. on the following Friday;

5 (B) In the case of a general election held in an even-numbered year, the municipal
 6 qualifying period shall commence no earlier than 8:30 A.M. on the last Monday in
 7 August immediately preceding the general election and shall end no later than
 8 4:30 P.M. on the following Friday; and

9 (C) In the case of a special election, the municipal qualifying period shall commence
 10 no earlier than the date of the call and shall end no later than 25 days prior to the
 11 election.

12 The hours of qualifying each day shall be from 8:30 A.M. until 4:30 P.M. with one hour
 13 allowed for the lunch break; provided, however, that municipalities which have normal
 14 business hours which cover a lesser period of time shall conduct qualifying during normal
 15 business hours for each such municipality. Except in the case of a special election, notice
 16 of the opening and closing dates and the hours for candidates to qualify shall be published
 17 at least two weeks prior to the opening of the qualifying period.

18 (e) Except as provided in subsection (i) of this Code section, each ~~Each~~ candidate required
 19 to file a notice of candidacy by this Code section shall, no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the
 20 fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on
 21 the second Tuesday in July immediately prior to the election, file with the same official
 22 with whom he or she filed his or her notice of candidacy a nomination petition in the form
 23 prescribed in Code Section 21-2-170, except that such petition shall not be required if such
 24 candidate is:

25 (1) A nominee of a political party for the office of presidential elector when such party
 26 has held a national convention and therein nominated candidates for President and Vice
 27 President of the United States;

28 (2) Seeking office in a special election;

29 (3) An incumbent qualifying as a candidate to succeed such incumbent if, prior to the
 30 election in which such incumbent was originally elected to the office for which such
 31 incumbent seeks reelection, such incumbent filed a notice of candidacy and a nomination
 32 petition as required by this chapter;

33 (4) A candidate seeking election in a nonpartisan election; or

34 (5) A nominee for a state-wide office or member of the United States House of
 35 Representatives by a duly constituted political body convention, provided that the
 36 political body making the nomination has qualified to nominate candidates ~~for state-wide~~
 37 ~~public office~~ under the provisions of Code Section 21-2-180.

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

3 (1) His or her residence, with street and number, if any, and his or her post office
4 address;

5 (2) His or her profession, business, or occupation, if any;

6 (3) The name of his or her precinct;

7 (4) That he or she is an elector of the county or municipality of his or her residence
8 eligible to vote in the election in which he or she is a candidate;

9 (5) The name of the office he or she is seeking;

10 (6) That he or she is eligible to hold such office;

11 (7) That the candidate has never been convicted and sentenced in any court of competent
12 jurisdiction for fraudulent violation of primary or election laws, malfeasance in office,
13 or felony involving moral turpitude or conviction of domestic violence under the laws of
14 this state or any other state or of the United States, or that the candidate's civil rights have
15 been restored and that at least ten years have elapsed from the date of the completion of
16 the sentence without a subsequent conviction of another felony involving moral turpitude;
17 and

18 (8) That he or she will not knowingly violate this chapter or rules and regulations
19 adopted under this chapter.

20 The affidavit shall contain such other information as may be prescribed by the officer with
21 whom the candidate files his or her notice of candidacy.

22 (g) A pauper's affidavit may be filed in lieu of paying the qualifying fee otherwise
23 required by this Code section and Code Sections 21-2-131 and 21-2-138 of any candidate
24 who has filed a qualifying petition as provided for in subsection (h) of this Code section.

25 A candidate filing a pauper's affidavit instead of paying a qualifying fee shall under oath
26 affirm his or her poverty and his or her resulting inability to pay the qualifying fee
27 otherwise required. The form of the affidavit shall be prescribed by the Secretary of State
28 and shall include a financial statement which lists the total income, assets, liabilities, and
29 other relevant financial information of the candidate and shall indicate on its face that the
30 candidate has neither the assets nor the income to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required.

31 The affidavit shall contain an oath that such candidate has neither the assets nor the income
32 to pay the qualifying fee otherwise required. The following warning shall be printed on the
33 affidavit form prepared by the Secretary of State, to wit: 'WARNING: Any person
34 knowingly making any false statement on this affidavit commits the offense of false
35 swearing and shall be guilty of a felony.' The name of any candidate who subscribes and
36 swears to an oath that such candidate has neither the assets nor the income to pay the

1 qualifying fee otherwise required shall be placed on the ballot by the Secretary of State or
2 election superintendent, as the case may be.

3 (h) No candidate shall be authorized to file a pauper's affidavit in lieu of paying the
4 qualifying fee otherwise required by this Code section and Code Section 21-2-138 unless
5 such candidate has filed a qualifying petition which complies with the following
6 requirements:

7 (1) A qualifying petition of a candidate seeking an office which is voted upon state wide
8 shall be signed by a number of voters equal to one-fourth of 1 percent of the total number
9 of registered voters eligible to vote in the last election for the filling of the office the
10 candidate is seeking and the signers of such petition shall be registered and eligible to
11 vote in the election at which such candidate seeks to be elected. A qualifying petition of
12 a candidate for any other office shall be signed by a number of voters equal to 1 percent
13 of the total number of registered voters eligible to vote in the last election for the filling
14 of the office the candidate is seeking and the signers of such petition shall be registered
15 and eligible to vote in the election at which such candidate seeks to be elected. However,
16 in the case of a candidate seeking an office for which there has never been an election or
17 seeking an office in a newly constituted constituency, the percentage figure shall be
18 computed on the total number of registered voters in the constituency who would have
19 been qualified to vote for such office had the election been held at the last general
20 election and the signers of such petition shall be registered and eligible to vote in the
21 election at which such candidate seeks to be elected;

22 (2) Each person signing a qualifying petition shall declare therein that he or she is a duly
23 qualified and registered elector of the state entitled to vote in the next election for the
24 filling of the office sought by the candidate supported by the petition and shall add to his
25 or her signature his or her residence address, giving municipality, if any, and county, with
26 street and number, if any. No person shall sign the same petition more than once. Each
27 petition shall support the candidacy of only a single candidate. A signature shall be
28 stricken from the petition when the signer so requests prior to the presentation of the
29 petition to the appropriate officer for filing, but such a request shall be disregarded if
30 made after such presentation;

31 (3) A qualifying petition shall be on one or more sheets of uniform size and different
32 sheets must be used by signers resident in different counties. The upper portion of each
33 sheet, prior to being signed by any petitioner, shall bear the name and title of the officer
34 with whom the petition will be filed, the name of the candidate to be supported by the
35 petition, his or her profession, business, or occupation, if any, his or her place of
36 residence with street and number, if any, the name of the office he or she is seeking, his
37 or her political party or body affiliation, if any, and the name and date of the election in

1 which the candidate is seeking election. If more than one sheet is used, they shall be
 2 bound together when offered for filing if they are intended to constitute one qualifying
 3 petition, and each sheet shall be numbered consecutively, beginning with number one,
 4 at the foot of each page. Each sheet shall bear on the bottom or back thereof the affidavit
 5 of the circulator of such sheet, which affidavit must be subscribed and sworn to by such
 6 circulator before a notary public and shall set forth:

7 (A) His or her residence address, giving municipality with street and number, if any;

8 (B) That each signer manually signed his or her own name with full knowledge of the
 9 contents of the qualifying petition;

10 (C) That each signature on such sheet was signed within 180 days of the last day on
 11 which such petition may be filed; and

12 (D) That, to the best of the affiant's knowledge and belief, the signers are registered
 13 electors of the state qualified to sign the petition, that their respective residences are
 14 correctly stated in the petition, and that they all reside in the county named in the
 15 affidavit;

16 (4) No qualifying petition shall be circulated prior to 180 days before the last day on
 17 which such petition may be filed, and no signature shall be counted unless it was signed
 18 within 180 days of the last day for filing the same; and

19 (5) A qualifying petition shall not be amended or supplemented after its presentation to
 20 the appropriate officer for filing.

21 No notary public may sign the petition as an elector or serve as a circulator of any petition
 22 which he or she notarized. Any and all sheets of a petition that have the circulator's
 23 affidavit notarized by a notary public who also served as a circulator of one or more sheets
 24 of the petition or who signed one of the sheets of the petition as an elector shall be
 25 disqualified and rejected.

26 (i) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter to the contrary, for general
 27 elections held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the
 28 United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the
 29 legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, candidates in such elections
 30 shall qualify as provided in this subsection:

31 (1) All candidates seeking election in a nonpartisan election shall file their notice of
 32 candidacy and pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this paragraph
 33 in order to be eligible to have their names placed on the nonpartisan election ballot by the
 34 Secretary of State or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following
 35 manner:

36 (A) Each candidate for the office of judge of the superior court, Judge of the Court of
 37 Appeals, or Justice of the Supreme Court, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his

1 or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy,
 2 giving his or her name, residence address, and the office sought, in the office of the
 3 Secretary of State no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the Monday immediately following the
 4 fourth day of July immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the
 5 Friday following the Monday immediately following the fourth day of July,
 6 notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays; and

7 (B) Each candidate for a county judicial office, a local school board office, or an office
 8 of a consolidated government, except those offices which on July 1, 2001, were covered
 9 by local Acts of the General Assembly which provided for election in a nonpartisan
 10 election without a prior nonpartisan primary, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have
 11 his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file notice of candidacy
 12 in the office of the superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the Monday
 13 immediately following the fourth day of July immediately prior to the election and no
 14 later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the Monday immediately following the
 15 fourth day of July, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;

16 (2) All political body and independent candidates shall file their notice of candidacy and
 17 pay the prescribed qualifying fee by the date prescribed in this paragraph in order to be
 18 eligible to have their names placed on the general election ballot by the Secretary of State
 19 or election superintendent, as the case may be, in the following manner:

20 (A) Each candidate for federal or state office, or his or her agent, desiring to have his
 21 or her name placed on the general election ballot shall file a notice of his or her
 22 candidacy, giving his or her name, residence address, and the office he or she is
 23 seeking, in the office of the Secretary of State no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the last
 24 Monday in July immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the
 25 Friday following the last Monday in July; and

26 (B) Each candidate for a county office, including those offices which on July 1, 2001,
 27 were covered by local Acts of the General Assembly which provided for election in a
 28 nonpartisan election without a prior nonpartisan primary, or his or her agent, desiring
 29 to have his or her name placed on the general election ballot shall file notice of his or
 30 her candidacy in the office of the superintendent of his or her county no earlier than
 31 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July immediately prior to the election and no later
 32 than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the last Monday in July;

33 (3) Candidates required to file nomination petitions under subsection (e) of this Code
 34 section shall file such petitions not earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in July
 35 immediately prior to the general election and not later than 12:00 Noon on the first
 36 Monday in August immediately prior to the general election."

SECTION 5.

Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-133, relating to giving notice of write-in candidacy, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) No person elected on a write-in vote shall be eligible to hold office unless notice of his or her intention of candidacy was filed and published no earlier than January 1 and no later than the Tuesday after the first Monday in September prior to the election for county, state, and federal elections; ~~and no later than seven days after the close of the municipal qualifying period for municipal elections in the case of a general election;~~ no earlier than January 1 and no later than the Tuesday after the first Monday in June in the case of a nonpartisan election for a state or county office which was not covered by a local Act of the General Assembly on July 1, 2001, which provided for election in a nonpartisan election without a prior nonpartisan primary; no later than the third Monday in July in the case of a nonpartisan election for a state or county office which was not covered by a local Act of the General Assembly on July 1, 2001, which provided for election in a nonpartisan election without a prior nonpartisan primary held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives; or at least 20 or more days prior to a special election by the person to be a write-in candidate or by some other person or group of persons qualified to vote in the subject election, as follows:

(1) In a state general or special election, notice shall be filed with the Secretary of State and published in a paper of general circulation in the state;

(2) In a general or special election of county officers, notice shall be filed with the superintendent of elections in the county in which he or she is to be a candidate and published in the official organ of the same county; or

(3) In a municipal general or special election, notice shall be filed with the superintendent and published in the official gazette of the municipality holding the election."

SECTION 6.

Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-150, relating to date of the general primary, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b)(1) Whenever the primary occurs during the same week of the national convention of either the political party whose candidates received the highest number of votes or the political party whose candidates received the next highest number of votes in the last

1 presidential election, the general primary shall be conducted on the second Tuesday in
 2 July of such year. This ~~subsection~~ paragraph shall not apply unless the date of the
 3 convention of the political party is announced by the political party prior to April 1 of the
 4 year in which the general primary is conducted.

5 (2) For general primaries held in the even-numbered year immediately following the
 6 official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of
 7 redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, the
 8 general primary shall be conducted on the next-to-last Tuesday in August."

9 SECTION 7.

10 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsections (c) and (f) of Code Section 21-2-153,
 11 relating to qualification of candidates for party nomination in a state or county primary, and
 12 inserting in lieu thereof new subsections (c) and (f) to read as follows:

13 "(c)(1) In the case of a general state or county primary, the candidates or their agents
 14 shall commence qualifying at 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April immediately prior
 15 to the state or county primary and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday
 16 following the fourth Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may
 17 be legal holidays; provided, however, that, in the case of a general primary held in the
 18 even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States
 19 decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and
 20 the United States House of Representatives, the candidates or their agents for political
 21 party nomination to county offices shall commence qualifying at 9:00 A.M. on the
 22 Monday immediately following the fourth day of July immediately prior to such primary
 23 and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the Monday
 24 immediately following the fourth day of July, notwithstanding the fact that any such days
 25 may be legal holidays, and provided, further, that candidates for political party
 26 nomination to federal and state offices in a general primary shall commence qualifying
 27 at 9:00 A.M. on the Monday immediately following the fourth day of July immediately
 28 prior to such primary and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following
 29 the Monday immediately following the fourth day of July, notwithstanding the fact that
 30 any such days may be legal holidays, and shall qualify in person with their respective
 31 political party in the state capitol under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of
 32 State may promulgate. In the case of a special primary, the candidate shall qualify no
 33 earlier than the date of the call for the special primary and no later than 25 days prior to
 34 the date of such primary, and such qualifying period shall be open for a minimum of two
 35 and one-half days.

1 (2) If a political party has not designated at least 14 days prior to the beginning of
 2 qualifying a party official in a county with whom the candidates of such party for county
 3 elective offices shall qualify, the election superintendent of the county shall qualify
 4 candidates on behalf of such party. The election superintendent shall give notice in the
 5 legal organ of the county at least three days before the beginning of qualifying giving the
 6 dates, times, and location for qualifying candidates on behalf of such political party."

7 "(f) Candidates for the office of presidential elector or their agents who have been
 8 nominated in accordance with the rules of a political party shall qualify beginning at
 9 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April in the year in which a presidential election shall
 10 be held and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth
 11 Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
 12 provided, however, that, for presidential elections held in the even-numbered year
 13 immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the
 14 states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of
 15 Representatives, candidates for the office of presidential elector who have been nominated
 16 in accordance with the rules of a political party shall commence qualifying beginning at
 17 9:00 A.M. on the Monday immediately following the fourth day of July immediately prior
 18 to such election and shall cease qualifying at 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the
 19 Monday immediately following the fourth day of July, notwithstanding the fact that any
 20 such days may be legal holidays, and shall qualify in person with their respective political
 21 party in the state capitol under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of State may
 22 promulgate."

23 SECTION 8.

24 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsections (a) and (e) of Code Section 21-2-172,
 25 relating to nomination of presidential electors and candidates of political bodies by
 26 convention, and inserting in lieu thereof new subsections (a) and (e) to read as follows:

27 "(a) Any political party desiring to nominate its presidential electors by convention, any
 28 political body desiring to nominate its candidates qualifying with petitions by convention,
 29 and any political body desiring to nominate its candidates for state-wide public office or
 30 member of the United States House of Representatives by convention by virtue of
 31 qualifying under Code Section 21-2-180 shall, through its state executive committee, adopt
 32 rules and regulations in conformity with this Code section governing the holding of such
 33 conventions for the nomination of candidates for any state, district, or county office. Such
 34 rules and regulations shall be filed with the Secretary of State, and no amendment to such
 35 rules and regulations shall be effective unless filed with the Secretary of State at least 30
 36 days prior to the date of such convention. The state party or body chairperson of such

1 political party or body and its secretary shall accompany the filing of such rules and
 2 regulations with their certificate certifying that the rules and regulations therein filed are
 3 a true and correct copy of the rules and regulations of the party pertaining to the
 4 nomination of candidates by the convention method."

5 "(e) A convention for the purpose of nominating candidates shall be held at least 150 days
 6 prior to the date on which the general election is conducted; provided, however, that, in the
 7 case of a general election held in the even-numbered year immediately following the
 8 official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of
 9 redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, the
 10 convention shall be held at least 120 days prior to the date on which the general election
 11 is conducted."

12 SECTION 9.

13 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-180, relating to manner of
 14 qualification, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-180 to read
 15 as follows:

16 "21-2-180.

17 Any political body which is duly registered as provided for in Code Section 21-2-110 is
 18 qualified to nominate candidates for state-wide public office or member of the United
 19 States House of Representatives by convention if:

20 (1) The political body files with the Secretary of State a petition signed by voters equal
 21 in number to 1 percent of the registered voters who were registered and eligible to vote
 22 in the preceding general election; or

23 (2) The political body has:

24 (A) In at least two of ~~At the preceding three general election, the political body~~
 25 elections ~~nominated a candidate for state-wide office and such candidate received a~~
 26 ~~number of votes equal to 1 percent of the total number of registered voters who were~~
 27 ~~registered and eligible to vote in such general election~~ Governor or United States
 28 senator; and

29 (B) Had its candidate for Governor or United States senator in at least two of the
 30 preceding three general elections receive at least 2 percent of the total votes cast in this
 31 state for the office of Governor or United States senator at such election."

32 SECTION 10.

33 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-181, relating to filing of
 34 petitions generally, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-181
 35 to read as follows:

1 "21-2-181.

2 Petitions to qualify political bodies to nominate candidates for state-wide public office or
 3 member of the United States House of Representatives by convention shall be filed with
 4 the Secretary of State and shall be signed by voters in the manner provided in this part.
 5 Such petitions shall provide sufficient space for the printing of the voter's name and for the
 6 voter's signature. No forms other than those prescribed in this part shall be used for
 7 qualifying a political body to nominate candidates for public office."

8 **SECTION 11.**

9 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-184, relating to restriction on
 10 amendment or supplementation, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new
 11 Code Section 21-2-184 to read as follows:

12 "21-2-184.

13 A petition to qualify a political body to nominate candidates for state-wide public office
 14 or member of the United States House of Representatives by convention shall not be
 15 amended or supplemented after its presentation to the Secretary of State for filing."

16 **SECTION 12.**

17 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-186, relating to examination
 18 of petitions, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-186 to read
 19 as follows:

20 "21-2-186.

21 Petitions to qualify a political body to nominate candidates for state-wide public office or
 22 member of the United States House of Representatives by convention shall be examined
 23 and shall be subject to judicial review in the same manner as provided for candidates
 24 nominated by petition pursuant to Code Section 21-2-171."

25 **SECTION 13.**

26 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-187, relating to holding of
 27 conventions, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-187 to read
 28 as follows:

29 "21-2-187.

30 Political bodies shall hold their conventions in accordance with Code Section 21-2-172 and
 31 candidates nominated for state-wide public office or member of the United States House
 32 of Representatives in convention shall file a notice of candidacy no earlier than 9:00 A.M.
 33 on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00
 34 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday in June as prescribed in Code Section

21-2-132; provided, however, that the political body must file its qualifying petition no later than 12:00 Noon on the second Tuesday in July following the convention as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-172 in order to qualify its candidates to be listed on the general election ballot; provided, further, that, for general elections held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, candidates nominated for state-wide public office or member of the United States House of Representatives shall file a notice of candidacy no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the last Monday in July as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-132; provided, further, that the political body must file its qualifying petition no later than 12:00 Noon on the first Monday in August following the convention as prescribed in Code Section 21-2-172 in order to qualify its candidates to be listed on the general election ballot."

SECTION 14.

Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-285, relating to the form of the official election ballot, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) To vote the straight party option, with the exception of candidates for offices of presidential electors, mark a cross (X) or check (✓) mark in the square in the party column opposite the name of the party of your choice. To vote for presidential electors, mark a cross (X) or check (✓) mark in the square opposite the names of the candidates of the party or body for the offices of President and Vice President for which you choose to vote ~~for~~. If you do not desire to vote the straight party option, then place Place a cross (X) or check (✓) mark in the square opposite the name of each candidate for whom you choose to vote ~~for~~. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, manually write his or her name, accompanied by the title of the office involved, in the write-in column. If you spoil your ballot, do not erase, but ask for a new ballot. Use only pen or pencil."

SECTION 15.

Said chapter is further amended by inserting after Code Section 21-2-301 a new Code Section 21-2-302 to read as follows:

"21-2-302.

Prior to finalizing the purchase or lease of voting equipment for use in conducting elections, each county and municipality shall submit such purchase or lease to the Secretary

1 of State for approval. If the Secretary of State does not approve the purchase or lease of
 2 such equipment, the county or municipality shall be prohibited from purchasing or leasing
 3 such voting equipment. A vendor that sells or leases voting equipment to a county or
 4 municipality without the approval of the Secretary of State shall be subject to a penalty of
 5 \$100,000.00, payable to the State of Georgia. The State Election Board shall have
 6 authority to impose such penalty upon a finding that such a sale or lease has occurred. As
 7 used in this Code section, the term 'voting equipment' shall include, without limitation,
 8 voting machines, vote recorders and tabulating machines, optical scanning voting systems,
 9 and electronic recording voting systems and any combination thereof."

10 SECTION 16.

11 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (2) of Code Section 21-2-322, relating
 12 to general requirements as to voting machines, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph
 13 (2) to read as follows:

14 "(2) It shall permit each elector, at other than primaries, in one operation, to vote a
 15 straight party or body option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of
 16 presidential electors; in one operation, to vote for all the candidates of one party or body
 17 for presidential electors; and, in one operation, to vote for all the candidates of one party
 18 or body for every office to be voted for except those offices as to which he or she votes
 19 for individual candidates and the offices of presidential electors;".

20 SECTION 17.

21 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (g) of Code Section 21-2-325, relating
 22 to form of ballot labels generally, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (g) to read
 23 as follows:

24 "(g) The names of all candidates of a party or body shall appear in the same row or
 25 column, and no other names shall appear in the same row or column, to the side or top of
 26 which shall be a straight party or body lever by means of which an elector may, in one
 27 operation, vote for all candidates of that party or body for every office to be voted for, with
 28 the exception of candidates for the offices of presidential electors. The names of
 29 candidates and independent candidates shall be arranged under or opposite the title of the
 30 office for which they are candidates and shall appear in the order prescribed by
 31 subsection (c) and the second sentence of subsection (e) of Code Section 21-2-285. The
 32 rows or columns occupied by the names of the candidates of political parties and bodies
 33 shall be arranged according to the priority prescribed by subsection (c) of Code Section
 34 21-2-285. When voting machines are used on which the titles of offices are arranged
 35 horizontally, the names of all candidates for the same office shall appear within the same

1 vertical lines. The names of all candidates in a nonpartisan election held in conjunction
 2 with a general election shall appear on a separate portion of the voting machine in the form
 3 and arrangement prescribed in Code Section 21-2-285.1 insofar as practicable. At the top
 4 of the separate portion shall be printed in prominent type the words 'OFFICIAL
 5 NONPARTISAN ELECTION BALLOT.'"

6 SECTION 18.

7 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (2) of Code Section 21-2-350, relating
 8 to general requirements for vote recorders, and inserting in lieu thereof a new paragraph (2)
 9 to read as follows:

10 "(2) It shall permit each elector, at other than primaries, in one operation per ballot card,
 11 to vote a straight party or body option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of
 12 presidential electors; in one operation per ballot card, to vote for all the candidates of one
 13 party or body for presidential electors; and, in one operation per ballot card, to vote for
 14 all the candidates of one party or body for every office to be voted for except those
 15 offices as to which he or she votes for individual candidates and the offices of
 16 presidential electors;".

17 SECTION 19.

18 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (2) of Code Section 21-2-365, relating
 19 to requirements for the use of optical scanning voting systems, and inserting in lieu thereof
 20 a new paragraph (2) to read as follows:

21 "(2) It shall permit each elector, at other than primaries, in one operation per ballot card,
 22 to vote a straight party or body option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of
 23 presidential electors; in one operation per ballot card, to vote for all the candidates of one
 24 party or body for presidential electors; and, in one operation per ballot card, to vote for
 25 all the candidates of one party or body for every office to be voted for except those
 26 offices as to which he or she votes for individual candidates and the offices of
 27 presidential electors;".

28 SECTION 20.

29 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (2) of Code Section 21-2-379.1,
 30 relating to requirements for use of electronic recording voting systems, and inserting in lieu
 31 thereof a new paragraph (2) to read as follows:

32 "(2) It shall permit each elector, at other than primaries, to vote a straight party or body
 33 option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of presidential electors, in one
 34 operation; in one operation, to vote for all the candidates of one party or body for

1 presidential electors; ~~or~~ and, in one operation, to vote for all the candidates of one party
 2 or body for every office to be voted for except those offices as to which he or she votes
 3 for individual candidates and the offices of presidential electors;”.

4 SECTION 21.

5 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-384, relating
 6 to absentee ballots, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

7 “(a) The superintendent shall, as soon as practicable prior to each primary or election, but
 8 at least 45 days prior to any primary or general election ~~other than~~ except a municipal
 9 primary or election; and except a general primary or general election held in the
 10 even-numbered year immediately following the official release of the United States
 11 decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of the legislatures and
 12 the United States House of Representatives, at least 35 days prior to a general primary or
 13 general election held in the even-numbered year immediately following the official release
 14 of the United States decennial census data to the states for the purpose of redistricting of
 15 the legislatures and the United States House of Representatives, and at least 21 days prior
 16 to any municipal primary or general election, prepare, obtain, and deliver an adequate
 17 supply of official absentee ballots to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk for use
 18 in the primary or election. Envelopes and other supplies as required by this article may be
 19 ordered by the superintendent, the board of registrars, or the absentee ballot clerk for use
 20 in the primary or election. The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall, within two
 21 days after the receipt of such ballots and supplies, mail or issue official absentee ballots to
 22 all eligible applicants; and, as additional applicants are determined to be eligible, the board
 23 or clerk shall mail or issue official absentee ballots to such additional applicants
 24 immediately upon determining their eligibility; provided, however, that no absentee ballot
 25 shall be mailed by the registrars or absentee ballot clerk on the day prior to a primary or
 26 election. The date a ballot is voted in the registrars’ or absentee ballot clerk’s office or the
 27 date a ballot is mailed to an elector and the date it is returned shall be entered on the
 28 application record therefor. The delivery of an absentee ballot to a person confined in a
 29 hospital may be made by the registrar or clerk on the day of a primary or election or during
 30 a five-day period immediately preceding the day of such primary or election. In the event
 31 an absentee ballot which has been mailed by the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk
 32 is not received by the applicant, the applicant may notify the board of registrars or absentee
 33 ballot clerk and sign an affidavit stating that the absentee ballot has not been received. The
 34 board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall then issue a second absentee ballot to the
 35 applicant and cancel the original ballot issued. The affidavit shall be attached to the
 36 original application. A second application for an absentee ballot shall not be required.”

SECTION 22.

Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-403, relating to time of opening and closing of polls, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-403 to read as follows:

"21-2-403.

At all primaries and elections the polls shall be opened at 7:00 A.M. eastern standard time or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, and shall remain open continuously until ~~7:00~~ 8:00 P.M. eastern standard time or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, at which time they shall be closed; ~~provided, however, that, in all cities having a population of 300,000 or more according to the United States decennial census of 1970 or any future such census, the polls shall remain open continuously until 8:00 P.M. eastern standard time or eastern daylight time, whichever is applicable, during the cities' general elections, at which time they shall be closed."~~

SECTION 23.

Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 21-2-416, relating to methods of casting ballots in elections utilizing paper ballots or vote recorders, in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 21-2-416 to read as follows:

"21-2-416.

~~Reserved:~~ (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, an elector may cast his or her vote in elections in any one of the following ways and such vote shall be counted as provided in this Code section:

(1) He or she may vote for each candidate individually as provided in this chapter;

(2) He or she may vote a straight political party or body option as provided by this chapter by which he or she may cast a vote for all candidates of a political party or body, except candidates for the offices of presidential electors, in one operation; or

(3) He or she may vote a modified straight party option by casting in combination a straight party or body option, in the manner provided in paragraph (2) of this Code section, and a vote or votes for individual candidates, in the manner provided in paragraph (1) of this Code section, which shall constitute a valid vote for every candidate of the political party or body designated, except candidates for the offices of presidential electors and those offices as to which such elector has indicated a choice for individuals other than the straight party nominees, which choice shall valid only as votes for such individuals so designated.

(b) In counties using paper ballots and in counties using voting machines, vote recorders, optical scanning voting equipment, and electronic recording voting systems, which devices have the capability to do so, the number of electors choosing to vote the straight party or

1 body option and the modified straight party or body option shall be recorded for each party
 2 and body by precinct and shall be reported with the election returns for each precinct."

3 SECTION 24.

4 Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraph (3) of subsection (c) of Code Section
 5 21-2-435, relating to procedure as to marking and depositing of ballots, and inserting in lieu
 6 thereof a new paragraph (3) to read as follows:

7 "(3) If he or she desires to vote for every candidate of a political party or body (except
 8 its candidates for the offices of presidential electors), he or she may make a cross (X) or
 9 check (✓) mark in the square opposite the name of the party or body of his or her choice
 10 in the party or body column on the left of the ballot, and every such cross (X) or
 11 check (✓) mark shall be equivalent to and be counted as a vote for every candidate of a
 12 party or body so marked, except its candidates for the offices of presidential electors and
 13 those offices as to which such elector has indicated a choice for individuals other than the
 14 straight party nominees, which choice shall be valid as votes for such individuals so
 15 designated;".

16 SECTION 25.

17 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-437, relating
 18 to procedure as to count and return of votes generally, and inserting in lieu thereof a new
 19 subsection (a) to read as follows:

20 "(a) After the polls close at ~~7:00 P.M.~~ and as soon as all the ballots have been properly
 21 accounted for and those outside the ballot box as well as the voter's certificates, numbered
 22 list of voters, and electors list have been sealed, the poll officers shall open the ballot box
 23 and take therefrom all ballots contained therein. In primaries in which more than one ballot
 24 box is used, any ballots or stubs belonging to another party holding its primary in the same
 25 polling place shall be returned to the ballot box for the party for which they were issued.
 26 In primaries, separate tally and return sheets shall be prepared for each party, and separate
 27 poll officers shall be designated by the chief manager to count and tally each party's ballot.
 28 Where the same ballot box is being used by one or more parties, the ballots and stubs shall
 29 first be divided by party before being tallied and counted. The ballots shall then be counted
 30 one by one and a record made of the total number. Then the chief manager, together with
 31 such assistant managers and other poll officers as the chief manager may designate, under
 32 the scrutiny of one of the assistant managers and in the presence of the other poll officers,
 33 shall read aloud the names of the candidates marked or written upon each ballot, together
 34 with the office for which the person named is a candidate, and the answers contained on
 35 the ballots to the questions submitted, if any; and the other assistant manager and clerks

1 shall carefully enter each vote as read and keep account of the same in ink on a sufficient
 2 number of tally papers, all of which shall be made at the same time. All ballots, after being
 3 removed from the box, shall be kept within the unobstructed view of all persons in the
 4 voting room until replaced in the box. No person, while handling the ballots, shall have
 5 in his or her hand any pencil, pen, stamp, or other means of marking or spoiling any ballot.
 6 The poll officers shall immediately proceed to canvass and compute the votes cast and shall
 7 not adjourn or postpone the canvass or computation until it shall have been fully
 8 completed, except that, in the discretion of the superintendent, the poll officers may stop
 9 the counting after all contested races and questions are counted, provided that the results
 10 of these contested races and questions are posted for the information of the public outside
 11 the polling place and the ballots are returned to the ballot box and deposited with the
 12 superintendent until counting is resumed on the following day."

13 SECTION 26.

14 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-438, relating
 15 to ballots identifying voter, not marked, or improperly marked declared void, and inserting
 16 in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

17 "(b) At elections, any ballot marked by any other mark than a cross (X) or check (✓) mark
 18 in the spaces provided for that purpose shall be void and not counted; provided, however,
 19 that no vote recorded thereon shall be declared void because a cross (X) or check (✓) mark
 20 thereon is irregular in form. A cross (X) or check (✓) mark in the square opposite the
 21 name of a political party or body in the party or body column shall be counted as a vote for
 22 every candidate of that party or body so marked, with the exception of candidates for the
 23 offices of presidential electors and those offices as to which such elector has indicated a
 24 choice for individuals other than the straight party nominees, which choice shall be valid
 25 as votes for such individuals so designated. A cross (X) or check (✓) mark in the square
 26 opposite the names of the nominees of a political party or body for the offices of President
 27 and Vice President shall be counted as a vote for every candidate of that party or body for
 28 the offices of presidential electors. Any ballot indicating a write-in for any person whose
 29 name is not printed on the ballot and who properly gave notice of intent to run as a write-in
 30 candidate pursuant to Code Section 21-2-133 shall be counted as a vote for such person,
 31 if written in the proper space or spaces provided for that purpose, whether or not a cross
 32 (X) or check (✓) mark is placed before the name of such person."

SECTION 27.

Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-452, relating to voting procedure generally, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) At primaries ~~or elections~~, an elector shall vote for each candidate individually by operating the lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob upon or adjacent to which the name of such candidate is placed. At elections, an elector may vote for each candidate individually by operating the lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob upon or adjacent to which the names of the candidates of such elector's choice are placed or the elector may vote a straight political party or body option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of presidential electors, in one operation by operating the straight political party or body lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob of the political party or body of his or her choice. An elector may also, after having operated the straight political party or body lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob and before recording his or her vote, cancel the vote for any candidate of such political party or body by replacing the individual lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob of such candidate and may thereupon vote for a candidate of another political party or body for the same office by operating the lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob upon or adjacent to which the name of such candidate appears. In the case of a question submitted to the vote of the electors, the elector shall operate the lever, key, handle, pointer, or knob corresponding to the answer which he or she desires to give."

SECTION 28.

Said chapter is further amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of Code Section 21-2-480, relating to caption for ballots and form and arrangement, and inserting in lieu thereof new paragraphs (1) and (2) to read as follows:

"(1) Optical scanners using ovals ~~or squares~~. To vote the straight party option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of presidential electors, blacken the oval in the party column next to the name of the political party or body of your choice. To vote for presidential electors, blacken the oval next to the names of the candidates of the party or body for the offices of President and Vice President for whom you choose to vote. If you do not choose to vote the straight party option, then ~~To vote~~ blacken the oval ~~or square~~ (○□) next to the name of each candidate of your choice. To vote for a person whose name is not on the ballot, manually write his or her name in the write-in section and blacken the oval ~~or square~~ next to the write-in section. If you spoil your ballot, do not erase, but ask for a new ballot. Use only the pen or pencil provided.

(2) Optical scanners using arrows. To vote the straight party option, with the exception of candidates for the offices of presidential electors, complete the arrow in the party

1 column next to the name of the political party or body of your choice. To vote for
2 presidential electors, complete the arrow next to the names of the candidates of the party
3 or body for the offices of President and Vice President for whom you choose to vote. If
4 you do not choose to vote the straight party option, then ~~To vote~~, complete the arrow (⇒)
5 to the right of next to the name of ~~the~~ each candidate for whom you wish to vote. To vote
6 for a person whose name is not on the ballot, manually write his or her name in the
7 write-in space provided and complete the arrow next to the write-in space provided. If
8 you spoil your ballot, do not erase, but ask for a new ballot. Use only the pen or pencil
9 provided."

10 **SECTION 29.**

11 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
12 without such approval.

13 **SECTION 30.**

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