

House Bill 194

By: Representatives Hamilton of the 24th, Rynders of the 152nd, Powell of the 32nd, Powell of the 171st, Brockway of the 102nd, and others

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 primaries and elections generally, so as to revise advance voting times and dates; to provide
3 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and
7 elections generally, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Code
8 Section 21-2-385, relating to procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, as
9 follows:

10 "(d)(1) There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence:

11 (A) ~~On the fourth~~ on the third Monday immediately prior to each primary or election
12 or runoff from a primary or election;

13 (B) ~~On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general primary;~~

14 (C) ~~On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general election in
15 which there are candidates for a federal office on the ballot in the runoff; and~~

16 (D) ~~As soon as possible prior to a runoff from any other general election in which there
17 are only state or county candidates on the ballot in the runoff~~

18 and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff for a
19 period of 12 consecutive days of advance voting. Voting shall be conducted during
20 normal business hours on weekdays during such period and shall be conducted on the
21 ~~second Saturday prior to a primary or election~~ Saturday during such period during the
22 hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; ~~provided, however, that in primaries and elections~~
23 ~~in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no Saturday voting hours~~
24 ~~shall be required~~ and on the Sunday during such period during the hours of 12:00 Noon
25 through 4:00 P.M. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, counties and
26 municipalities may extend the hours for voting beyond ~~regular business~~ such hours and

27 may provide for additional voting locations pursuant to Code Section 21-2-382 to suit the
28 needs of the electors of the jurisdiction at their option; provided, however, that advance
29 voting hours on Sunday shall not begin before 12:00 Noon and shall end not later than
30 6:00 P.M."

31 **SECTION 2.**

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