

House Bill 22

By: Representatives Bruce of the 61st, Gardner of the 57th, Dreyer of the 59th, Willard of the 51st, Quick of the 117th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding preparation for and conduct of primaries
3 and elections, so as to provide that the election superintendent of a county may permit any
4 elector of the county to vote in any precinct of the county which such elector chooses in a
5 primary, election, or runoff under certain conditions; to provide for certain notices; to
6 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 1 of Article 11 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to general provisions regarding preparation for and conduct of primaries and
11 elections, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "21-2-420.

13 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the election
14 superintendent of a county may permit any elector of the county to vote in any precinct of
15 the county which such elector chooses in a primary, election, or runoff, provided that the
16 conditions of this Code section are met.

17 (b) Prior to choosing to implement subsection (a) of this Code section, the election
18 superintendent shall ensure that:

19 (1) Sufficient safeguards are in place to protect against an elector voting more than once
20 in the same primary, election, or runoff;

21 (2) A sufficient number of ballots of each ballot style used in the county are available at
22 each precinct polling place to accommodate electors who may choose to vote at such
23 polling place;

24 (3) If DRE voting equipment is to be used at such polling places, a sufficient number of
25 DRE voting units are available at each polling place to accommodate the potential
26 number of electors who may vote at such polling place; and

27 (4) Sufficient poll workers are available at each polling place to accommodate the
28 potential number of electors who may vote at such polling place.

29 (c) The election superintendent shall make the determination of whether to allow the
30 electors of the county to vote in any precinct of the county at least 30 days prior to a
31 primary or election and shall notify the Secretary of State in writing of such decision at
32 least 30 days before the primary or election. The election superintendent shall notify the
33 electors of such decision by posting prominent notices in the election superintendent's
34 office and on each polling place in the county. In addition, the election superintendent
35 shall advertise the decision in the legal organ of the county once a week for two weeks
36 immediately preceding the primary or election. If the election superintendent decides to
37 allow the electors of the county to vote in any precinct of the county in a primary or
38 election, such decision shall also apply to any runoff of such primary or election.

39 (d) The State Election Board shall be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to
40 implement the provisions of this Code section."

41 **SECTION 2.**

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