

House Bill 1008

By: Representatives Rynders of the 152nd, Ehrhart of the 36th, Hatchett of the 150th, Jones of the 47th, 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 elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the dates for advance voting; to provide for
3 related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**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 revising paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Code
9 Section 21-2-385, relating to procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, as
10 follows:

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

12 (A) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to each 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.

19 Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period
20 and shall be conducted on either the second third Saturday or Sunday, but not both, prior

21 to a primary or election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided,

22 however, that in primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates
23 on the ballot, no Saturday or Sunday voting hours shall be required; and provided,

24 further, that, if such second third Saturday or Sunday is a public and legal holiday

25 pursuant to Code Section 1-4-1, if such second third Saturday or Sunday follows a public

26 and legal holiday occurring on the Thursday or Friday immediately preceding such

27 ~~second~~ third Saturday or Sunday, or if such ~~second~~ third Saturday or Sunday immediately
28 precedes a public and legal holiday occurring on the following ~~Sunday~~ or Monday, such
29 advance voting shall ~~not~~ be held on ~~such~~ the second Saturday ~~but shall be held on the~~
30 ~~third Saturday~~ or Sunday, ~~but not both~~, prior to such primary or election. Except as
31 otherwise provided in this paragraph, counties and municipalities may extend the hours
32 for weekday voting beyond regular business hours and may provide for additional voting
33 locations pursuant to Code Section 21-2-382 to suit the needs of the electors of the
34 jurisdiction at their option."

35 **SECTION 2.**

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

38 **SECTION 3.**

39 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.