

The House Special Committee on Election Integrity offers the following substitute to HB 270:

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 for the time periods for the mailing and
3 issuance of absentee ballots; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date;
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 revising paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of Code
9 Section 21-2-384, relating to preparation and delivery of supplies, mailing of ballots, oath
10 of absentee electors and persons assisting absentee electors, master list of ballots sent,
11 challenges, and electronic transmission of ballots, as follows:

12 "(2) The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall mail or issue official absentee
13 ballots to all eligible applicants not more than 49 days but not less than 45 days prior to
14 any presidential preference primary, general primary other than a municipal general
15 primary, general election other than a municipal general election, or special primary or
16 special election in which there is a candidate for a federal office on the ballot; 22 days

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17 prior to any municipal general primary or municipal general election; and as soon as
 18 possible prior to any runoff. In the case of all other special primaries or special elections,
 19 the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall mail or issue official absentee ballots
 20 to all eligible applicants within three days after the receipt of such ballots and supplies,
 21 but no earlier than 22 days prior to the election; provided, however, that should any
 22 elector of the jurisdiction be permitted to vote by absentee ballot beginning 49 days prior
 23 to a primary or election, all eligible applicants of such jurisdiction shall be entitled to vote
 24 by absentee ballot beginning 49 days prior to such primary or election. As additional
 25 applicants are determined to be eligible, the board or clerk shall mail or issue official
 26 absentee ballots to such additional applicants immediately upon determining their
 27 eligibility; ~~provided, however, that no.~~ No absentee by mail ballot shall be mailed or
 28 issued by the registrars or absentee ballot clerk on the day prior to if there are less than
 29 ten days remaining before a primary or election, and provided, further, that no absentee
 30 ballot shall be issued on the day prior to a primary or election nothing in this paragraph
 31 shall prevent an elector from voting at an advance voting location pursuant to subsection
 32 (d) of this Code section. The board of registrars shall, within the same time periods
 33 specified in this subsection, electronically transmit official absentee ballots to all electors
 34 who have requested to receive their official absentee ballot electronically and are entitled
 35 to vote such absentee ballot under the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee
 36 Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. Section 1973ff, et seq., as amended."

37 **SECTION 2.**

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

40 **SECTION 3.**

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