

The Senate Committee on Ethics offered the following substitute to SB 232:

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 require unique bar codes and alphanumeric
3 tracking numbers on individual absentee ballots; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 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 primaries and
8 elections generally, is amended in Code Section 21-2-383, relating to preparation and
9 delivery of ballots, form of ballots, casting ballot in person using DRE unit, and casting
10 ballot in person or as absentee using electronic ballot markers, by revising subsection (a) as
11 follows:

12 "(a) Ballots for use by absentee electors shall be prepared sufficiently in advance by the
13 superintendent and shall be delivered to the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk as
14 provided in Code Section 21-2-384. Such ballots shall be marked 'Official Absentee Ballot'
15 and shall be in substantially the form for ballots required by Article 8 of this chapter,
16 except that in counties using voting machines or direct recording electronic (DRE) units

17 the ballots may be in substantially the form for the ballot labels required by Article 9 of this
18 chapter. Each such ballot shall have printed thereon a unique bar code and an
19 alphanumeric tracking number that allows for the tracking and identification of each such
20 individual ballot and its accompanying envelope. Every such ballot shall have printed with
21 other instructions thereon the following:

22 'I understand that the offer or acceptance of money or any other object of value to vote
23 for any particular candidate, list of candidates, issue, or list of issues included in this
24 election constitutes an act of voter fraud and is a felony under Georgia law.'

25 The form for either ballot shall be determined and prescribed by the Secretary of State,
26 except in municipal primaries or elections, in which the form of absentee ballots which
27 follows the paper ballot format shall be determined and prescribed by the superintendent."

28

SECTION 2.

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.