

Senate Bill 253

By: Senators Merritt of the 9th, Burns of the 23rd, Butler of the 55th, Dugan of the 30th, Gooch of the 51st and others

AS PASSED SENATE

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 notice when polling places are
3 relocated; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
7 primaries generally, is amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-265, relating
8 to duty of superintendent to select polling places, change, petition objecting to proposed
9 change, space for political parties holding primaries, facilities for disabled voters, selection
10 of polling place outside precinct to better serve voters, and restriction on changing polling
11 place on or near date of election, as follows:

12 "(a) The superintendent of a county or the governing authority of a municipality shall
13 select and fix the polling place within each precinct and may, either on his, her, or its own
14 motion or on petition of ten electors of a precinct, change the polling place within any
15 precinct. Except in case of an emergency or unavoidable event occurring within ten days
16 of a primary or election, which emergency or event renders any polling place unavailable

17 for use at such primary or election, the superintendent of a county or the governing
18 authority of a municipality shall not change any polling place until notice of the proposed
19 change shall have been published for once a week for two consecutive weeks in the legal
20 organ for the county or municipality in which the polling place is located. Additionally,
21 ~~on the first election~~ during the seven days before and on the day of the first election
22 following such change, a notice of such change shall be posted on the previous polling
23 place and at three other places in the immediate vicinity thereof. Each notice posted shall
24 state the location to which the polling place has been moved and shall direct electors to the
25 new location. At least one notice at the previous polling place shall be a minimum of four
26 feet by four feet in size. The occupant or owner of the previous polling place, or his or her
27 agent, shall be notified in writing of such change at the time notice is published in the legal
28 organ."

29

SECTION 2.

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