

Senate Bill 129

By: Senators Williams of the 25th, Burns of the 23rd, Harbin of the 16th, Anderson of the 24th, Beach of the 21st 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 primaries and elections generally, so as to provide for time off for employees to advance
3 vote; 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 primaries and
7 elections generally, is amended by revising Code Section 21-2-404, relating to affording
8 employees time off to vote, as follows:

9 "21-2-404.

10 Each employee in this state shall, upon reasonable notice to his or her employer, be
11 permitted by his or her employer to take any necessary time off from his or her
12 employment to vote in any municipal, county, state, or federal political party primary or
13 election for which such employee is qualified and registered to vote either on one of the
14 days that are designated for advance in-person voting or on the day on which such primary
15 or election is held; provided, however, that such necessary time off shall not exceed two
16 hours; and provided, further, that, if the hours of work of such employee commence at least
17 two hours after the opening of the polls or end at least two hours prior to the closing of the

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18 polls, then the time off for voting as provided for in this Code section shall not be available.
19 The employer may specify the hours during which the employee may absent himself or
20 herself as provided in this Code section."

21

SECTION 2.

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.