

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2013

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SENATE BILL 721

Short Title: Election Omnibus. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Newton (Primary Sponsor); Barefoot, Bingham, Brock, Cook, Daniel, Hise, Jackson, Rabin, Randleman, Soucek, and Tucker.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

April 4, 2013

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION TO VOTE, TO PROVIDE
3 PROCEDURES FOR RESTORATION OF CITIZENSHIP AFTER CONVICTION OF A
4 FELONY, AND TO REVISE THE EARLY VOTING AND SAME-DAY
5 REGISTRATION LAWS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7
8 **PART 1. VOTER PHOTO IDENTIFICATION**

9 **SECTION 1.1.** G.S. 163-166.12 reads as rewritten:

10 "**§ 163-166.12. Requirements for certain voters who register by mail.** Photo ID
11 requirements.

12 (a) Voting in Person. – ~~An individual who has registered to vote by mail on or after~~
13 ~~January 1, 2003, and has not previously voted in an election that includes a ballot item for~~
14 ~~federal office in North Carolina.~~ Every individual seeking to vote in person shall present a valid
15 photo identification to a local election official at a voting place before voting there.

16 ~~one of the following:~~

- 17 (1) ~~A current and valid photo identification.~~
18 (2) ~~A copy of one of the following documents that shows the name and address~~
19 ~~of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check,~~
20 ~~paycheck, or other government document.~~

21 (a1) As used in this section, a valid photo identification means one of the following but
22 only if it contains a photograph of the registered voter:

- 23 (1) A North Carolina drivers license issued under Article 2 of Chapter 20 of the
24 General Statutes, including a learner's permit or a provisional license.
25 (2) A special identification card for nonoperators issued under G.S. 20-37.7.
26 (3) A valid identification card issued by a branch, department, agency, or entity
27 of this State, any other state, or the United States authorized by law to issue
28 personal identification.
29 (4) A valid United States passport.
30 (5) A valid employee identification card issued by any branch, department,
31 agency, or entity of the United States government, this State, or any county,
32 municipality, board, authority, or other entity of this State.
33 (6) A valid United States military identification card.
34 (7) A valid tribal identification card.



1 (8) A valid North Carolina voter identification card issued under
2 G.S. 163-166.13.

3 (b) Voting Mail-In Absentee. – An individual who has registered to vote by mail on or
4 after January 1, 2003, and has not previously voted in an election that includes a ballot item for
5 federal office in North Carolina, in order to cast a mail-in absentee vote, shall submit with the
6 mailed-in absentee ballot one of the following:

7 (1) A copy of a current and valid photo identification.

8 (2) A copy of one of the following documents that shows the name and address
9 of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check,
10 paycheck, or other government document.

11 (b1) The county board of elections shall note the type of identification proof submitted
12 by the voter under the provisions of subsection (a) or (b) of this section and may dispose of the
13 tendered copy of identification proof submitted under subsection (b) of this section as soon as
14 the type of proof is noted in the voter registration records.

15 (b2) Voting When Identification Numbers Do Not Match. – Regardless of whether an
16 individual has registered by mail or by another method, if the individual has provided with the
17 registration form a drivers license number or last four digits of a Social Security number but the
18 computer validation of the number as required by G.S. 163-82.12 did not result in a match, and
19 the number has not been otherwise validated by the board of elections, in the first election in
20 which the individual votes that individual shall submit with the ballot the form of identification
21 described in subsection (a) or subsection (b) of this section, depending upon whether the ballot
22 is voted in person or absentee. If that identification is provided and the board of elections does
23 not determine that the individual is otherwise ineligible to vote a ballot, the failure of
24 identification numbers to match shall not prevent that individual from registering to vote and
25 having that individual's vote counted. If the individual registers and votes under
26 G.S. 163-82.6A, the identification documents required in that section, rather than those
27 described in subsection (a) or (b) of this section, apply.

28 (c) The Right to Vote Provisionally. – If an individual is required under subsection (a),
29 (b), or (b2) of this section to present identification in order to vote, but that individual does not
30 present the required identification, that individual may vote a provisional official ballot. If the
31 voter is at the voting place, the voter may vote provisionally there without unnecessary delay. If
32 the voter is voting by mail-in absentee ballot, the mailed ballot without the required
33 identification shall be treated as a provisional official ballot.

34 (d) Exemptions. – ~~This Subsection (b) of this section~~ does not apply to any of the
35 following:

36 (1) An individual who registers by mail and submits as part of the registration
37 application either of the following:

38 a. A copy of a current and valid photo identification.

39 b. A copy of one of the following documents that shows the name and
40 address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement,
41 government check, paycheck, or other government document.

42 (2) An individual who registers by mail and submits as part of the registration
43 application the individual's drivers license number or at least the last four
44 digits of the individual's social security number where an election official
45 matches either or both of the numbers submitted with an existing State
46 identification record bearing the same number, name, and date of birth
47 contained in the submitted registration. If any individual's number does not
48 match, the individual shall provide identification as required in subsection
49 (b2) of this section in the first election in which the individual votes.

50 (3) An individual who is entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniformed
51 and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

1 (4) An individual who is entitled to vote otherwise than in person under section
2 3(b)(2)(B)(ii) of the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped
3 Act.

4 (5) An individual who is entitled to vote otherwise than in person under any
5 other federal law."

6 **SECTION 1.2.** Article 14A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is amended by
7 adding a new section to read:

8 **"§ 163-166.13. Voter identification card.**

9 (a) Each county board of elections shall accept applications for and issue North
10 Carolina voter identification cards to registered North Carolina voters that shall under State law
11 be valid only for purposes of voter identification under this Chapter and available only to
12 registered voters of this State. No fee shall be charged or collected for the application for or
13 issuance of a North Carolina voter identification card.

14 (b) No person shall be eligible for a North Carolina voter identification card if such
15 person has a valid, unexpired drivers license or a special identification card for nonoperators
16 issued under G.S. 20-37.7.

17 (c) The North Carolina voter identification card shall be captioned "NORTH
18 CAROLINA VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD" and shall contain a prominent statement that
19 under North Carolina law it is valid only as identification for voting purposes. The North
20 Carolina voter identification card shall be laminated, shall contain a digital color photograph of
21 the applicant, and shall include the following information:

22 (1) Full legal name.

23 (2) Address of residence.

24 (3) Birth date.

25 (4) Date identification card was issued.

26 (5) Sex.

27 (6) Height.

28 (7) Weight.

29 (8) Eye color.

30 (9) County where the identification card was issued.

31 (10) Such other information or identification as required by rule of the State
32 Board of Elections.

33 (d) The application for a North Carolina voter identification card shall elicit the
34 information required under subsection (c) of this section and such other information as may be
35 required by rule of the State Board of Elections. The application shall be signed by the
36 applicant.

37 (e) The county board of elections shall require presentation and verification of the
38 following information before issuing a North Carolina voter identification card to a person:

39 (1) A photo identity document, except that a nonphoto identity document is
40 acceptable if it includes the person's name;

41 (2) Evidence that the person is registered to vote in this State; and

42 (3) Documentation showing the person's name and residence address.

43 (f) A North Carolina voter identification card shall remain valid so long as a person
44 resides at the same address and remains qualified to vote. It shall be the duty of a person who
45 moves his or her residence within the State to surrender his or her card to the county board of
46 elections of the county of his or her new residence, and such person may after such surrender
47 apply for and receive a new card if such person is otherwise eligible under this section. It shall
48 be the duty of a person who moves his or her residence outside this State or who ceases to be
49 qualified to vote to surrender his or her card to the county board of elections by which it was
50 issued.

1 (g) The State Board of Elections shall provide each county board of elections issuing
2 North Carolina voter identification cards with the necessary equipment, forms, supplies, and
3 training for the production of the North Carolina voter identification cards and shall maintain
4 such equipment.

5 (h) The State Board of Elections shall adopt policies for the administration of this
6 section, and without limiting the generality of the foregoing, such policies may further define or
7 prescribe the types of documentation required under subsection (e) of this section."

8 **SECTION 1.3.** G.S. 163-82.6A(b) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b) Both Attestation and Proof of Residence Required. – To vote under this section, a
10 voter must present a valid photo identification as defined by G.S. 163-166.12(a1). This
11 requirement is separate from the requirement to provide proof of residence under subdivision
12 (2) of this subsection. If an individual does not present the required identification, that
13 individual may vote a provisional official ballot. To register and vote under this section, the
14 person shall do both of the following:

- 15 (1) Complete a voter registration form as prescribed in G.S. 163-82.4, including
16 the attestation requirement of G.S. 163-82.4(b) that the person meets each
17 eligibility requirement. Such attestation is signed under penalty of a Class I
18 felony under G.S. 163-275(13); and
- 19 (2) Provide proof of residence by presenting any of the following valid
20 documents that show the person's current name and current residence
21 address: a North Carolina drivers license, a photo identification from a
22 government agency, or any of the documents listed in ~~G.S. 163-166.12(a)(2).~~
23 G.S. 163-166.12(b)(2). The State Board of Elections may designate
24 additional documents or methods that suffice and shall prescribe procedures
25 for establishing proof of residence."

26 **SECTION 1.4.** G.S. 163-166.7(a) reads as rewritten:

27 "(a) Checking Registration. – A person seeking to vote shall enter the voting enclosure
28 through the appropriate entrance. A precinct official assigned to check registration shall at once
29 ask the voter to state current name and residence address. The voter shall answer by stating
30 current name and residence ~~address.~~ address and present valid photo identification in
31 accordance with G.S. 163-166.12. In a primary election, that voter shall also be asked to state,
32 and shall state, the political party with which the voter is affiliated or, if unaffiliated, the
33 authorizing party in which the voter wishes to vote. After examination, that official shall state
34 whether that voter is duly registered to vote in that precinct and shall direct that voter to the
35 voting equipment or to the official assigned to distribute official ballots. If a precinct official
36 states that the person is duly registered, the person shall sign the pollbook, other voting record,
37 or voter authorization document in accordance with subsection (c) of this section before
38 voting."

39 **SECTION 1.5.** G.S. 163-227.2(b) reads as rewritten:

40 "(b) Not earlier than the third Thursday before an election, in which absentee ballots are
41 authorized, in which a voter seeks to vote and not later than 1:00 P.M. on the last Saturday
42 before that election, the voter shall appear in person only at the office of the county board of
43 elections, except as provided in subsection (g) of this section. A county board of elections shall
44 conduct one-stop voting on the last Saturday before the election until 1:00 P.M. and may
45 conduct it until 5:00 P.M. on that Saturday. That voter shall enter the voting enclosure at the
46 board office through the appropriate entrance and shall at once state his or her name and place
47 of residence to an authorized member or employee of the ~~board.~~ board and present valid photo
48 identification in accordance with G.S. 163-166.12. If an individual does not present the
49 required identification, that individual may vote a provisional official ballot. In a primary
50 election, the voter shall also state the political party with which the voter affiliates and in whose
51 primary the voter desires to vote, or if the voter is an unaffiliated voter permitted to vote in the

1 primary of a particular party under G.S. 163-119, the voter shall state the name of the
2 authorizing political party in whose primary he wishes to vote. The board member or employee
3 to whom the voter gives this information shall announce the name and residence of the voter in
4 a distinct tone of voice. After examining the registration records, an employee of the board
5 shall state whether the person seeking to vote is duly registered. If the voter is found to be
6 registered that voter may request that the authorized member or employee of the board furnish
7 the voter with an application form as specified in G.S. 163-227. The voter shall complete the
8 application in the presence of the authorized member or employee of the board, and shall
9 deliver the application to that person."

10 **SECTION 1.6.** Article 15A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is amended by
11 adding a new section to read:

12 **"§ 163-182.1A. Counting of provisional official ballots cast because of failure to provide**
13 **valid photo identification at the polls.**

14 (a) A voter who cast a provisional official ballot wholly or partly as a result of the
15 voter's inability or declination to provide proof of identification may personally appear at an
16 office of the county board of elections not later than the date of the conclusion of the election
17 canvass for that county to seek counting of the provisional official ballot as provided in
18 subsection (b) or (c) of this section.

19 (b) Unless the vote is disqualified for some other reason provided by law, the county
20 board of elections shall find that the voter's provisional ballot is valid and direct that the
21 provisional ballot be opened and counted in accordance with this Chapter if the voter both:

22 (1) Provides valid photo identification to the county board of elections; and

23 (2) Executes an affidavit in the form prescribed by the State Board of Elections
24 affirming under the penalties of perjury that the voter is the same individual
25 who:

26 a. Personally appeared to vote on the day of election or at an early
27 voting site and

28 b. Cast the provisional ballot on that day.

29 (c) Unless the vote is disqualified for some other reason provided by law, the county
30 board of elections shall find that the voter's provisional ballot is valid and direct that the
31 provisional ballot be opened and counted in accordance with this Chapter if the voter executes
32 an affidavit before the county board of elections in the form prescribed by the State Board of
33 Elections affirming under the penalties of perjury that:

34 (1) The voter is the same individual who:

35 a. Personally appeared to vote on the day of election or at an early
36 voting site and

37 b. Cast the provisional ballot on that day and

38 (2) The voter has a sincerely held religious objection to being photographed.

39 (d) If the county board of elections determines that a voter described in subsection (b)
40 or (c) of this section has also cast a provisional official ballot for a cause other than the voter's
41 inability or declination to provide valid photo identification, the board shall both:

42 (1) Note on the envelope containing the provisional official ballot that the voter
43 has complied with the proof of valid photo identification requirement and

44 (2) Proceed to determine any other reasons for which the ballot was cast
45 provisionally before ruling on the validity of the voter's provisional ballot."

46 **SECTION 1.7.** G.S. 163-87 reads as rewritten:

47 **"§ 163-87. Challenges allowed on day of primary or election.**

48 On the day of a primary or election, at the time a registered voter offers to vote, any other
49 registered voter of the precinct may exercise the right of challenge, and when he does so may
50 enter the voting enclosure to make the challenge, but he shall retire therefrom as soon as the
51 challenge is heard.

1 On the day of a primary or election, any other registered voter of the precinct may
2 challenge a person for one or more of the following reasons:

- 3 (1) One or more of the reasons listed in G.S. 163-85(c).
- 4 (2) That the person has already voted in that primary or election.
- 5 (3) Repealed by Session Laws 2009-541, s. 16.1(b), effective August 28, 2009.
- 6 (4) If the challenge is made with respect to voting in a partisan primary, that the
7 person is a registered voter of another political party.
- 8 (5) The voter does not present proof of identification as required by
9 G.S. 163-166.12.

10 The chief judge, judge, observer, or assistant appointed under ~~G.S. 163-41 or 163-42~~
11 G.S. 163-41, 163-42, or 163-45 may enter challenges under this section against voters in the
12 precinct for which appointed regardless of the place of residence of the chief judge, judge,
13 observer, or assistant.

14 If a person is challenged under this subsection, and the challenge is sustained under
15 G.S. 163-85(c)(3), the voter may still transfer his registration under G.S. 163-82.15(e) if
16 eligible under that section, and the registration shall not be cancelled under G.S. 163-90.2(a) if
17 the transfer is made. A person who has transferred his registration under G.S. 163-82.15(e) may
18 be challenged at the precinct to which the registration is being transferred."

19 **SECTION 1.8.** G.S. 20-37.7(d) reads as rewritten:

20 "(d) Expiration and Fee. – A special identification card issued to a person for the first
21 time under this section expires when a drivers license issued on the same day to that person
22 would expire. A special identification card renewed under this section expires when a drivers
23 license renewed by the card holder on the same day would expire.

24 The fee for a special identification card is the same as the fee set in G.S. 20-14 for a
25 duplicate license. The fee does not apply to a special identification card issued to a resident of
26 this State who (i) is legally blind, (ii) is at least 70 years old, (iii) is eligible to vote in this State
27 but does not have a valid photo identification acceptable under G.S. 163-166.12(a1), (iv) is
28 homeless, or (v) ~~who~~ has been issued a drivers license but the drivers license is cancelled under
29 G.S. 20-15, in accordance with G.S. 20-9(e) and (g), as a result of a physical or mental
30 disability or disease. To obtain a special identification card without paying a fee, a homeless
31 person must present a letter to the Division from the director of a facility that provides care or
32 shelter to homeless persons verifying that the person is homeless."

33 **SECTION 1.9.** Education and Publicity Requirements. – The public shall be
34 educated about the photo identification to vote requirements of this act as follows:

- 35 (1) As counties use their regular processes to notify voters of assignments and
36 reassignments to districts for election to the United States House of
37 Representatives, State Senate, State House of Representatives, or local
38 office, by including information about the provisions of this act.
- 39 (2) As counties send new voter registration cards to voters as a result of new
40 registration, changes of address or other reasons, by including information
41 about the provisions of this act.
- 42 (3) Counties that maintain a board of elections Web site shall include
43 information about the provisions of this act.
- 44 (4) Notices of elections published by county boards of elections under
45 G.S. 163-22(8) for the May 2014 primary and 2014 general election shall
46 include a brief statement that photo identification is required to vote.
- 47 (5) The State Board of Elections shall include on its Web site information about
48 the provisions of this act.
- 49 (6) Counties shall post at the polls and at early voting sites beginning with the
50 May 2014 primary elections information about the provisions of this act.

- 1 (7) The State Board of Education shall include in the Judicial Voter Guide
2 described in G.S. 163-278.69 information about the provisions of this act
3 and shall also include the information in the Voter Guide under
4 G.S. 163-278.99E if it is published separately.
- 5 (8) The State Board of Elections and the county boards of elections shall take
6 reasonable steps to provide public service announcements about the
7 provisions of this act through print, radio, television, online, and social
8 media. The sum of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) is appropriated
9 from the General Fund for the 2013-2014 fiscal year to a special reserve to
10 carry out the provisions of this subdivision and to provide for issuance of
11 North Carolina voter identification cards under G.S. 163-166.13 as enacted
12 by this act. Those funds shall be made available as follows:
- 13 a. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to the State Board of
14 Elections.
- 15 b. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in an equal share to each
16 county board of elections.
- 17 c. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to county boards of
18 elections in proportion to the number of registered voters in the
19 county.
- 20 d. Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) to county boards of
21 elections in counties covered by section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of
22 1965 in proportion to the number of registered voters in the county.

23 **SECTION 1.10.(a)** Funds under Title I and Title II of the Help America Vote Act
24 may be used for the purpose of Section 1.9 of this act and to provide for issuance of North
25 Carolina voter identification cards under G.S. 163-166.13 as enacted by this act.

26 **SECTION 1.10.(b)** Funds under the Election Assistance for Individuals with
27 Disabilities (EAID) provisions of the Help America Vote Act may be used for the purpose of
28 Section 1.9 of this act and to provide for issuance of North Carolina voter identification cards
29 under G.S. 163-166.13 as enacted by this act to persons eligible for assistance under EAID.

30 **SECTION 1.10.(c)** Unexpended funds in the North Carolina Voter-Owned
31 Elections Fund may be used for the purpose of Section 1.9 of this act and to provide for
32 issuance of North Carolina voter identification cards under G.S. 163-166.13 as enacted by this
33 act.

34 **SECTION 1.10.(d)** Funds from the surcharge on attorney membership fees under
35 G.S. 84-34 may be used for the purpose of Section 1.9 of this act as it relates to judicial
36 elections.

37 **SECTION 1.11.(a)** Sections 1.1 through 1.7 of this act are effective:

- 38 (1) In counties not subject to section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965
39 beginning with the statewide primary in 2014.
- 40 (2) In any county covered by section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965
41 beginning with the later of the statewide primary in 2014 or the date this act
42 is precleared or approved under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

43 **SECTION 1.11.(b)** Sections 1.8, 1.9, and 1.10 of this act become effective July 1,
44 2013.

45 **PART 2. RESTORATION OF CITIZENSHIP**

46 **SECTION 2.1.** G.S. 13-1 reads as rewritten:

47 **"§ 13-1. Restoration of citizenship.**

48 (a) Any person convicted of a crime, whereby the rights of citizenship are forfeited,
49 shall have such rights ~~automatically~~ restored upon the occurrence of any one of the following
50

1 ~~conditions:~~ conditions, followed in the case where a five-year wait is required by this subsection
2 by approval under subsection (b) of this section:

- 3 (1) ~~The~~ Five years after the unconditional discharge of an inmate, of a
4 probationer, or of a parolee by the Division of Adult Correction of the
5 Department of Public Safety; or of a defendant under a suspended sentence
6 by the court.
- 7 (2) The unconditional pardon of the offender.
- 8 (3) The satisfaction by the offender of all conditions of a conditional pardon.
- 9 (4) With regard to any person convicted of a crime against the United States,
10 five years after the unconditional discharge of such person by the agency of
11 the United States having jurisdiction of such person, or immediately upon
12 the unconditional pardon of such person or the satisfaction by such person of
13 a conditional pardon.
- 14 (5) With regard to any person convicted of a crime in another state, five years
15 after the unconditional discharge of such person by the agency of that state
16 having jurisdiction of such person, or immediately upon the unconditional
17 pardon of such person or the satisfaction by such person of a conditional
18 pardon.

19 (b) In the case of any person whose rights may be restored under subsection (a) of this
20 section only after a waiting period of five years, the restoration is conditioned upon unanimous
21 approval of the board of elections of the county of that person's residence of a petition for
22 restoration of the right of citizenship, which petition shall be approved upon satisfaction by the
23 applicant of the following conditions:

- 24 (1) No new felony charge, except if the person is acquitted or if there is no
25 conviction, upon the expiration of five years from the charge.
- 26 (2) The applicant has not been convicted of any violation of Chapter 163 of the
27 General Statutes.
- 28 (3) The applicant has presented affidavits from two registered voters in the
29 county of the applicant's residence, attesting that, to the best of the affiant's
30 knowledge, the applicant is of upstanding moral character. A false affidavit
31 is punishable as if it were perjury."
- 32

33 PART 3. EARLY VOTING CHANGES

34 SECTION 3.1. G.S. 163-227.2(b) reads as rewritten:

35 "(b) ~~Not~~ During a period of six calendar days (not including Sunday) designated by the
36 county board of elections, earlier than during the period beginning the third Thursday second
37 Tuesday before an election, in which absentee ballots are authorized, in which a voter seeks to
38 vote and not later than 4:00 P.M. on the last Saturday the last Thursday before that election, the
39 voter shall appear in person only at the office of the county board of elections, except as
40 provided in subsection (g) of this section. A ~~As one of the six days,~~ a county board of elections
41 shall conduct one-stop voting on the last Saturday of that period before the election until 1:00
42 P.M. and may conduct it until 5:00 P.M. on that Saturday. That voter shall enter the voting
43 enclosure at the board office through the appropriate entrance and shall at once state his or her
44 name and place of residence to an authorized member or employee of the board. In a primary
45 election, the voter shall also state the political party with which the voter affiliates and in whose
46 primary the voter desires to vote, or if the voter is an unaffiliated voter permitted to vote in the
47 primary of a particular party under G.S. 163-119, the voter shall state the name of the
48 authorizing political party in whose primary he wishes to vote. The board member or employee
49 to whom the voter gives this information shall announce the name and residence of the voter in
50 a distinct tone of voice. After examining the registration records, an employee of the board
51 shall state whether the person seeking to vote is duly registered. If the voter is found to be

1 registered that voter may request that the authorized member or employee of the board furnish
2 the voter with an application form as specified in G.S. 163-227. The voter shall complete the
3 application in the presence of the authorized member or employee of the board, and shall
4 deliver the application to that person."

5 **SECTION 3.2.** G.S. 163-227.2(f) reads as rewritten:

6 "(f) Notwithstanding the exception specified in G.S. 163-36, counties which operate a
7 modified full-time office shall remain open ~~five days each week during regular business hours~~
8 ~~consistent with daily hours presently observed by the county board of elections, commencing~~
9 ~~with the date prescribed in G.S. 163-227.2(b) and continuing until 5:00 P.M. on the Friday~~
10 ~~prior to that election and shall also be open on the last Saturday before the election. A county~~
11 ~~board may conduct one-stop absentee voting during evenings or on weekends, as long as the~~
12 ~~hours are part of a plan submitted and approved according to subsection (g) of this section. on~~
13 ~~days where one-stop voting is conducted in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.~~ The
14 boards of county commissioners shall provide necessary funds for the additional operation of
15 the office during that time."

16 **SECTION 3.3.** G.S. 163-227.2(g) reads as rewritten:

17 "(g) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a county board of elections by
18 unanimous vote of all its members may provide for one or more sites in that county for
19 absentee ballots to be applied for and cast under this section. Sites may be open under this
20 subsection only during a period of six calendar days (not including Sunday) designated by the
21 county board of elections under subsection (b) of this section. Every individual staffing any of
22 those sites shall be a member or full-time employee of the county board of elections or an
23 employee of the county board of elections whom the board has given training equivalent to that
24 given a full-time employee. Those sites must be approved by the State Board of Elections as
25 part of a Plan for Implementation approved by both the county board of elections and by the
26 State Board of Elections which shall also provide adequate security of the ballots and
27 provisions to avoid allowing persons to vote who have already voted. The Plan for
28 Implementation shall include a provision for the presence of political party observers at each
29 one-stop site equivalent to the provisions in G.S. 163-45 for party observers at voting places on
30 election day. A county board of elections may propose in its Plan not to offer one-stop voting at
31 the county board of elections office; the State Board may approve that proposal in a Plan only
32 if the Plan includes at least one site reasonably proximate to the county board of elections
33 office and the State Board finds that the sites in the Plan as a whole provide adequate coverage
34 of the county's electorate. If a county board of elections has considered a proposed Plan or
35 Plans for Implementation and has been unable to reach unanimity in favor of a Plan, a member
36 or members of that county board of elections may petition the State Board of Elections to adopt
37 a plan for it. If petitioned, the State Board may also receive and consider alternative petitions
38 from another member or members of that county board. The State Board of Elections may
39 adopt a Plan for that county. The State Board, in that plan, shall take into consideration factors
40 including geographic, demographic, and partisan interests of that county."

41 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2014.