

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 335

Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee Substitute Adopted 6/28/18

Short Title: Restore Last Saturday Early One-Stop.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 14, 2017

1 **A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

2 AN ACT TO RESTORE EARLY ONE-STOP VOTING ON THE LAST SATURDAY
3 BEFORE THE 2018 ELECTION AND TO ALLOW FLEXIBILITY IN EARLY
4 ONE-STOP VOTING SITES ON INHABITED ISLANDS WITH NO BRIDGE ACCESS
5 TO THAT ISLAND.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 163A-1300(b), as amended by S.L. 2018-112, reads as
8 rewritten:

9 "(b) Not earlier than the third Wednesday before an election, in which absentee ballots are
10 authorized, in which a voter seeks to vote and not later than 7:00 P.M. on the last Friday1:00
11 P.M. on the last Saturday before that election, the voter shall appear in person only at the office
12 of the county board of elections, except as provided in G.S. 163A-1303. A county board of
elections shall conduct one-stop voting on the last Saturday before the election from 8:00 A.M.
13 until 1:00 P.M. and may conduct one-stop early voting until 5:00 P.M. on that Saturday. That
14 voter shall enter the voting enclosure at the board office through the appropriate entrance and
15 shall at once state his or her name and place of residence to an authorized member or employee
16 of the board and present photo identification in accordance with G.S. 163A-1145. In a primary
17 election, the voter shall also state the political party with which the voter affiliates and in whose
18 primary the voter desires to vote, or if the voter is an unaffiliated voter permitted to vote in the
19 primary of a particular party under G.S. 163A-989, the voter shall state the name of the
20 authorizing political party in whose primary he wishes to vote. The board member or employee
21 to whom the voter gives this information shall announce the name and residence of the voter in
22 a distinct tone of voice. After examining the registration records, an employee of the board shall
23 state whether the person seeking to vote is duly registered. If the voter is found to be registered
24 that voter may request that the authorized member or employee of the board furnish the voter
25 with an application form as specified in G.S. 163A-1391. The voter shall complete the
26 application in the presence of the authorized member or employee of the board, and shall deliver
27 the application to that person."

29 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 163A-1303(c)(4), as amended by S.L. 2018-112, reads as
30 rewritten:

31 "(4) If the county board of elections opens one-stop sites on Saturdays other than
32 the last Saturday before the election during the period required by
33 G.S. 163A-1300(b), then all one-stop sites shall be open for the same number
34 of hours uniformly throughout the county on those Saturdays."

35 **SECTION 1.(c)** This section is effective when it becomes law and expires January

36 1, 2019.



1 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163A-1303, as amended by S.L. 2018-112, is amended by adding
2 a new subsection to read:

3 "(d) Notwithstanding subsection (c) of this section, a county board of elections by
4 unanimous vote of all its members may propose a Plan for Implementation providing for a site
5 in that county for absentee ballots to be applied for and cast with days and hours that vary from
6 the county board of elections, or its alternate, and other additional one-stop sites in that county.
7 If the county board of elections is unable to reach unanimity in favor of a Plan for
8 Implementation, a member or members of the county board of elections may petition the State
9 Board to adopt a plan for the county and the State Board may adopt a Plan for Implementation
10 for that county. However, any Plan of Implementation approved under this subsection shall
11 provide for uniform location, days, and hours for that one site throughout the period required by
12 subsection (a) of this section. This subsection applies only to a county which includes a barrier
13 island that meets the following conditions:

- 14 (1) It has permanent inhabitation of residents residing in an unincorporated area.
15 (2) It is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west by a coastal
16 sound.
17 (3) It contains either a National Wildlife Refuge or a portion of a National
18 Seashore.
19 (4) It has no bridge access to the mainland of the county and is only accessible by
20 marine vessel."

21 **SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes

22 law.