

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019**

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HOUSE BILL 328

Short Title: Same Reqs/Officials/Early Vote & Election Day. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Speciale.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Elections and Ethics Law, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 12, 2019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT ENSURING THAT REQUIREMENTS FOR PRECINCT OFFICIALS ON
ELECTION DAY ARE THE SAME FOR EARLY ONE-STOP VOTING LOCATIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 163A-1303(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of G.S. 163A-1300, 163A-1301, 163A-1302, this section, and G.S. 163A-1304, a county board of elections by unanimous vote of all its members may provide for one or more sites in that county for absentee ballots to be applied for and cast under these sections. Every individual staffing any of those sites ~~shall~~ shall (i) be a member or full-time employee of the county board of elections or an employee of the county board of elections whom the board has given training equivalent to that given a full-time employee, and (ii) meet the same qualifications and requirements as individuals appointed as precinct officials under G.S. 163A-815, provided that individuals staffing those sites are not required to be residents of a specific precinct. Those sites must be approved by the State Board as part of a Plan for Implementation approved by both the county board of elections and by the State Board which shall also provide adequate security of the ballots and provisions to avoid allowing persons to vote who have already voted. The Plan for Implementation shall include a provision for the presence of political party observers at each one-stop site equivalent to the provisions in G.S. 163A-821 for party observers at voting places on election day. A county board of elections may propose in its Plan not to offer one-stop voting at the county board of elections office; the State Board may approve that proposal in a Plan only if the Plan includes at least one site reasonably proximate to the county board of elections office and the State Board finds that the sites in the Plan as a whole provide adequate coverage of the county's electorate. If a county board of elections has considered a proposed Plan or Plans for Implementation and has been unable to reach unanimity in favor of a Plan, a member or members of that county board of elections may petition the State Board to adopt a plan for it. If petitioned, the State Board may also receive and consider alternative petitions from another member or members of that county board. The State Board may adopt a Plan for that county. The State Board, in that plan, shall take into consideration factors including geographic, demographic, and partisan interests of that county."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections conducted on or after that date.

