

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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HOUSE BILL 1185

Short Title: No-Excuse Absentee Deadline.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blue; Adams, Fitch, and Wainwright.

Referred to: Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform.

April 12, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO ADJUST THE PERIOD FOR NO-EXCUSE ONE-STOP ABSENTEE
3 VOTING BY ALLOWING MORE TIME AFTER THE BOOKS CLOSE TO
4 BEGIN THE PROCESS, BUT TO EXTEND IT TO INCLUDE THE SATURDAY
5 BEFORE THE ELECTION.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 163-227.2(b) reads as rewritten:

8 "(b) Not earlier than the first business day after the ~~twenty-fifth~~twenty-second
9 day before an election, in which absentee ballots are authorized, in which a voter seeks
10 to vote and not later than 5:00 p.m. on the ~~Friday~~Saturday prior to that election, the
11 voter shall appear in person only at the office of the county board of elections, except as
12 provided in subsection (f1) of this section. That voter shall enter the voting enclosure at
13 the board office through the appropriate entrance and shall at once state his or her name
14 and place of residence to an authorized member or employee of the board. In a primary
15 election, the voter shall also state the political party with which the voter affiliates and
16 in whose primary the voter desires to vote, or if the voter is an unaffiliated voter
17 permitted to vote in the primary of a particular party under G.S. 163-119, the voter shall
18 state the name of the authorizing political party in whose primary he wishes to vote. The
19 board member or employee to whom the voter gives this information shall announce the
20 name and residence of the voter in a distinct tone of voice. After examining the
21 registration records, an employee of the board shall state whether the person seeking to
22 vote is duly registered. If the voter is found to be registered that voter may request that
23 the authorized member or employee of the board furnish the voter with an application
24 form as specified in G.S. 163-227. The voter shall complete the application in the
25 presence of the authorized member or employee of the board, and shall deliver the
26 application to that person."

27 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-227.2(f) reads as rewritten:

1 "(f) Notwithstanding the exception specified in G.S. 163-36, counties which
2 operate a modified full-time office shall remain open five days each week during
3 regular business hours consistent with daily hours presently observed by the county
4 board of elections, commencing with the date prescribed in G.S. 163-227.2(b) and
5 continuing until 5:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to that election or ~~primary~~primary, and
6 shall also be open on the Saturday before the election. The boards of county
7 commissioners shall provide necessary funds for the additional operation of the office
8 during that time."

9 **SECTION 3.** This act applies with respect to elections held on or after
10 January 1, 2002.