

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 237

Short Title: Voting Materials in English. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Brock; Allran and Hunt.

Referred to: Judiciary I.

February 19, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO RESTRICT VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS AND BALLOTS TO THE  
3 ENGLISH LANGUAGE EXCEPT AS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Article 14A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes reads as  
6 rewritten:

7 "**§ 163-82.4A. Voter registration application form in English only, except where required**  
8 **by federal law.**

9 The State Board of Elections and any county board of elections shall not print or make  
10 available the voter registration forms described in this Article in any language other than  
11 English, except to the extent doing so in another language is required by federal law."

12 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-82.5 reads as rewritten:

13 "**§ 163-82.5. Distribution of application forms.**

14 ~~The~~ Except as prohibited by G.S. 163-82.4A, the State Board of Elections shall make the  
15 forms described in G.S. 163-82.3 available for distribution through governmental and private  
16 entities, with particular emphasis on making them available for organized voter registration  
17 drives."

18 **SECTION 3** Nothing in this act shall affect the acceptance by a board of elections  
19 of an otherwise valid voter registration application submitted on a form that is not in English.

20 **SECTION 4.** This act becomes effective January 1, 2010.

