

HB308 INTRODUCED



1 HB308
2 PSBK5ER-1
3 By Representative Carns
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections
5 First Read: 18-Feb-25



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the judge of probate in each county is required to publish the list of registered voters before a primary election.

This bill would provide an exception to the required publication of registered voters.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to elections; to amend Section 17-4-1, Code of Alabama 1975, to provide an exception to the required publication of registered voters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 17-4-1, Code of Alabama 1975, is amended to read as follows:

"§17-4-1

(a) (1) The judge of probate shall publish from the state voter registration list a correct alphabetical list of qualified electors either by county, precinct, district, or subdivision wherein each elector is registered to vote, in some newspaper with general circulation in the county, on or before the twentieth day preceding the regularly scheduled



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29 primary election.

30 (2) Publication of the list of voters by the judge of
31 probate is required unless the cost of publication would
32 exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000).

33 (3) The list shall be accompanied by a printed
34 certification generated by the state voter registration system
35 verifying that the list contains the names of all qualified
36 electors registered as of the specified time and date when ~~it~~
37 the list was printed. The list shall further state that any
38 elector whose name was inadvertently omitted from the list
39 shall have 10 days ~~in~~ within which to have his or her name
40 entered upon the list of qualified voters.

41 (b) If within 10 days any voter ~~shall~~ reasonably
42 ~~satisfy~~ satisfies the board of registrars by proper proof that
43 any name should be added to the list, the board shall add ~~such~~
44 the name to the list. ~~The~~ If the judge of probate is required
45 to publish the list pursuant to subsection (a), the
46 supplemental list of registered voters inadvertently omitted
47 from the original list shall be published once in a newspaper
48 of general circulation in the county on or before the seventh
49 day preceding the date of the primary election.

50 (c) The lists ~~required to be~~ published pursuant to this
51 section ~~may be published~~, at the discretion of the county
52 commission, may be published as a preprinted or inserted
53 advertising supplement at a cost no greater than the selected
54 newspaper's lowest applicable national insertion rates. If the
55 list is published as a preprinted supplement in the selected
56 newspaper, the supplement size shall conform to the size



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57 requirements set by the selected newspaper and shall be
58 printed on standard newsprint paper. The type size shall be no
59 smaller than nine point standard type. The list shall also be
60 delivered to the newspaper for insertion in a manner required
61 for other advertising supplements. The supplement may not
62 contain any other advertising. Any newspaper accepting a
63 preprinted insertion that is not prepared by the newspaper
64 shall not be responsible for the content of ~~such~~ the
65 insertion.

66 (d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a county
67 commission from publishing the list of voters in more than one
68 newspaper within the county at the county commission's
69 discretion."

70 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
71 1, 2025.