

## Senate Bill 33

By: Senators Butler of the 55th, Fort of the 39th, Seay of the 34th, Jones of the 10th, Henson of the 41st and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to absentee voting, so as to change the time periods for advance voting; to provide  
3 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Article 10 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
7 absentee voting, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (d) of Code  
8 Section 21-2-385, relating to procedure for voting by absentee ballot and advance voting, as  
9 follows:

10 "(d)(1) There shall be a period of advance voting that shall commence:

11 (A) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to each primary or election;

12 (B) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general primary;

13 (C) On the fourth Monday immediately prior to a runoff from a general election in  
14 which there are candidates for a federal office on the ballot in the runoff; and

15 (D) As soon as possible prior to a runoff from any other general election in which there  
16 are only state or county candidates on the ballot in the runoff

17 and shall end on the Friday immediately prior to each primary, election, or runoff.

18 Voting shall be conducted during normal business hours on weekdays during such period

19 and shall be conducted on the second ~~Saturday~~ and ~~third Saturdays~~ prior to a primary or

20 election during the hours of 9:00 A.M. through 4:00 P.M.; provided, however, that in

21 primaries and elections in which there are no federal or state candidates on the ballot, no

22 Saturday voting hours shall be required; ~~and provided, further, that, if such second~~

23 ~~Saturday is a public and legal holiday pursuant to Code Section 1-4-1, if such second~~

24 ~~Saturday follows a public and legal holiday occurring on the Thursday or Friday~~

25 ~~immediately preceding such second Saturday, or if such second Saturday immediately~~

26 ~~precedes a public and legal holiday occurring on the following Sunday or Monday, such~~

27 ~~advance voting shall not be held on such second Saturday but shall be held on the third~~  
28 ~~Saturday prior to such primary, election, or runoff.~~ Except as otherwise provided in this  
29 paragraph, counties and municipalities may extend the hours for voting beyond regular  
30 business hours and may provide for additional voting locations pursuant to Code Section  
31 21-2-382 to suit the needs of the electors of the jurisdiction at their option.

32 (2) The registrars or absentee ballot clerk, as appropriate, shall provide reasonable notice  
33 to the electors of their jurisdiction of the availability of advance voting as well as the  
34 times, dates, and locations at which advance voting will be conducted. In addition, the  
35 registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall notify the Secretary of State in the manner  
36 prescribed by the Secretary of State of the times, dates, and locations at which advance  
37 voting will be conducted."

38 **SECTION 2.**

39 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.