

Senate Bill 54

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Butler of the 55th, Lucas of the 26th, Harrell of the 40th and Jones II of the 22nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elections and primaries generally, so as to revise the qualifications of poll officers; 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 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
7 primaries generally, is amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-92, relating
8 to qualifications of poll officers, service during municipal election or primary, and Student
9 Teen Election Participant (STEP) program, as follows:

10 "(a)(~~+~~) Poll officers appointed pursuant to Code Sections 21-2-90 and 21-2-91 shall be
11 judicious, intelligent, and upright citizens of the United States, residents of ~~or otherwise~~
12 ~~employed by the county in which they are appointed except as otherwise provided in~~
13 ~~paragraph (2) of this subsection or, in the case of municipal elections, residents of or~~
14 ~~otherwise employed by the municipality in which the election is to be held or of the~~
15 ~~county in which that municipality is located~~ this state, 16 years of age or over, and shall
16 be able to read, write, and speak the English language. No poll officer shall be eligible
17 for any nomination for public office or to be voted for at a primary or election at which

18 the poll officer shall serve. No person who is otherwise holding public office, other than
19 a political party office, shall be eligible to be appointed as or to serve as a poll officer.
20 A parent, spouse, child, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, son-in-law,
21 daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of a candidate shall not be eligible to
22 serve as a poll officer in any precinct in which such candidate's name appears on the
23 ballot in any primary or election.

24 ~~(2) A poll officer may be allowed to serve in a county that adjoins the county in which~~
25 ~~such poll officer resides if, in the discretion of the election superintendent of the county~~
26 ~~in which such person resides, the waiver of such county residency or county employment~~
27 ~~requirements of paragraph (1) of this subsection do not impair the ability of the county~~
28 ~~to provide adequate staff for the performance of election duties under this chapter and if,~~
29 ~~in the discretion of the county election superintendent in which such person wishes to~~
30 ~~serve, sufficient need for more poll officers exists."~~

31

SECTION 2.

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