

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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HOUSE BILL 67

Short Title: Voter Signatures Required. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Blust; Gorman, Hilton, Pate, Rhodes, and West.

Referred to: Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform.

February 24, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT TO REQUIRE A VOTER SIGNATURE AT THE POLLS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 163-166.7 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163-166.7. Voting procedures.

(a) Checking Registration. – A person seeking to vote shall enter the voting enclosure through the appropriate entrance. A precinct official assigned to check registration shall at once ask the voter to state current name and residence address. The voter shall answer by stating current name and residence address. In a primary election, that voter shall also be asked to state, and shall state, the political party with which the voter is affiliated or, if unaffiliated, the authorizing party in which the voter wishes to vote. After examination, that official shall state whether that voter is duly registered to vote in that precinct and shall direct that voter to the voting equipment or to the official assigned to distribute official ballots. If the chief judge states that the person is duly registered, the person shall sign the pollbook, other voting record, or voter authorization document in accordance with subsection (c) of this section before voting.

(b) Distribution of Official Ballots. – If the voter is found to be duly registered and has not been successfully challenged, the official assigned to distribute the official ballots shall hand the voter the official ballot that voter is entitled to vote, or that voter shall be directed to the voting equipment that contains the official ballot. No voter in a primary shall be permitted to vote in more than one party's primary. The precinct officials shall provide the voter with any information the voter requests to enable that voter to vote as that voter desires.

(c) The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules for the process of voting. Those rules shall emphasize the appearance as well as the reality of dignity, good order, impartiality, and the convenience and privacy of the voter. Those rules, at a minimum, shall include procedures to ensure that all the following occur:

- (1) The voting system remains secure throughout the period voting is being conducted.

- 1 (2) Only properly voted official ballots are introduced into the voting
2 system.
- 3 (3) Except as provided by G.S. 163-166.9, no official ballots leave the
4 voting enclosure during the time voting is being conducted there.
- 5 (4) All improperly voted official ballots are returned to the precinct
6 officials and marked as spoiled.
- 7 (5) Voters leave the voting place promptly after voting.
- 8 (6) Voters not clearly eligible to vote in the precinct but who seek to vote
9 there are given proper assistance in voting a provisional official ballot
10 or guidance to another voting place where they are eligible to vote.
- 11 (7) Information gleaned through the voting process that would be helpful
12 to the accurate maintenance of the voter registration records is
13 recorded and delivered to the county board of elections.
- 14 (8) The registration records are kept secure.
- 15 (9) Party observers are given access as provided by G.S. 163-45 to current
16 information about which voters have voted.
- 17 (10) The voter, before voting, shall sign that voter's name on the pollbook,
18 other voting record, or voter authorization document. If the voter is
19 unable to sign, a precinct official shall enter the person's name on the
20 same document before the voter votes."

21 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective with respect to primaries and
22 elections held on or after January 1, 2004.