

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005**

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HOUSE BILL 1115

Short Title: Election Administration Amendments. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Moore, Ross (Primary Sponsors); and Insko.

Referred to: Election Law and Campaign Finance Reform.

April 5, 2005

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO ALLOW POLITICAL PARTIES TO USE "RUNNERS" TO PICK UP
2 VOTER LISTS FROM POLLS; TO PROHIBIT A CANDIDATE FROM BEING
3 AN OBSERVER OR RUNNER AT THE POLLS; TO AUTHORIZE THE
4 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO
5 PERMIT DIFFERENT VOTING SYSTEMS IN THE SAME PRECINCT; TO
6 ALLOW THE CHANGING OF REGISTERED VOTERS BASED ON ADJUSTED
7 COUNTY LINE; TO CHANGE THE DEADLINE FOR FILING A PROTEST
8 FROM SIX O'CLOCK P.M. TO FIVE O'CLOCK P.M.; TO PERMIT THE SAME
9 KIND OF VOTER ASSISTANCE IN ONE-STOP SITES AS AT VOTING
10 PLACES ON ELECTION DAY; TO CHANGE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A
11 STATEWIDE UNAFFILIATED CANDIDATE TO CONFORM TO A FEDERAL
12 COURT DECISION; TO PROHIBIT PIECE PAYMENT FOR VOTER
13 REGISTRATION DRIVES; TO EXPRESSLY PROVIDE THAT PRECINCT
14 TRANSFER VOTERS AT ONE-STOP SITES NEED NOT VOTE PROVISIONAL
15 BALLOTS; TO DELETE THE REQUIREMENT THAT ONE-STOP VOTERS BE
16 INSTRUCTED IN HOW TO VOTE MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOTS; TO FIX THE
17 SALARY ON WHICH A FILING FEE FOR AN OFFICE IS BASED; TO
18 REMOVE THE OUTDATED REFERENCE IN THE FILING FEE STATUTE TO
19 OFFICES "COMPENSATED ENTIRELY BY FEES"; TO ALLOW THE STATE
20 BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO AUTOMATICALLY CANCEL A VOTER'S
21 REGISTRATION IN A FORMER COUNTY WHEN THE VOTER REGISTERS
22 IN A NEW COUNTY; TO UPDATE AND MAKE MORE
23 TECHNOLOGY-NEUTRAL THE LANGUAGE IN THE STATUTE PROVIDING
24 FOR ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION DATA; TO EXTEND FOR THREE
25 DAYS THE COUNTY CANVASS AFTER A GENERAL ELECTION IN
26 NOVEMBER OF AN EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR; AND TO EXPRESSLY
27 ALLOW ELECTRONIC POLLBOOKS.
28

29 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

1 **SECTION 1.(a)** G.S. 163-45 reads as rewritten:

2 "**§ 163-45. Observers; appointment.**

3 The ~~chairman~~chair of each political party in the county shall have the right to
4 designate two observers to attend each voting place at each primary and election and
5 such observers may, at the option of the designating party ~~chairman~~chair, be relieved
6 during the day of the primary or election after serving no less than four hours and
7 provided the list required by this section to be filed by each ~~chairman~~chair contains the
8 names of all persons authorized to represent such ~~chairman's~~chair's political party. Not
9 more than two observers from the same political party shall be permitted in the voting
10 enclosure at any time. This right shall not extend to the ~~chairman~~chair of a political
11 party during a primary unless that party is participating in the primary. In any election in
12 which an unaffiliated candidate is named on the ballot, the candidate or the candidate's
13 campaign manager shall have the right to appoint two observers for each voting place
14 consistent with the provisions specified herein. Persons appointed as observers must be
15 registered voters of the county for which appointed and must have good moral
16 character. No person who is a candidate on the ballot in a primary or election may serve
17 as an observer or runner in that primary or election. Observers shall take no oath of
18 office.

19 Individuals authorized to appoint observers must submit in writing to the chief judge
20 of each precinct a signed list of the observers appointed for that precinct. Individuals
21 authorized to appoint observers must, prior to 10:00 A.M. on the fifth day prior to any
22 primary or general election, submit in writing to the ~~chairman~~chair of the county board
23 of elections two signed copies of a list of observers appointed by them, designating the
24 precinct for which each observer is appointed. Before the opening of the voting place on
25 the day of a primary or general election, the ~~chairman~~chair shall deliver one copy of the
26 list to the chief judge for each affected precinct. ~~He~~The chair shall retain the other
27 copy. The ~~chairman~~chair, or the chief judge and judges for each affected precinct, may
28 for good cause reject any appointee and require that another be appointed. The names of
29 any persons appointed in place of those persons rejected shall be furnished in writing to
30 the chief judge of each affected precinct no later than the time for opening the voting
31 place on the day of any primary or general election, either by the ~~chairman~~chair of the
32 county board of elections or the person making the substitute appointment.

33 An observer shall do no electioneering at the voting place, and ~~he~~ shall in no manner
34 impede the voting process or interfere or communicate with or observe any voter in
35 casting ~~his~~a ballot, but, subject to these restrictions, the chief judge and judges of
36 elections shall permit ~~him~~the observer to make such observation and take such notes as
37 ~~he~~the observer may desire.

38 Whether or not the observer attends to the polls for the requisite time provided by
39 this section, each observer shall be entitled to obtain at times specified by the State
40 Board of Elections, but not less than three times during election day with the spacing
41 not less than one hour apart, a list of the persons who have voted in the precinct so far in
42 that election day. Counties that use an "authorization to vote document" instead of poll
43 books may comply with the requirement in the previous sentence by permitting each
44 observer to inspect election records so that the observer may create a list of persons who

1 have voted in the precinct so far that election day; each observer shall be entitled to
2 make the inspection at times specified by the State Board of Elections, but not less than
3 three times during election day with the spacing not less than one hour apart. Instead of
4 having an observer receive the voting list, the county party chair may send a runner to
5 do so. The runner may be any person named by the county party chair. That party chair
6 must notify the chair of the county board of elections or the board chair's designee of
7 the names of all runners to be used in each precinct before the runner goes to the
8 precinct. The runner may receive a voter list from the precinct on the same schedule as
9 an observer. Whether obtained by observer or runner, each party is entitled to only one
10 voter list at each of the scheduled times. No runner may enter the voting enclosure
11 except when necessary to announce that runner's presence. The runner must leave
12 immediately after being provided with the list."

13 **SECTION 1.(b)** G.S. 163-166.3 reads as rewritten:

14 **"§ 163-166.3. Limited access to the voting enclosure.**

15 During the time allowed for voting in the voting place, only the following persons
16 may enter the voting enclosure:

- 17 (1) An election official.
- 18 (2) An observer appointed pursuant to G.S. 163-45.
- 19 (2a) A runner appointed pursuant to G.S. 163-45, but only to the extent
20 necessary to announce that runner's presence and to receive the voter
21 list as provided in G.S. 163-45.
- 22 (3) A person seeking to vote in that voting place on that day but only
23 while in the process of voting or seeking to vote.
- 24 (4) A voter in that precinct while entering or explaining a challenge
25 pursuant to G.S. 163-87 or G.S. 163-88.
- 26 (5) A person authorized under G.S. 163-166.8 to assist a voter but, except
27 as provided in subdivision (6) of this section, only while assisting that
28 voter.
- 29 (6) Minor children of the voter under the age of 18, or minor children
30 under the age of 18 in the care of the voter, but only while
31 accompanying the voter and while under the control of the voter.
- 32 (7) Persons conducting or participating in a simulated election within the
33 voting place or voting enclosure, if that simulated election is approved
34 by the county board of elections.
- 35 (8) Any other person determined by election officials to have an urgent
36 need to enter the voting enclosure but only to the extent necessary to
37 address that need."

38 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-165.10 reads as rewritten:

39 **"§ 163-165.10. Adequacy of voting system for each precinct.**

40 The county board of elections shall make available for each precinct voting place an
41 adequate quantity of official ballots or ~~equipment so that all voters qualified to vote at~~
42 ~~the precinct may do so.~~ equipment. When the board of county commissioners has
43 decided to adopt and purchase or lease a voting system for voting places under the
44 provisions of G.S. 165-165.8, the board of county commissioners shall, as soon as

1 practical, provide for each of those voting places sufficient equipment of the approved
2 voting system in complete working order. If it is impractical to furnish each voting
3 place with the equipment of the approved voting system, that which has been obtained
4 may be placed in voting places chosen by the county board of elections. In that case, the
5 county board of elections shall choose the voting places and allocate the equipment in a
6 way that as nearly as practicable provides equal access to the voting system for each
7 voter. The county board of elections shall appoint as many voting system custodians as
8 may be necessary for the proper preparation of the system for each election and for its
9 maintenance, storage, and care. The Executive Director of the State Board of Elections
10 may permit a county board of elections to provide more than one type of voting system
11 in a precinct, but only upon a finding that doing so is necessary to comply with federal
12 or State law."

13 **SECTION 3.** Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is amended
14 by adding a new section to read:

15 **"§ 163-82.15A. Administrative change of registration when county line is adjusted.**

16 When a boundary between counties is changed by legislation, or adjusted by the
17 counties pursuant to G.S. 153A-18, the Executive Director of the State Board of
18 Elections shall direct the county boards of elections involved to administratively change
19 the voter registration of any voter whose residence the change or adjustment places in a
20 different county. The voter shall not be required to submit a new application to register.
21 The Executive Director shall prescribe a method of notifying the voter of the change of
22 county registration, the correct precinct, and other relevant information."

23 **SECTION 4.** G.S. 163-182.9(b)(4) reads as rewritten:

24 "(4) The timing for filing a protest shall be as follows:

- 25 a. If the protest concerns the manner in which votes were counted
26 or results tabulated, the protest shall be filed before the
27 beginning of the county board of election's canvass meeting.
- 28 b. If the protest concerns the manner in which votes were counted
29 or results tabulated and the protest states good cause for delay
30 in filing, the protest may be filed until ~~6:00~~5:00 P.M. on the
31 second day after the county board of elections has completed its
32 canvass and declared the results.
- 33 c. If the protest concerns an irregularity other than vote counting
34 or result tabulation, the protest shall be filed no later than ~~6:00~~
35 5:00 P.M. on the second day after the county board has
36 completed its canvass and declared the results.
- 37 d. If the protest concerns an irregularity on a matter other than
38 vote counting or result tabulation and the protest is filed before
39 election day, the protest proceedings shall be stayed, unless a
40 party defending against the protest moves otherwise, until after
41 election day if any one of the following conditions exists:
 - 42 1. The ballot has been printed.
 - 43 2. The voter registration deadline for that election has
44 passed.

1 3. Any of the proceedings will occur within 30 days before
2 election day."

3 **SECTION 5.(a)** G.S. 163-227.2(e) reads as rewritten:

4 "(e) The voter shall vote that voter's absentee ballot in a voting booth in the office
5 of the county board of elections, and the county board of elections shall provide a voting
6 booth for that purpose, provided however, that the county board of elections may in the
7 alternative provide a private room for the voter adjacent to the office of the board, in
8 which case the voter shall vote that voter's absentee ballot in that room. ~~If the voter
9 needs assistance in getting to and from the voting booth and in preparing and marking
10 that voter's ballots or if the voter is a blind voter, only a member of the county board of
11 elections, the director of elections, an employee of the board of elections authorized by
12 the board, a near relative of the voter or the voter's verifiable legal guardian shall be
13 entitled to assist the voter. A voter at a one-stop site shall be entitled to the same
14 assistance as a voter at a voting place on election day under G.S. 163-166.8. The State
15 Board of Elections shall, where appropriate, adapt the rules it adopts under
16 G.S. 163-166.8 to one-stop voting."~~

17 **SECTION 5.(b)** G.S. 163-226.3(a) reads as rewritten:

18 "(a) Any person who shall, in connection with absentee voting in any election
19 held in this State, do any of the acts or things declared in this section to be unlawful,
20 shall be guilty of a Class I felony. It shall be unlawful:

- 21 (1) For any person except the voter's near relative or the voter's verifiable
22 legal guardian to assist the voter to vote an absentee ballot when the
23 voter is voting an absentee ballot other than under the procedure
24 described in G.S. 163-227.2; provided that if there is not a near relative
25 or legal guardian available to assist the voter, the voter may request
26 some other person to give assistance;
- 27 (2) For any person to assist a voter to vote an absentee ballot under the
28 absentee voting procedure authorized by G.S. 163-227.2 except a
29 ~~member of the county board of elections, the director of elections, an
30 employee of the board authorized by the board, the voter's near relative
31 or the voter's verifiable legal guardian;~~ as provided in that section;
- 32 (3) For a voter who votes an absentee ballot under the procedures
33 authorized by G.S. 163-227.2 to vote that voter's absentee ballot
34 outside of the voting booth or private room provided to the voter for
35 that purpose in or adjacent to the office of the county board of
36 elections or at the additional site provided by G.S. 163-227.2(f1), or to
37 receive assistance ~~in getting to and from the voting booth or private
38 room and in preparing and marking that voter's ballots from any
39 person other than a member of the county board of elections, the
40 director of elections, an employee of the board of elections authorized
41 by the board, a near relative of the voter or the voter's verifiable legal
42 guardian;~~ except as provided in G.S. 163-227.2;
- 43 (4) For any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person, other
44 than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to make a

1 written request pursuant to G.S. 163-230.1 or an application on behalf
2 of a registered voter who is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing
3 home or rest home in this State or for any owner, manager, director,
4 employee, or other person other than the voter's near relative or
5 verifiable legal guardian, to mark the voter's absentee ballot or assist
6 such a voter in marking an absentee ballot;

7 (5) Repealed by Session Laws 1987, c. 583, s. 8.

8 (6) For any person to take into that person's possession for delivery to a
9 voter or for return to a county board of elections the absentee ballot of
10 any voter, provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply to a
11 voter's near relative or the voter's verifiable legal guardian;

12 (7) Except as provided in subsections (1), (2), (3) and (4) of this section,
13 G.S. 163-231(a), G.S. 163-250(a), and G.S. 163-227.2(e), for any voter
14 to permit another person to assist the voter in marking that voter's
15 absentee ballot, to be in the voter's presence when a voter votes an
16 absentee ballot, or to observe the voter mark that voter's absentee
17 ballot."

18 **SECTION 6.** G.S. 163-122(a) reads as rewritten:

19 "(a) Procedure for Having Name Printed on Ballot as Unaffiliated Candidate. –
20 Any qualified voter who seeks to have ~~his~~that voter's name printed on the general
21 election ballot as an unaffiliated candidate shall:

22 (1) If the office is a statewide office, file written petitions with the State
23 Board of Elections supporting ~~his~~ candidacy for a specified office.
24 These petitions must be filed with the State Board of Elections on or
25 before 12:00 noon on the last Friday in June preceding the general
26 election and must be signed by qualified voters of the State equal in
27 number to two percent (2%) of the total number of ~~registered voters in~~
28 ~~the State as reflected by the most recent statistical report issued by the~~
29 ~~State Board of Elections.~~ voters who voted in the most recent general
30 election for Governor. Also the petition must be signed by at least 200
31 registered voters in each of four congressional districts in North
32 Carolina. No later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifteenth day preceding the
33 date the petitions are due to be filed with the State Board of Elections,
34 each petition shall be presented to the ~~chairman~~chair of the board of
35 elections of the county in which the signatures were obtained.
36 Provided the petitions are timely submitted, the ~~chairman~~chair shall
37 examine the names on the petition and place a check mark on the
38 petition by the name of each signer who is qualified and registered to
39 vote in ~~his~~that county and shall attach to the petition ~~his~~the
40 petitioner's signed certificate. Said certificates shall state that the
41 signatures on the petition have been checked against the registration
42 records and shall indicate the number of signers to be qualified and
43 registered to vote in ~~his~~that county. The ~~chairman~~chair shall return
44 each petition, together with the certificate required in this section, to

1 the person who presented it to ~~him~~ for checking. Verification by the
2 ~~chairman~~ chair of the county board of elections shall be completed
3 within two weeks from the date such petitions are presented."

4 **SECTION 7.(a)** Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is
5 amended by adding a new section to read:

6 "**§ 163-82.25A. Piece payment in voter registration drives prohibited.**

7 No person who employs or contracts with another person to register voters or assist
8 or encourage voters to fill out voter registration forms shall pay that person per voter
9 registration application completed. No person shall accept payment per voter
10 registration application. A violation of this section is a Class 2 misdemeanor."

11 **SECTION 7.(b)** G.S. 163-274 is amended by adding a new subdivision to
12 read:

13 "(14) For any person to pay or accept payment per voter registration
14 application completed in violation of G.S. 163-82.25A."

15 **SECTION 8.(a)** G.S. 163-227.2 is amended by adding a new subsection to
16 read:

17 "(e2) A voter who has moved within the county more than 30 days before election
18 day but has not reported the move to the board of elections shall not be required on that
19 account to vote a provisional ballot at the one-stop site, as long as the one-stop site has
20 available all the information necessary to determine whether a voter is registered to vote
21 in the county and which ballot the voter is eligible to vote based on the voter's proper
22 residence address. The voter with that kind of unreported move shall be allowed to vote
23 the same kind of absentee ballot as other one-stop voters."

24 **SECTION 8.(b)** G.S. 163-166.11 is amended by adding a new subdivision
25 to read:

26 "(2a) A voter who has moved within the county more than 30 days before
27 election day but has not reported the move to the board of elections
28 shall not be required on that account to vote a provisional ballot at the
29 one-stop site, as long as the one-stop site has available all the
30 information necessary to determine whether a voter is registered to
31 vote in the county and which ballot the voter is eligible to vote based
32 on the voter's proper residence address. The voter with that kind of
33 unreported move shall be allowed to vote the same kind of absentee
34 ballot as other one-stop voters as provided in G.S. 163-227.2(e2)."

35 **SECTION 9.** G.S. 163-227.2(c) reads as rewritten:

36 "(c) If the application is properly filled out, the authorized member or employee
37 shall enter the voter's name in the register of absentee requests, applications, and ballots
38 ~~issued; shall furnish the voter with the instruction sheets called for by G.S. 163-229(c);~~
39 ~~and issued and~~ shall furnish the voter with the ballots to which the application for
40 absentee ballots applies. The voter thereupon shall vote in accordance with subsection
41 (e) of this section.

42 All actions required by this subsection shall be performed in the office of the board
43 of elections, except that the voting may take place in an adjacent room as provided by
44 subsection (e) of this section. The application under this subsection shall be signed in

1 the presence of the ~~chairman~~chair, member, director of elections of the board, or
 2 full-time employee, authorized by the board who shall sign the application and
 3 certificate as the witness and indicate the official title held by him or her.
 4 Notwithstanding G.S. 163-231(a), in the case of this subsection, only one witness shall
 5 be required on the certificate."

6 **SECTION 10.** G.S. 163-107(a) reads as rewritten:

7 "(a) Fee Schedule. – At the time of filing a notice of candidacy, each candidate
 8 shall pay to the board of elections with which he files under the provisions of
 9 G.S. 163-106 a filing fee for the office he seeks in the amount specified in the following
 10 tabulation:

Office Sought	Amount of Filing Fee
Governor	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
Lieutenant Governor	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
All State executive offices	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
All District Attorneys of the General Court of Justice	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
United States Senator	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
Members of the United States House of Representatives	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
State Senator	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
Member of the State House of Representatives	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
All county offices not compensated by fees	One percent (1%) of the annual salary of the office sought
County commissioners, if compensated entirely by fees	Ten dollars (\$10.00)
Members of county board of education, if compensated entirely by fees	Five dollars (\$5.00)
Sheriff, if compensated entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one percent (1%) of the income of the office above four thousand dollars (\$4,000)
Clerk of superior court, if compensated entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one percent (1%) of the income of the office above four thousand dollars (\$4,000)
Register of deeds, if compensated entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one percent (1%) of the income of the office above four thousand dollars (\$4,000)
Any other county office, if compensated	Twenty dollars (\$20.00), plus one percent

1 entirely by fees (1%) of the income of the office above
 2 two thousand dollars (\$2,000)
 3 All county offices compensated partly One percent (1%) of the first annual
 4 by salary and partly by fees salary to be received (exclusive of
 5 fees)

6 The salary of any office that is the basis for calculating the filing fee is the starting
 7 salary for the office, rather than the salary received by the incumbent, if different. If no
 8 starting salary can be determined for the office, then the salary used for calculation is
 9 the salary of the incumbent, as of January 1 of the election year."

10 **SECTION 11.** G.S. 163-82.9 reads as rewritten:

11 "**§ 163-82.9. Cancellation of prior registration.**

12 If an applicant indicates on an application form described in G.S. 163-82.3 a current
 13 registration to vote in any other county, municipality, or state, the county board of
 14 elections, upon registering the person to vote, shall send a notice to the appropriate
 15 officials in the other county, municipality, or state and shall ask them to cancel the
 16 person's voter registration there. If an applicant completes an application form described
 17 in G.S. 163-82.3 except that the applicant neglects to complete the portion of the form
 18 that authorizes cancellation of previous registration in another county, the State Board
 19 of Elections shall notify the county board of elections in the previous county of the new
 20 registration, and the board in the previous county shall cancel the registration. The State
 21 Board of Elections shall adopt rules to prevent disenfranchisement in the
 22 implementation of this section. Those rules shall include adequate notice to the person
 23 whose previous registration is to be cancelled."

24 **SECTION 12.(a)** G.S. 163-82.10(b) reads as rewritten:

25 "(b) Access to Registration Records. – Upon request by that person, the county
 26 board of elections shall provide to any person a list of the registered voters of the county
 27 or of any precinct or precincts in the county. The county board may furnish selective
 28 lists according to party affiliation, gender, race, date of registration, precinct name,
 29 precinct identification code, congressional district, senate district, representative district,
 30 and, where applicable, county commissioner district, city governing board district, fire
 31 district, soil and water conservation district, and voter history including primary,
 32 general, and special districts, or any other reasonable category. No list produced under
 33 this section shall contain a voter's date of birth. However, lists may be produced
 34 according to voters' ages. ~~The Both the following shall apply if a county maintains or~~
 35 ~~has its voter registration list maintained on a computer: to all counties:~~

- 36 (1) ~~In addition to the typed, mimeographed, photocopied, computer~~
 37 ~~printout or label lists, the~~ The county board of elections shall make the
 38 voter registration information available to the public on electronic or
 39 magnetic medium. ~~Magnetic medium for the purpose of this section~~
 40 shall consist of nine track tape or 3.5 inch diskettes and 5.25 inch
 41 diskettes readily accessible using MS-DOS or Microsoft Windows
 42 operating systems or both such systems; and For purposes of this
 43 section, "electronic or magnetic medium" means any of the media in
 44 use by the State Board of Elections at the time of the request.

(2) Information requested on electronic or magnetic medium shall contain the following: voter name, county voter identification number, residential address, mailing address, sex, race, age but not date of birth, party affiliation, precinct name, precinct identification code, congressional district, senate district, representative district, and, where applicable, county commissioner district, city governing board district, fire district, soil and water conservation district, and any other district information available, and voter history including primary, general, and special districts, or any other reasonable category, category.

~~provided that this subsection shall not require a county to computerize its lists, but if a county does computerize it shall comply with subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection.~~ The county board shall require each person to whom a list is furnished to reimburse the board for the actual cost incurred in preparing it, except as provided in subsection (c) of this section. Actual cost for the purpose of this section shall not include the cost of any equipment or any imputed overhead expenses. ~~It may include the actual cost of paper, labels, and magnetic medium. The purchaser at its discretion may provide the magnetic medium.~~ When furnishing information under this subsection to a purchaser on a magnetic medium provided by the county board or the purchaser, the county board may impose a service charge of up to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)."

SECTION 12.(b) G.S. 163-82.10(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Free Lists. ~~Free lists of all registered voters in the county shall be provided in the following cases:~~

- (1) A county board ~~that maintains voter records on computer shall provide, upon written request, one free list to~~ of all the registered voters in the county to
 - a. ~~The~~ the State chair of each political ~~party;~~ party and
 - b. ~~The~~ to the county chair of each political party once in every odd-numbered year, once during the first six calendar months of every even-numbered year, and once during the latter six calendar months of every even-numbered year.

(2) ~~A county board that does not maintain voter records on computer shall provide one free paper list every two years to the county chair of each political party.~~

Each free list shall include the name, address, gender, age but not date of birth, race, political affiliation, voting history, precinct, precinct name, precinct identification code, congressional district, senate district, representative district, and, where applicable, county commissioner district, city governing board district, fire district, soil and water conservation district, and voter history including primary, general, and special districts of each registered voter. ~~The free paper list to the county party chairs shall group voters by precinct.~~ All free lists shall be provided as soon as practicable on one of any electronic or magnetic media, but no later than 30 days after written request. Each State party chair shall provide ~~the discs or tapes~~ the information on the media received from the county boards or a copy of the media containing the data itself to candidates of that

1 party who request the ~~disks or tapes~~ data in writing. ~~Each State party chair shall return~~
2 ~~disks and tapes to the county boards within 30 days after receiving them.~~ As used in this
3 section, "political party" means a political party as defined in G.S. 163-96."

4 **SECTION 13.** G.S. 163-182.5(b) reads as rewritten:

5 "(b) Canvassing by County Board of Elections. – The county board of elections
6 shall meet at 11:00 A.M. on the ~~seventh-tenth~~ day after every election held on the same
7 day as a general election in November of the even-numbered year, and at 11:00 A.M. on
8 the seventh day after every other election, to complete the canvass of votes cast and to
9 authenticate the count in every ballot item in the county by determining that the votes
10 have been counted and tabulated correctly. If, despite due diligence by election officials,
11 the initial counting of all the votes has not been completed by that time, the county
12 board may hold the canvass meeting a reasonable time thereafter. The canvass meeting
13 shall be at the county board of elections office, unless the county board, by unanimous
14 vote of all its members, designates another site within the county. The county board
15 shall examine the returns from precincts, from absentee official ballots, and from
16 provisional official ballots and shall conduct the canvass."

17 **SECTION 14.** G.S. 163-166.7(c) reads as rewritten:

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

- 22 (1) The voting system remains secure throughout the period voting is
23 being conducted.
- 24 (2) Only properly voted official ballots are introduced into the voting
25 system.
- 26 (3) Except as provided by G.S. 163-166.9, no official ballots leave the
27 voting enclosure during the time voting is being conducted there.
- 28 (4) All improperly voted official ballots are returned to the precinct
29 officials and marked as spoiled.
- 30 (5) Voters leave the voting place promptly after voting.
- 31 (6) Voters not clearly eligible to vote in the precinct but who seek to vote
32 there are given proper assistance in voting a provisional official ballot
33 or guidance to another voting place where they are eligible to vote.
- 34 (7) Information gleaned through the voting process that would be helpful
35 to the accurate maintenance of the voter registration records is
36 recorded and delivered to the county board of elections.
- 37 (8) The registration records are kept secure. The State Board of Elections
38 shall permit the use of electronic registration records in the voting
39 place in lieu of or in addition to a paper pollbook or other registration
40 record.
- 41 (9) Party observers are given access as provided by G.S. 163-45 to current
42 information about which voters have voted.
- 43 (10) The voter, before voting, shall sign that voter's name on the pollbook,
44 other voting record, or voter authorization document. If the voter is

1 unable to sign, a precinct official shall enter the person's name on the
2 same document before the voter votes."

3 **SECTION 15.** Sections 2, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, and 14 of this act are effective
4 when this act becomes law and apply to all primaries and elections held on or after that
5 date. The remainder of this act becomes effective January 1, 2006, and applies to all
6 primaries and elections held on or after that date.