

March 29, 2001

**H 831. ELECTION CHANGES-2. TO MAKE CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF ELECTIONS.** Makes numerous changes relating to administration of election including: (1) Amends GS 163-35 to authorize the State Board of Elections to initiate proceedings for termination for good cause of a county director of elections, after recommendation of the Executive Secretary-Director and majority vote of state board. Provides that county director of elections may request hearing before State Board makes a final decision on termination. (2) Amends GS 163-82.24 to require the State Board of Elections to conduct a program of certification of election officials and requires election official to pass examination before receiving certification. (3) Amends GS 163-25 to require the State Board to conduct a training program of four weeks for each new county director of elections, and requires all new directors to complete program. Requires any director appointed after May 1995 to complete certification program within a year after appointment or by Jan. 1, 2003, whichever is later. (4) Amends GS 163-227.2 to provide that a county board of elections may propose, in its plan for absentee ballots not to offer one-stop voting at the county board of elections office but to rely on other sites. Directs the State Board to approve such a plan only if it finds that other sites provide adequate coverage of the county's electorate. (5) Amends GS 163-82.19 to provide that rules adopted by the State Board for voter registration at drivers license offices must provide for a paperless, instant, electronic transfer of applications to the appropriate county board of elections. (6) Amends GS 163-82.14 to require the county board to send a confirmation (of address) mailing to every registrant after every congressional election if the board has not confirmed the registrant's address by another means. (7) Amends GS 163-123 (write-in candidates) to provide that elections for superior court judges are not excluded from statute. (8) Amends GS 163 278.14 to provide that anonymous contributions or contributions determined to have been made in the name of another must be deposited by State Board in the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund, not the General Fund. Changes concerning one-stop voting are effective Jan. 1, 2002.

**Intro. by Alexander.**

Ref. to Election Law	GS 163
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April 16, 2001

**H 831. ELECTION CHANGES-2.** Intro. 3/28/01. House committee substitute makes the following changes to 1st edition. Establishes procedure under which Executive Secretary-Director of State Board of Elections may suspend, with pay, a county director of elections; suspension to last up to five days, by which time state board must begin procedures leading to termination or reinstate county director. Deletes requirement that state board hold public hearing in the county before removing county director of elections; replaces it with requirement that state board give county director opportunity to be heard and present witnesses. Authorizes Reviser of Statutes to change terms "Executive Secretary-Director" and "State Executive Secretary-Director" to term "Executive Director" [of state board of elections] wherever they appear in General Statutes.

April 23, 2001

**H 831. ELECTION CHANGES.** Intro. 3/28/01 . House committee substitute makes the following changes to 2nd edition. (1) Current law [in GS 163-227.2(b)] provides that one-stop absentee voting begins on the twenty-fifth day before an election; the original bill changed that to the eighteenth day before the election; this committee substitute makes it the third Thursday before the election. (2) The same statute now provides that one-stop absentee voting ends at 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the election. This committee substitute changes that to 1:00 p.m. on the Saturday before the election (and authorizes county boards of elections to extend the time to 5:00 p.m. on that Saturday). (3) Current law [GS 163-82.6(c)] provides that a voter registration application that is submitted in person must be received by the county board of elections by 5:00 p.m. on the twenty-fifth day before an election in order for the applicant to be eligible to vote in that election. This committee substitute amends the statute to permit a county board of elections to extend that deadline past 5:00 p.m. on that day. (4) This committee substitute changes the bill's title to *AN ACT TO PROVIDE A GREATER ROLE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN PERSONNEL DECISIONS CONCERNING COUNTY ELECTION DIRECTORS; TO ENHANCE*

*THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS; TO REMOVE LIMITATIONS ON TWO PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRECINCTS; TO CHANGE THE LENGTH OF THE ONE-STOP VOTING PERIOD; TO ALLOW COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS, WITH STATE BOARD APPROVAL, TO USE OTHER ONE-STOP SITES INSTEAD OF THE COUNTY BOARD OFFICE; TO ALLOW LATER ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FOR THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES; TO UPDATE THE STATUTES CONCERNING VOTER REGISTRATION LIST MAINTENANCE; TO APPLY THE WRITE-IN STATUTE TO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE ELECTIONS; TO CORRECT A REFERENCE IN THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW; AND TO RENAME THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS THE "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR."*

June 21, 2001

**H 831. ELECTION CHANGES.** Intro. 3/28/01. Senate committee substitute makes the following changes to 3rd edition. Changes title to *AN ACT TO PROVIDE A GREATER ROLE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN PERSONNEL DECISIONS CONCERNING COUNTY ELECTION DIRECTORS; TO ENHANCE THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS; TO REMOVE LIMITATIONS ON TWO PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRECINCTS; TO CHANGE THE LENGTH OF THE ONE-STOP VOTING PERIOD; TO ALLOW COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS TO USE OTHER ONE-STOP SITES INSTEAD OF THE COUNTY BOARD OFFICE AS LONG AS A NEARBY SITE IS PROVIDED; TO ALLOW LATER ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FROM THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES; TO UPDATE THE STATUTES CONCERNING VOTER REGISTRATION LIST MAINTENANCE; TO APPLY THE WRITE-IN STATUTE TO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE ELECTIONS; TO CORRECT A REFERENCE IN THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW; TO REQUIRE THAT ALL NEW PRECINCT LINES FOLLOW CENSUS BLOCK LINES UNLESS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS GRANTS A WAIVER AFTER MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS; AND TO RENAME THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS THE "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR".* Amends GS 163-227.2(f) to provide that a county board may conduct one-stop absentee voting during evenings and weekends. Deletes requirement in GS 163-227.2(g) that at least one one-stop voting site must be in close proximity to the county board of elections office. Amends GS 163-132.3(a) to require that all new precinct lines be coterminous with census block lines unless the Executive Director of the State Board determines that to draw those boundaries would seriously hinder the administration of the elections. Provides that the Executive Director may approve a different boundary if the new boundary line is (1) likely to be designated as a census block boundary in the next decennial census; (2) consistent with a visible physical feature, readily distinguishable upon the ground; (3) a municipal boundary; or (4) a township boundary; and (5) the combined unit on which the line is a boundary could be combined into a unit with outer boundaries that would be census blocks, is reasonable in size, and would not undermine coverage of the state's precincts in the next census. Makes other conforming changes as title indicates.

July 3, 2001

**H 831. ELECTION CHANGES.** Intro. 3/26/01. Senate amendment makes the following changes to 4th edition. Adds requirement that the State Board of Elections notify (1) the chair of the county board of elections and the chair of the county board of commissioners when the State Board has initiated proceedings to terminate a county director of elections, and (2) the chair of the county board of commissioners upon placing a county director of elections on suspension.

July 30, 2001

**SL 2001-319 (H 831). ELECTION CHANGES.** *AN ACT TO PROVIDE A GREATER ROLE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN PERSONNEL DECISIONS CONCERNING COUNTY ELECTION DIRECTORS; TO ENHANCE THE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR ELECTION OFFICIALS; TO REMOVE LIMITATIONS ON TWO PROVISIONS CONCERNING*

PRECINCTS; TO CHANGE THE LENGTH OF THE ONE-STOP VOTING PERIOD; TO ALLOW COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS TO USE OTHER ONE-STOP SITES INSTEAD OF THE COUNTY BOARD OFFICE AS LONG AS A NEARBY SITE IS PROVIDED; TO ALLOW LATER ACCEPTANCE OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSFER OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS FROM THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES; TO UPDATE THE STATUTES CONCERNING VOTER REGISTRATION LIST MAINTENANCE; TO REQUIRE PERMANENT VOTER REGISTRATION NUMBERS; TO APPLY THE WRITE-IN STATUTE TO SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE ELECTIONS; TO CORRECT A REFERENCE IN THE CAMPAIGN FINANCE LAW; TO REQUIRE THAT ALL NEW PRECINCT LINES FOLLOW CENSUS BLOCK LINES UNLESS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS GRANTS A WAIVER AFTER MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS; AND TO RENAME THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY-DIRECTOR OF THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS THE "EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR". Summarized in *Daily Bulletin* 3/28/01, 4/16/01, 4/23/01, 6/21/01, and 7/3/01. Enacted July 28, 2001. Effective July 28, 2001, except as otherwise provided.