

S. 977

STATUS INFORMATION

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Leventis

Document Path: I:\council\bills\dka\3521dw06.doc

Companion/Similar bill(s): 4352

Prefiled in the Senate on December 13, 2005

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Early voting bill

A BILL

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 7-13-25 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE AUTHORITY CHARGED BY LAW WITH CONDUCTING AN ELECTION SHALL PROVIDE A PROCEDURE BY WHICH A QUALIFIED ELECTOR MAY REGISTER AND CAST A BALLOT ON THE SAME DAY, PROVIDE THAT A QUALIFIED ELECTOR MAY CAST A BALLOT DURING THE SEVEN-DAY PERIOD PRECEDING THE ELECTION, AND PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE OR MORE EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS IN EACH COUNTY.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 13, Title 7 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 7-13-25. (A) The authority charged by law with conducting an election shall establish a procedure by which a qualified elector, who is not registered to vote, may register and cast his ballot on that date. The qualified elector may accomplish this by registering at a voting place that has access to the state voter registration database. If a qualified elector registers and votes at one of these voting places, the entity charged by law shall note in the state registration database that the new voter has voted.

(B)(1) A qualified elector, who is registered, may cast his ballot during a seven-day period beginning on the second Saturday before the election and ending on the first Saturday before the election.

(2) A qualified elector, who is not registered, shall cast his ballot on the same day during the early voting period provided for in item (1).

(C) A high school and a public library maintaining an early voting center must be compensated two hundred dollars a day by the State Election Commission. A poll manager must be present at an early voting center for at least four hours each day during the early voting period.

(D) Early voting centers in high schools shall operate after school hours in a manner not disruptive of school business.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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