



## The Daily Bulletin: 2021-06-07

### PUBLIC/SENATE BILLS

S 724 (2021) [EXPAND ACCESS TO VOTER ID & VOTING](#). Filed Jun 7 2021, *AN ACT TO EXPAND VOTER ACCESS BY ESTABLISHING A VOTING PORTAL FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED VOTERS TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT ONLINE, ALLOWING FOR THE ONLINE SUBMISSION OF VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION FORMS, AND STATING THE INTENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FUND A PROGRAM TO IDENTIFY AND ASSIST VOTERS NEEDING PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.*

#### Part I.

Enacts GS 163-231.1, allowing visually impaired eligible voters to request to vote by absentee ballot and vote by absentee ballot online using the visually impaired portal maintained by the State Board of Elections (State Board). Requires indication of the desire to access the portal on the request, as well as compliance with all other state law requirements concerning absentee ballot requests. Directs county boards to communicate with the requester by email and send a link to the portal. Provides for electronic signatures to be used for the voter and witnesses using the portal. Makes conforming changes to GS 163-230.2 (regarding written request for absentee ballots) and GS 162-231 (regarding the transmission of executed absentee ballots).

#### Part II.

Enacts GS 163-82.5A allowing an individual to register to vote online if the individual: (1) is either registered or eligible to register to vote and (2) possesses a current and valid North Carolina driver's license (including a learner's permit or provisional license) or a special identification card for nonoperators. Requires the State Board to establish a secure website for the completion and submission of voter registration applications to register or update registration. Specifies information that the website must allow an individual to submit, including the individual's email address. Requires the State Board, upon receipt of an online application and all required information, to verify specified applicant information. Requires the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to transfer the applicant's digital signature in the DMV records to the State Board if the State Board verifies the driver's license or Social Security number, and the State Board to forward the application to the appropriate county board for verification. Requires the State Board to deny the application if the State Board cannot verify the driver's license, date of birth or Social Security number. Authorizes the State Board to adopt implementing rules. Specifies that the State Board is not prohibited from adopting rules that provide for immediate verification of the individual's application. Makes conforming and technical changes to GS 163-82.6 (regarding the acceptance of voter registration forms). Allows the State Board to begin rulemaking to implement the new statute's provisions before December 1, 2021, so long as no temporary or permanent rule becomes effective prior to that date. Authorizes the State Board to initiate any needed requests for proposals for development of the secure internet site prior to December 1, 2021.

Makes conforming changes and corrects a statutory cross-reference in GS 163-82.3, regarding the acceptance of voter registration forms.

Amends GS 163-82.10 to add specified identifying information submitted during the online voter registration application process to the information that is confidential.

#### Part III.

States legislative intent to fund a program in the 2021-22 budget for the State Board to identify individuals who need photo ID to vote in person, which can include a mobile component to enable registration for individuals identified.

**Intro. by Newton, Daniel, Hise.**

GS 163

[View summary](#)

**Government, Elections, State Agencies, State Board of Elections**

S 725 (2021) [PROHIBIT PRIVATE MONEY IN ELECTIONS ADMIN.](#) Filed Jun 7 2021, *AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE ACCEPTANCE OF PRIVATE MONEY FOR CONDUCTING ELECTIONS OR HIRING TEMPORARY ELECTIONS WORKERS.*

Amends GS 163-22, GS 163-33, and GS 163-37 by specifying that nothing in GS Chapter 160 authorizes (1) the State Board of Elections, (2) a county board of elections, or (3) a county board of commissioners to accept private monetary donations, directly or indirectly, for conducting elections or employing individuals on a temporary basis. Effective July 1, 2021.

**Intro. by Hise, Daniel, Newton.**

GS 163

[View summary](#)

[Government, Elections, State Agencies, State Board of Elections, Local Government](#)

## ACTIONS ON BILLS

### PUBLIC BILLS

#### **H 84: SEX OFFENDER PREMISES RESTRICTIONS.**

*Senate: Passed 2nd Reading*

*Senate: Passed 3rd Reading*

#### **H 103: AUTOMATIC RENEWAL OF CONTRACTS.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Commerce and Insurance. If fav, re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 168: RETIREMENT ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES ACT OF 2021.-AB**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Pensions and Retirement and Aging. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 177: STATE HEALTH PLAN ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES.-AB**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Pensions and Retirement and Aging. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 203: EXTEND DEADLINE FOR POLICE TELECOMMUNICATORS.**

*Senate: Passed 2nd Reading*

*Senate: Passed 3rd Reading*

*Senate: Ordered Enrolled*

#### **H 224: OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY INTERSTATE COMPACT.**

*House: Ratified*

#### **H 403: CLARIFY MOTOR VEHICLE FRANCHISE LAWS.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Commerce and Insurance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

#### **H 624: NORTH CAROLINA REGULATORY SANDBOX ACT.**

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

#### **H 654: STATEWIDE CONTRACTS/NONPROFITS FOR THE BLIND.**

*Senate: Regular Message Received From House*

*Senate: Passed 1st Reading*

*Senate: Ref To Com On Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 743: REMOVE ID MARK/INCREASE PUNISHMENT.**

*Senate: Passed 2nd Reading*

*Senate: Passed 3rd Reading*

**H 769: FOSTER PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Health Care. If fav, re-ref to Judiciary. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 812: CLARIFY REMOTE MEETINGS DURING EMERGENCIES.**

*Senate: Passed 2nd Reading*

*Senate: Passed 3rd Reading*

*Senate: Ordered Enrolled*

**H 867: UNIFORM WORKER CLASSIFICATION ACT.**

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**H 945: ESPORTS INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**

*House: Serial Referral To Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House Stricken*

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on Appropriations, if favorable, Finance, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 43: PROTECT RELIGIOUS MEETING PLACES.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Placed On Cal For 06/08/2021*

**S 126: CLEAN UP OBSOLETE BOARDS.**

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on State Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 255: 2021 AOC LEGISLATIVE CHANGES.-AB**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Placed On Cal For 06/08/2021*

**S 450: CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS/SCHOOL BLDGS.**

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 582: HIGH SCHOOL ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS/CC PREP.**

*House: Withdrawn From Com*

*House: Re-ref to the Com on Education - K-12, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House*

**S 724: EXPAND ACCESS TO VOTER ID & VOTING.**

*Senate: Filed*

**S 725: PROHIBIT PRIVATE MONEY IN ELECTIONS ADMIN.**

*Senate: Filed*

**LOCAL BILLS**

**H 38: BD. OF TRUSTEES/ISOTHERMAL CC.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Education/Higher Education. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 85: CLEVELAND CTY BD OF ED VACANCIES. (NEW)**

*Senate: Reptd Fav*

**H 206: LOUISBURG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Agriculture, Energy, and Environment. If fav, re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 229: EXTEND MAYOR'S TERM TO 4 YRS./CAROLINA SHORES.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Redistricting and Elections. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 287: CITY OF RANDLEMAN CHARTER CONSOLIDATION.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 365: ASHEVILLE AIRPORT AUTH./AUTHORIZED USES.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to Transportation. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

**H 375: FRANKLINVILLE/LIBERTY/RAMSEUR/ANNEXATIONS.**

*Senate: Withdrawn From Com*

*Senate: Re-ref to State and Local Government. If fav, re-ref to Finance. If fav, re-ref to Rules and Operations of the Senate*

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