

**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF CARTERET
1510 LIVE OAK STREET
BEAUFORT, NC 28516
June 6, 2007**

The Carteret County Board of Elections met this date at 9 AM in the Board of Elections' office in Beaufort. All three board members were present along with Director Lindy Lewis, Deputy Director Alva Gillikin, and Elections Specialist Sharon Lewis.

Secretary Rivers made the motion to approve the minutes from the May 16, 2007 meeting as written. Motion passed, 3-0.

There was no public comment.

Director Lewis informed the board that she had been contacted by Leisa Smith, Carteret County Boys and Girls Club of Beaufort, who stated that she had met with her board of directors and they were agreeable to entering into a contract with us regarding the use of their facility. Director Lewis had prepared a letter to Mr. Bartlett requesting approval of this out-of-precinct site for review. A letter was also prepared for Reverend Carliso of St. Paul's Episcopal Church thanking him and his board for their willingness to work with this board regarding their facility. Secretary Rivers made the motion that the letters be sent as written. Motion passed, 3-0. Copies of both letters are attached to these minutes.

Senator Jean Preston had sent the board and staff some information regarding House Bill 91/Senate Bill 195 (Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites). A copy was provided to board members. She requested that we offer feedback regarding this process. After much discussion on the topic, the board requested that Director Lewis send the following comments to Senator Preston: "Our board met this morning and Member Verdon asked for input regarding this bill from both staff and board members. The board requested that I share these comments with you. Although we continue to have concerns regarding the verification process, we do not feel the same day registration process will put an unfair burden on Carteret County in the implementation phase nor have a negative fiscal impact. Our county has well-trained individuals working our one-stop locations and do not feel that we will be requiring additional personnel due to the implementation of the program. We also feel confident that the verification process can be completed within the two day window by office staff and one-stop personnel. We also discussed the current rules in place for provisional voting and feel that this process could impact our provisional balloting process in a positive manner by limiting the number of these ballots cast which have to be processed and counted after the election. We appreciate you contacting our board to give us the opportunity to offer input."

Director Lewis informed the board that staff has been double-checking our records in preparation for the wellness check which will be conducted on all counties by SBOE this year. In doing so, it was found that we do not have a resolution on file regarding absentee voting for the Harkers Island Sanitary District. We have a

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current contract to conduct their elections but a separate resolution directing us to conduct their absentees is also required. A letter has been prepared along with a copy of a sample resolution to inform them of this requirement and request a resolution be provided. A copy of the letter is attached to these minutes.

For Director's Report, Director Lewis informed the board that Mr. Bartlett with the SBOE had been in the office on Friday, June 1, 2007. Director Lewis had also completed registrations and hotel reservations for Chairman Henderson and Member Verdon and provided a copy of the confirmation for their review.

There were no board comments.

There being no further business, Chairman Henderson adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Henderson, Chairman

Harry Rivers, Secretary

Sue Verdon, Member

/rl

June 6, 2007

Mr. Gary Bartlett, Executive Director
NC State Board of Elections
PO Box 27255
Raleigh, NC 27611-7255

Dear Mr. Bartlett:

Pursuant to G.S. 163-130.1, the Carteret County Board of Elections respectfully requests the approval of a polling place which is located out of precinct. The board and office staff met with the Town Manager of Beaufort on January 17, 2007 to discuss the situation regarding the Beaufort 1 polling site. The voters in this precinct have been voting at the Beaufort Fire Department in excess of 25 years. Due to the recent development of the property adjacent to the fire department, there is no longer adequate parking at this site.

Several suggestions were made during the initial meeting regarding a site. The board and staff have been diligent in the search for a suitable site and have spent the past four months visiting and evaluating possible locations within the precinct without success. These evaluations and discussions have been appropriately documented in the board's official minutes. The majority of these locations evaluated also have issues with adequate parking. The following is a list of the locations that have been eliminated within the precinct:

- Ann Street Methodist Church – Eure Building
- First Baptist Church
- Train Depot
- County Library
- County Administration Building
- Department of Social Services – Activity Center
- NC Maritime Museum
- St. Paul's Episcopal Church

On May 16, 2007, the Carteret County Board of Elections inspected the facilities at the Boys and Girls Club of Beaufort. By unanimous vote on this date, the board established the Boys and Girls Club of Beaufort as the polling place for the Beaufort 1 precinct, contingent upon NC State Board of Elections' approval. The proposed polling site does meet the criteria listed in GS 163-130.0 in that;

- (1) There is no adequate facility located within the precinct;
- (2) Adequate notification and publicity will be provided to notify voters of the new polling location;
- (3) The proposed site does not unfairly favor or disfavor voters with regard to race or party affiliation;
- (4) The proposed site meets all requirements for the voting places including accessibility for elderly and disabled voters; and
- (5) The proposed site provides adequately for security against fraud.

While this site is located out of the precinct, it is on the opposite side of the street of the dividing line between the Beaufort 1 and Beaufort 2 precincts. The even numbered addresses on Mulberry Street are located in the Beaufort 1 precinct while the odd numbered addresses are in the Beaufort 2 precinct. The Boys and Girls Club is located at 601 Mulberry Street in Beaufort.

The total number of registered voters in the Beaufort 1 precinct is currently 1,399. Voter turnout for the 2006 May Primary was 362, or 26% of the registered voters. Turnout for the 2006 General Election was 752, or 54% of the registered voters.

The Carteret County Board of Elections will notify each affected voter by first class mail. Appropriate notices will be made available to the local newspapers and television stations to announce the change in location of the polling site.

Thank you for both your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Henderson, Chairman

Lindy Lewis, Director

/lrl

June 6, 2007

Reverend John Carlisto
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
209 Ann Street
Beaufort, NC 28516

Dear Reverend Carlisto;

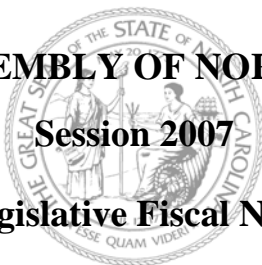
On behalf of the Carteret County Board of Elections, I would like to thank both you and your board for your willingness to work with us on the possibility of using your Parish House as a location for the Beaufort 1 polling site. The board discussed the location after visiting the site and meeting with you on May 2, 2007. While the board remains appreciative of the offer and your obvious willingness to support this service to the community, it was decided that another location could be better utilized as the polling site. The board shared your reservations regarding the parking area behind your facility with the limited access in and out of that area and did not want to place an undue burden on the voters or property owners.

Again, thank you for both your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lindy R. Lewis
Director

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2007

Legislative Fiscal Note

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 195 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites.

SPONSOR(S): Senator Shaw

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes (X)	No ()	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2007-08</u>	<u>FY 2008-09</u>	<u>FY 2009-10</u>	<u>FY 2010-11</u>	<u>FY 2011-12</u>
EXPENDITURES:					
State Board of Elections	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Local Boards of Elections	\$400,000*	\$600,000*	\$400,000	\$600,000	\$400,000
	2008 Primary	2008 General	2010 Primary	2010 General	2012 Primary
* Funds available in HAVA/MOE. See Assumptions and Methodology.					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED: State Board of Elections					
EFFECTIVE DATE: Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act become effective July 1, 2007, and shall apply to all primaries and elections held on or after that date. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.					

BILL SUMMARY:

This bill enacts G.S. 163-82.6A (In-person registration and voting at one-stop sites), which allows qualified persons to register and vote at designated one-stop voting sites within their county of residence during specified times. A person registering and voting at a one-stop site must provide proof of residence and complete a voter registration form as prescribed by G.S. 163-82.4, and sign a statement under penalty of perjury that the person is a citizen of the United States and resides at the address given. This bill allows a person to vote immediately after registering or to vote later at a one-stop voting site, and requires the State Board of Elections and the county boards of elections to verify the driver's license or social security number, update the statewide registration database, and proceed to verify the person's address within two business days of the person's registration. This bill amends G.S. 163-82.6, which prohibited eligible voters from registering for the election prior to 25 days before an election, and enables a qualified voter to register and vote within this period at a one-stop voting site. Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act become effective July 1, 2007, and shall apply to all primaries and elections held on or after that date. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law. This bill also requires the State Board of Elections to monitor the implementation of the law and to determine the feasibility and timetable for expanding same-day

registration and voting to all voting places. The State Board of Elections must report its findings to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations no later than March 1, 2008.

Source: Bill Digest S.B. 195 (02/15/0200).

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Background Information:

Beginning in 1973, the State of North Carolina made one-stop voting available at county election board offices, but voting was limited to registered voters that were unavailable to vote on Election Day. In 2000, the eligibility requirements for one-stop voting were expanded to include all registered voters. One-stop sites were allowed during even numbered years for the General Election. The 2000 legislation stipulated more than one one-stop site per county may be made available. The use of one-stop voting during primary elections became effective in 2001.

The expanded use of one-stop voting has increased the number of voters who choose to vote at a one-stop location. The number of one-stop voters increased 600,000 comparing 2000 and 2004 General Election voters. Each county contains at least one one-stop site. A Primary Election requires fewer sites than the General Election. In 2004, counties used 137 Primary Election one-stop sites and 202 General Election sites. Total labor costs associated with one-stop sites in the 2004 General Election totaled \$1,069,913. It is anticipated that counties will spend approximately \$2.5 million on 2008 Primary and General Election one-stop sites. This figure includes additional one-stop sites to accommodate increased awareness of one-stop voting and an increase in voter turnout that occurs during Presidential elections. It is not known how many new one-stop sites will be available in 2008 due to the increased demand that will normally result.

The Legislature appropriated \$250,000 in non-recurring funds in 2000 and 2002 that were used to offset county expenses for one-stop voting.

Costs to the State Board of Elections:

Minimal costs can be absorbed in budget. Additional funding is not necessary.

Costs to Local Boards of Elections:

Counties pay for the majority of electoral costs, including hiring Election Day personnel, training costs, ballot printing, and facility rental fees. Two costs to counties, both related to personnel costs, are associated with this bill.

First, additional personnel at one-stop sites and additional staff at the local county offices will be needed. The State Board of Elections estimates that one to three additional laborers at each one-stop site will be required and cost between \$1,300 - \$1,500 per person. These additional laborers will be needed up to 19 days prior to an election. Each urban county may require an additional laborer to process mail and follow up on applications issues, and cost between \$2,600 - \$3,000 per person. This staff may be necessary for up 30 days following the election.

Second, it is estimated that 20 to 30 additional one-stop sites, primarily located in urban areas or near large university campuses, will be needed to meet the increased demand for one-stop voting

that occurs as a result of this bill. The costs to fully staff these additional sites are included in the estimate.

The fiscal impact of this bill is therefore estimated to be \$400,000 for the 2008 Primary Election and \$600,000 for the 2008 General Election.

Potential Sources of Funding:

The State Board of Elections has not spent Help America Vote Act (HAVA) and the required matching state appropriation for Maintenance of Effort (MOE) funds as quickly as required by the federal HAVA legislation. One-stop voting in which a presidential election is on the ballot is an allowable expense for HAVA and MOE funds. As a result, no General Fund appropriation will be necessary to appropriate funds for any 2008 one-stop voting purpose, including voter registration as required by this bill. The HAVA and MOE funds will be available for the 2008 Primary and General Elections, but are anticipated to be expended prior to the 2012 elections. A General Fund appropriation or County appropriations will be necessary to fund one-stop voting beyond the 2008 elections.

SOURCES OF DATA: State Board of Elections

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910

PREPARED BY: Brian Reynolds and Amna Cameron

APPROVED BY: Lynn Muchmore, Director
Fiscal Research Division

DATE: April 3, 2007



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE BILL 91
Committee Substitute Favorable 3/22/07
Senate Select Committee on Government and Election Reform Committee
Substitute Adopted 6/4/07

Short Title: Registration and Voting at One-Stop Sites.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 8, 2007

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR IN-PERSON REGISTRATION AND VOTING AT
ONE-STOP ABSENTEE VOTING SITES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Article 7A of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes is amended
by adding a new section to read:

"§ 163-82.6A. In-person registration and voting at one-stop sites.

(a) Who May Register in Person. – In accordance with the provisions in this section, an individual who is qualified to register to vote may register in person and then vote at a one-stop voting site in the person's county of residence during the period for one-stop voting provided under G.S. 163-227.2. For purposes of this section, a one-stop voting site includes the county board of elections office, if that office is used for one-stop voting.

(b) Both Attestation and Proof of Residence Required. – To register and vote under this section, the person shall do both of the following:

(1) Complete a voter registration form as prescribed in G.S. 163-82.4, including the attestation requirement of G.S. 163-82.4(b) that the person meets each eligibility requirement. Such attestation is signed under penalty of a Class I felony under G.S. 163-275(13); and

(2) Provide proof of residence by presenting any of the following valid documents that show the person's current name and current residence address: a North Carolina drivers license, a photo identification from a government agency, or any of the documents listed in G.S. 163-166.12(a)(2). The State Board of Elections may designate additional documents or methods that suffice and shall prescribe procedures for establishing proof of residence.

1 (c) Voting With Retrievable Ballot. – A person who registers under this section
2 shall vote a retrievable absentee ballot as provided in G.S. 163-227.2 immediately after
3 registering. If a person declines to vote immediately, the registration shall be processed,
4 and the person may later vote at a one-stop voting site under this section in the same
5 election.

6 (d) Verification of Registration; Counting of Ballot. – Within two business days
7 of the person's registration under this section, the county board of elections in
8 conjunction with the State Board of Elections shall verify the North Carolina drivers
9 license or Social Security number in accordance with G.S. 163-82.12, update the
10 statewide registration database and search for possible duplicate registrations, and
11 proceed under G.S. 163-82.7 to verify the person's address. The person's vote shall be
12 counted unless the county board determines that the applicant is not qualified to vote in
13 accordance with the provisions of this Chapter.

14 (e) Change of Registration at One-Stop Voting Site. – A person who is already
15 registered to vote in the county may update the information in the registration record in
16 accordance with procedures prescribed by the State Board of Elections, but an
17 individual's party affiliation may not be changed during the one-stop voting period
18 before any first or second partisan primary in which the individual is eligible to vote."

19 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 163-82.6(c) reads as rewritten:

20 "(c) Registration Deadlines for an Election. – In order to be valid for an election,
21 except as provided in G.S. 163-82.6A, the form:

- 22 (1) If submitted by mail, must be postmarked at least 25 days before the
23 election, except that any mailed application on which the postmark is
24 missing or unclear is validly submitted if received in the mail not later
25 than 20 days before the election,
- 26 (2) If submitted in person, by facsimile transmission, or by transmission of
27 a scanned document, must be received by the county board of elections
28 by a time established by that board, but no earlier than 5:00 P.M., on
29 the twenty-fifth day before the election,
- 30 (3) If submitted through a delegatee who violates the duty set forth in
31 subsection (a) of this section, must be signed by the applicant and
32 given to the delegatee not later than 25 days before the election, except
33 as provided in subsection (d) of this section."

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

35 "(a) Any voter eligible to vote by absentee ballot under G.S. 163-226 may request
36 an application for absentee ballots, complete the application, and vote under the
37 provisions of this ~~section~~ section and of G.S. 163-82.6A, as applicable."

38 **SECTION 4.** The State Board of Elections shall monitor the implementation
39 of this act and determine the feasibility and timetable for expanding same-day
40 registration and voting to all voting places on Election Day. The State Board shall report
41 its findings no later than March 1, 2009, to the Joint Legislative Commission on
42 Governmental Operations of the General Assembly.

43 **SECTION 5.** Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this act become effective July 1, 2007,
44 and shall apply to all primaries and elections held on or after that date, except that if this

1 act is given preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act later than August 15,
2 2007, this act shall not apply to registration and voting for a primary or election held
3 before October 3, 2007, and if this act is given preclearance later than September 15,
4 2007, this act shall not apply to registration and voting for a primary or election held
5 before November 7, 2007. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

June 5, 2007

E. Travis Davis
Harkers Island Sanitary District
PO Box 190
Harkers Island, NC 28531

Dear Mr. Davis:

In reviewing our information for the upcoming 2007 November elections, we have found that we do not have a resolution on file to conduct absentee voting for Harkers Island. Although we do have a contract on file directing the Carteret County Board of Elections to conduct the elections for the Harkers Island Sanitary District Board, a separate resolution regarding absentee voting must also accompany this agreement.

For your review, I have enclosed a copy of a resolution passed by a municipal board as an example. Please have your board address this issue as soon as possible so that we will be in compliance prior to the upcoming absentee period.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Henderson, Chairman

Lindy Lewis, Director

/lrl