

Session 124 - (2021-2022)

H 4255 General Bill, By Long, Erickson, Herbkersman, Bradley and W. Newton

Summary: Elections - Various Ballot Integrity Initiatives

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 7-5-35 SO AS TO ENUMERATE CERTAIN SECURITY-RELATED REQUIREMENTS TO SAFEGUARD THE VOTING PROCESS, EQUIPMENT, AND BALLOTS; TO AMEND SECTION 7-3-20, RELATING TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, SO AS TO REQUIRE THE COMPLETE MASTER FILE OF ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS TO BE AUDITED BIENNIALLY; TO AMEND SECTION 7-5-675, RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS, SO AS TO REQUIRE VOTER REGISTRATION CARDS TO CONTAIN CERTAIN ADDITIONAL SECURITY-RELATED FEATURES; TO AMEND SECTION 7-13-1160, RELATING TO THE REPORTING OF ELECTION RESULTS TO THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT ONLY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION MAY RELEASE UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS TO THE PUBLIC, AND THAT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION MAY NOT RELEASE UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS UNTIL ALL UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS STATEWIDE HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION; TO AMEND SECTION 7-13-1640, RELATING TO VOTING MACHINE REQUIREMENTS, SO AS TO REQUIRE VOTING MACHINES TO CONTAIN CERTAIN ADDITIONAL SECURITY-RELATED FEATURES; TO AMEND SECTION 7-25-20, RELATING TO FRAUDULENT REGISTRATION OR VOTING, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, PROHIBIT THE GRANTING OF BAIL TO PERSONS CHARGED WITH VOTER FRAUD, AND TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM SENTENCE FOR PERSONS CONVICTED OF VOTER FRAUD; AND TO AMEND SECTION 7-25-180, RELATING TO THE UNLAWFUL DISTRIBUTION OF CAMPAIGN LITERATURE, SO AS TO PROHIBIT JOURNALISTS OR OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NEWS MEDIA FROM COMING WITHIN TWO HUNDRED YARDS OF A POLLING PLACE EXCEPT TO VOTE.

04/22/21 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 32)

04/22/21 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 32)

06/21/21 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Erickson, Herbkersman, Bradley, W.Newton