- 1 HB41
- 2 164390-2
- 3 By Representatives Standridge and Shedd
- 4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections
- 5 First Read: 03-MAR-15
- 6 PFD: 02/18/2015

1	<u>ENGROSSED</u>
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	Relating to elections; to amend Section 17-9-13,
9	Code of Alabama 1975, to require an election official to allow
10	a voter who is physically disabled or over the age of 70 to
11	move to the front of the line at a polling place if the voter
12	so requests.
13	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
14	Section 1. Section 17-9-13, Code of Alabama 1975, is
15	amended to read as follows:
16	" §17-9-13.
17	"(a) Any person who wishes assistance in voting may
18	receive assistance from any person the voter chooses except
19	the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer
20	or agent of the voter's union. The voter is not required to
21	state a reason for requesting assistance. To obtain
22	assistance, the voter must specifically request assistance by
23	naming the person from whom assistance is sought and by
24	signing in the appropriate column of the voters' poll list.
25	The person providing assistance shall legibly sign in the
26	adjacent column on the same line as the assisted voter's name.
27	By signing the poll list, the assistant shall certify that he

1 or she is not the voter's employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the voter's union. If the voter is unable to sign the poll list, the person giving assistance 3 shall write the voter's name in the appropriate column and then sign his or her own name in the third column.

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"(b) Any voter remaining in a voting station, including, but not limited to, a voting machine, table, booth, or device that permits a voter to complete a ballot in privacy, for four minutes or longer may be asked by a poll official if he or she requires assistance. At the same time, the voter shall be reminded that he or she has the right to have the assistance of any other person as permitted by law in this section, and that the poll officials may assist the voter if he or she so desires. If the voter does not desire assistance, the voter shall be permitted to remain in the voting station for no less than one additional minute. At the end of this additional minute, and if there exists a line of individuals waiting to vote, the voter may be informed that time is up and be asked to leave. If there is no line, the voter shall have as much time as necessary to finish voting. If the voter does request assistance, the voter may have the assistance of any person of his or her choosing currently in the voting place, as permitted by law in this section, and may have no less than an additional five minutes to vote. At the end of this additional five minutes, and if there exists a line of individuals waiting to vote, the voter may be informed that the time is up and be asked to leave the voting station.

1	If there is no line, the voter shall have as much time as
2	necessary to finish voting. Before an assigned voter exits the
3	voting place, the voters' poll list must be revised to reflect
4	that assistance was received.
5	"(c) An election official shall allow any voter who
6	is physically disabled or over the age of 70, who so requests,
7	to move to the front of the line at the polling place.
8	" (c) (d) This section applies to general, primary,
9	and special elections."
10	(e) The Chief election official at each polling
11	place shall post a public notice at each polling place
12	explaining physically disabled voters or voters over the age
13	of 70 are allowed, upon their request, to move to the front of
14	the line at the polling place.
15	Section 2. This act shall become effective on the

first day of the third month following its passage and

approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives	
4 5 6 7	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on Constitution, Campaigns and Elections	03-MAR-15
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9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 1 amendment	11-MAR-15
12 13	Read for the third time and passed as amended	31-MAR-15
14	Yeas 94, Nays 0, Abstains 2	
15 16	Jeff Woodard	
17 18	Clerk	