

HB59 INTRODUCED



1 HB59
2 K8PW555-1
3 By Representative Jackson
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections
5 First Read: 04-Feb-25
6 PFD: 07-Nov-24



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SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, a voter in Alabama may vote only on election day unless he or she has an excuse to vote by absentee ballot.

This bill would require each county to provide at least one early voting center to be open during the week immediately preceding election day, which would allow registered voters to vote prior to election day.

This bill would prescribe the hours of operation for each early voting center.

This bill would clarify that this act does not impair or affect the powers and duties of boards of registrars, judges of probate, and other election officials.

This bill would also require the Secretary of State to adopt rules.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to elections; to require each county to provide at least one early voting center to be open during the week immediately preceding election day to allow registered



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29 voters to vote prior to election day; to prescribe the hours
30 of operation for each early voting center; and to clarify that
31 this act does not impair or affect the powers and duties of
32 boards of registrars, judges of probate, and other election
33 officials.

34 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

35 Section 1. (a) As used in this section, "early voting
36 center" means a location where registered voters may vote not
37 less than four days nor more than six days during the one-week
38 period immediately preceding election day.

39 (b) The governing body of each county shall designate
40 and provide at least one early voting center. If a governing
41 body designates more than one, the governing body shall have
42 the sole authority to configure boundaries for each early
43 voting center in the county. The governing body shall
44 determine the days an early voting center may be open for
45 early voting; provided, however, an early voting center shall
46 be open not less than four days nor more than six days during
47 the one-week period immediately preceding election day. Hours
48 of operation for each early voting center shall be as follows:

49 (1) On weekdays and Saturdays, early voting centers
50 shall be open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

51 (2) On Sundays, early voting centers shall be open 1:00
52 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

53 (c) Any registered voter may vote in the appropriate
54 early voting center located in his or her county.

55 (d) Nothing in this section shall impair or affect the
56 powers and duties of boards of registrars, judges of probate,



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57 and other election officials under Title 17, Code of Alabama
58 1975, nor shall it affect the procedures and requirements for
59 election day voting.

60 (e) The Secretary of State shall adopt rules for the
61 implementation and administration of this section.

62 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
63 1, 2025.