

1 HB579
2 97480-2
3 By Representatives Sherer, Ison, Gaston, Fincher and Guin
4 RFD: Constitution and Elections
5 First Read: 28-FEB-08

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize split shifts for
9 certain persons working at elections if determined
10 necessary by the judge of probate and would provide
11 for the conditions and compensation of the poll
12 workers.

13
14 A BILL
15 TO BE ENTITLED
16 AN ACT

17
18 To amend Section 17-8-1 of the Code of Alabama 1975,
19 relating to the appointment of election officers, to authorize
20 certain poll workers under certain conditions to work split
21 shifts and to provide for their compensation.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. Section 17-8-1 of the Code of Alabama
24 1975, is amended to read as follows:

25 "§17-8-1.

26 "(a) The appointing board, or a majority of them
27 acting as an appointing board, not more than 20 nor less than

1 15 days before the holding of any election in their county,
2 shall appoint from the qualified electors of the respective
3 precinct, necessary precinct election officials, which shall
4 include at least one inspector, to act at each voting place in
5 each precinct. The appointing board may appoint the number of
6 precinct election officials necessary for each precinct,
7 provided that, absent consent of the county commission, the
8 total number of precinct election officials appointed in a
9 county shall not exceed the total number of precinct election
10 officials who were paid by the county for the general election
11 held November 2004. In the event that the number of precincts
12 or voting places utilized in an election within a county is
13 increased or decreased, the total number of officials who may
14 be appointed without consent of the county commission shall be
15 increased or decreased proportionately based upon the average
16 number of workers utilized in each precinct or polling place
17 within the county. In the event that the county changes voting
18 equipment from that used in the November 2004 election, the
19 total number of precinct election officials the appointing
20 board may appoint shall be the average number of precinct
21 election officials per precinct or polling place utilized
22 statewide for the general election held in November 2004,
23 multiplied by the number of precincts or polling places in the
24 county changing voting equipment; provided, however, that the
25 number of precinct election officials appointed for any
26 precinct in the county may be increased with the consent of
27 the county commission. Members of a candidate's immediate

1 family to the second degree of kinship by affinity or
2 consanguinity and any member of a candidate's principal
3 campaign committee are not eligible for appointment.

4 "(b) The precinct election officials shall have the
5 following duties:

6 "(1) The inspector shall be in charge of the voting
7 place and shall serve as returning officer for the voting
8 place.

9 "(2) The registration list clerk shall check the
10 name of voters against the list of registered voters and mark
11 off the names of those who vote in order to prevent double
12 voting. If any person whose name does not appear on the list
13 of registered voters is permitted to vote by means of a
14 certificate as provided in Section 17-10-3, or by means of a
15 provisional ballot as provided in Sections 17-10-1 and
16 17-10-2, the registration list clerk shall legibly print the
17 name and address on the list of registered voters, mark
18 through the name to indicate that the person has voted, and
19 record by the name whether the person voted by certificate,
20 with source and date, or by provisional ballot.

21 "(3) The poll list clerk shall ensure that each
22 voter signs the poll list as provided in Sections 17-9-15 and
23 17-13-7. A clerk shall print the voter's name on the poll list
24 or a duplicate list so that the signature can be identified.
25 The poll list clerk shall give a ballot to the voter with the
26 stub attached to the ballot pad. Ballots shall be given out in
27 sequence beginning with the lowest numbered ballot.

1 "(4) The ballot clerk, upon the request of a voter,
2 shall assist the voter as necessary to deposit the ballot in
3 the precinct ballot counter.

4 "(c) Any person who is compensated for working at
5 the polls during any returning, other than an election officer
6 appointed under subsection (a), may work on a split shift
7 schedule if determined necessary by the judge of probate. Each
8 portion of a split shift shall consist of not less than six
9 consecutive hours of work and the worker shall be paid
10 one-half of the per day compensation provided for by general
11 or local law in the county."

12 Section 2. This act shall become effective
13 immediately following its passage and approval by the
14 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.