

HOUSE BILL 206

By Leatherwood

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 2, relative to voter registration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) A qualified voter may register or have the voter's registration altered at the commission office at any time the office is open, except that applications for registration must not be processed for twenty-nine (29) days before the first day of early voting for an election, except as provided in subsection (b); provided, that a qualified voter may file a mail registration form by postmarking the registration form or submitting the registration form thirty (30) days before the first day of early voting for an election. A mail registration form lacking a postmark, but signed and dated at least thirty (30) days before the first day of early voting for an election, shall be timely filed if it is received by the county election commission no later than the twenty-seventh day prior to the early voting period. A qualified voter may correct a deficient but timely filed mail registration form if the voter files a completed registration application or otherwise corrects the deficiency on or before the next regularly scheduled November general election. The administrator of elections shall register the person to vote if the person is otherwise eligible to register. Deficient registrations not corrected on or before the next regularly scheduled November general election must no longer be considered deficient and are void. The administrator may update an existing registration until no later than five (5) days before an election to place it within the correct precinct in the county when a voter changes the voter's address through the process described in § 2-7-140.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109(b), is amended by deleting the language "an election" and substituting instead the language "the first day of early voting for an election".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109, is amended by deleting subsection (c) and substituting instead the following:

(c) When elections are being held in two (2) or more voting districts within any county, the time period for such registration or alteration of permanent registration records must be calculated for each election separately, and such registration or alteration of permanent registration records is not prohibited in one (1) election because the first day of early voting for the election is twenty-nine (29) days prior to the first day of another early voting period within the same county.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.