

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 48th Legislature (2002)

SENATE BILL 924

By: Laughlin

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to elections; authorizing the State Election Board to prescribe a statement known as the Voter's Bill of Rights; stating contents; requiring the State Election Board to provide certain information in specified form to each precinct; providing for codification; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 7-103.1 of Title 26, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The State Election Board shall prescribe a statement of the rights of a voter in Oklahoma that shall be known as the "Voter's Bill of Rights".

B. The statement prescribed in subsection A of this section must contain the following:

1. A statement of the qualifications that an individual must meet to vote in Oklahoma, including qualifications relating to registration;

2. A statement informing the voter that every registered voter who is present at the polling place anytime between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on election day is entitled to vote;

3. A statement describing the Oklahoma primary system;

4. A statement describing the circumstances that permit a voter who has moved from the precinct where the voter is registered to return to that precinct to vote;

5. A statement that an individual who meets the qualifications and circumstances listed in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection may vote in the election;

6. A statement informing the voter what assistance is available to assist the voter at the polls;

7. A statement informing the voter what circumstances will spoil the voter's ballot and the procedures available for the voter to request a new ballot;

8. A statement describing election day prohibitions;

9. A statement informing the voter what circumstances constitute voter fraud; and

10. A statement stating the right to have non-discriminatory equal access to the elections system for all voters, including elderly, disabled, minority, military and overseas citizens.

B. The State Election Board shall have printed, in type large enough to be easily visible to voters entering the polling place, a poster at least twenty-four (24) inches by thirty-six (36) inches containing the Voter's Bill of Rights. The Board shall provide not less than two posters for each voting precinct for each election.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2002.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.