

An Act

ENROLLED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1865

By: Roberts of the House

and

Bergstrom of the Senate

An Act relating to elections; amending Section 1, Chapter 291, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-104.1), which relates to paper ballots; directing for ballots to be printed in advance of election; permitting certain additional ballots be printed; clarifying does not apply to printing or marking of ballots for certain persons; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 7-104, which relates to hours for voting; clarifying applicability to county election board; directing that voter appear at assigned polling place; prohibiting voting centers; clarifying voting centers; providing exception; clarifying subprecincts are not prohibited; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

SUBJECT: Elections

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 291, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-104.1), is amended to read as follows:

Section 6-104.1. A. All ballots used for any election shall be printed on paper to ensure a fair and accurate count; provided, each precinct polling place and in-person absentee voting location shall provide a means for any voter who requires assistance by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write to cast a ballot privately and independently, in a manner to be determined by the Secretary of the State Election Board.

B. 1. Ballots for each election day precinct shall be printed in advance of the date of the election. Provided, the Secretary of the State Election Board may authorize the printing of additional ballots on election day in the event of a ballot shortage or due to an emergency or unforeseen circumstance as described in Section 22-101 of this title.

2. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the printing or marking of ballots for persons with blindness, disability, or inability to read or write as provided in subsection A of this section.

SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 7-104, is amended to read as follows:

Section 7-104. A. At every Primary, Runoff Primary and General Election and any other election conducted by a county election board, each polling place in the state shall open at 7:00 a.m. and shall remain open continuously until 7:00 p.m., and every registered voter of a precinct who presents himself or herself between said hours shall be entitled to vote, as provided by law, provided further, all qualified voters who are in line waiting to vote at 7:00 p.m. shall be allowed to vote.

B. 1. A registered voter wishing to vote on election day shall appear at the polling place for his or her assigned precinct.

2. Neither the State Election Board nor any county election board shall utilize vote centers for voting on election day. For the purposes of this section, "vote center" means a place where any voter in the entire jurisdiction can vote on election day, regardless of the voter's precinct assignment. Provided, an exception to this requirement may be authorized for a county election board by the Secretary of the State Election Board in the event of an emergency as described in Section 22-101 of this title. The emergency use of a countywide vote center must be limited to the precincts directly impacted by the emergency.

3. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the use of subprecincts as described in Section 3-119 of this title, nor shall it prohibit the assignment of precinct officials to serve more than one precinct, if authorized by law, if the precincts share the same election day polling place.

C. If any provision of federal law specifies hours for voting in federal elections, the Secretary of the State Election Board shall direct the county election boards to allow voting in all elections held on the same day as such federal elections during the hours specified by federal law.

SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or 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.

Passed the House of Representatives the 15th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

Passed the Senate the 7th day of May, 2025.

Presiding Officer of the Senate

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Received by the Office of the Governor this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____

Approved by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Governor of the State of Oklahoma

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Received by the Office of the Secretary of State this _____

day of _____, 20_____, at _____ o'clock _____ M.

By: _____