

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 24.2-310 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections; emergency*  
3 *procedures.*

4 [H 1000]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 24.2-310 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

## 8 § 24.2-310. Requirements for polling places.

9 A. The polling place for each precinct shall be located within the county or city and either within the  
10 precinct or within one mile of the precinct boundary. The polling place for a county precinct may be  
11 located within a city if the city is wholly contained within the county election district served by the  
12 precinct. The polling place for a town precinct may be located within one mile of the precinct and town  
13 boundary. For town elections held in November, the town shall use the polling places established by the  
14 county for its elections.

15 B. The governing body of each county, city, and town shall provide funds to enable the electoral  
16 board to provide adequate facilities at each polling place for the conduct of elections. Each polling place  
17 shall be located in a public building whenever practicable. If more than one polling place is located in  
18 the same building, each polling place shall be located in a separate room or separate and defined space.

19 C. Polling places shall be accessible to qualified voters as required by the provisions of the  
20 Virginians with Disabilities Act (§ 51.5-1 et seq.), the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and  
21 Handicapped Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973ee et seq.), and the Americans with Disabilities Act relating to  
22 public services (42 U.S.C. § 12131 et seq.). The State Board shall provide instructions to the local  
23 electoral boards and general registrars to assist the localities in complying with the requirements of the  
24 Acts.

25 D. If an emergency makes a polling place unusable or inaccessible, the electoral board shall provide  
26 an alternative polling place and give notice of the change in polling place, *including to all candidates,*  
27 *or such candidate's campaign, appearing on the ballot to be voted at the alternative polling place,*  
28 subject to the prior approval of the State Board. The electoral board shall provide notice to the voters  
29 appropriate to the circumstances of the emergency. *For the purposes of this subsection, an "emergency"*  
30 *means a rare and unforeseen combination of circumstances, or the resulting state, that calls for*  
31 *immediate action.*

32 E. It shall be permissible to distribute campaign materials on the election day on the property on  
33 which a polling place is located and outside of the building containing the polling place except as  
34 specifically prohibited by law including, without limitation, the prohibitions of § 24.2-604 and the  
35 establishment of the "Prohibited Area" within 40 feet of the entrance to a polling place.

36 F. Any local government, local electoral board, or the State Board may make monetary grants to any  
37 non-governmental entity furnishing facilities under the provisions of § 24.2-307 or 24.2-308 for use as a  
38 polling place. Such grants shall be made for the sole purpose of meeting the accessibility requirements  
39 of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to obligate any local government, local  
40 electoral board, or the State Board to appropriate funds to any non-governmental entity.

ENROLLED

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