

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1997 RECONVENED SESSION

CHAPTER 915

An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 24.2-651.1, relating to procedures for voting at the polls; certain challenged votes; voter identification.

[S 171]

Approved April 19, 1997

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 24.2-651.1 as follows:

§ 24.2-651.1. Voter who is shown as having already voted; challenge and procedure for voting; voter identification.

The officers of election shall challenge the vote of any person who offers to vote, who is listed on the precinct registered voter list, and whose name is marked to indicate that he has already voted in person in the election.

When the person is challenged, an officer shall explain to him the basis for the challenge. If the person being challenged states that he has not voted and is qualified, an officer shall ask the voter to present one of the following forms of identification: his Commonwealth of Virginia voter registration card, his social security card, any preprinted form of identification which shows his name and address, any preprinted form of identification which shows his name and signature, or any preprinted form of identification which shows his name and photograph.

If the person presents the requested form of identification showing him to be the person listed on the precinct registered voter list, an officer of election shall give him the form set out in § 24.2-651 for the person to sign subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016.

If the person challenged refuses to sign the statement, he shall not be permitted to vote. If, however, he signs the statement, he shall be permitted to vote on the voting system in use at the precinct.

When the voter has shown the requested identification, has signed the statement, and is permitted to vote, the officers of election shall mark the precinct registered voter lists and shall indicate that the person has signed the required statement in accordance with the instructions of the State Board of Elections.