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HOUSE BILL NO. 940

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled January 9, 2024

A BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-306 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections administration; change to location of polling place; additional notice requirement.

Patrons—Shin, Anthony and Bennett-Parker

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 24.2-306 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 24.2-306. Changes not to be enacted within 60 days of general election; notice requirements.**

A. No change in any local election district, precinct, or polling place shall be enacted within 60 days next preceding any general election. Notice shall be published prior to enactment in a newspaper having general circulation in the election district or precinct once a week for two successive weeks. The published notice shall state where descriptions and maps of proposed boundary and polling place changes may be inspected.

B. Notice of any adopted change in any election district, town, precinct, or polling place other than in the location of the office of the general registrar shall be mailed to all registered voters whose election district, town, precinct, or polling place is changed at least 15 days prior to the next general, special, or primary election in which the voters will be voting in the changed election district, town, precinct, or polling place.

Notice of a change in the location of a polling place shall also be posted at the location last used for such polling place on the day of the first primary election and first general election conducted in the new location. This notice shall also include information for voters to find the correct polling place.

Notice of a change in the location of the office of the general registrar shall be given by posting on the official website of the county or city, by posting at not less than 10 public places, or by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or city within not more than 21 days in advance of the change or within seven days following the change.

C. Each county, city, and town shall comply with the applicable requirements of law, including §§ 24.2-304.3 and 30-395, and send copies of enacted changes, including a Geographic Information System (GIS) map showing the new boundaries of the districts or precincts, to the local electoral board, the Department, and the Division of Legislative Services. Any county, city, or town that does not have GIS capabilities may request the Department of Elections to create on its behalf a GIS map showing the boundaries of the new districts or precincts, and the Department of Elections shall create such a map.

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