



Sen. Terry Link

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LRB100 18831 MJP 38876 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 2821

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 2821 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Election Code is amended by adding Section
5 1-17 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/1-17 new)

7 Sec. 1-17. Vote centers.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Board" means:

10 (1) the board of election commissioners; or

11 (2) if no board of election commissioners exists, the
12 county board for the county coterminous with the election
13 jurisdiction.

14 "Vote center" means a polling place where a voter who
15 resides in the county in which the vote center is located may
16 vote without regard to which precinct the voter resides in.

1 (b) A board may establish vote centers in an election
2 jurisdiction by doing the following:

3 (1) the board shall hold an initial public hearing
4 where a draft plan shall be presented by the election
5 authority for administration of vote centers in the
6 election jurisdiction;

7 (2) after presentation of the draft plan, the board
8 shall accept written public comments for at least 14 days;

9 (3) at least 14 days after presentation of the draft
10 plan, the board shall hold a final public hearing to
11 consider the draft plan, the written public comments, and
12 any other public comment that the board may permit on the
13 draft plan; the most frequently submitted public comments
14 and questions must be addressed at this hearing, and posted
15 online by the board;

16 (4) after consideration of the draft plan and the
17 public comments, the board may:

18 (A) vote to adopt an order approving the draft
19 plan; or

20 (B) amend the draft plan and then vote to adopt an
21 order approving the amended draft plan.

22 The board may adopt the order to approve a plan by a
23 three-fifths vote of the board. The order and adopted plan must
24 be filed with the State Board of Elections and made available
25 to the public.

26 Following the adoption of a plan establishing vote centers

1 by three-fifths vote of the board, the election authority may
2 submit a revised draft plan to the board. In order to adopt the
3 revised draft plan, the board shall consider the plan according
4 to subsections (1) through (4), unless the revised plan changes
5 only the location of vote centers in the jurisdiction. If the
6 revised plan changes the location of vote centers and makes no
7 other changes to the existing plan, then the board may adopt
8 the new plan with a three-fifths vote at its meeting without
9 requiring the public comment period described in subsections
10 (2) and (3).

11 (c) The plan required by subsection (b) must include the
12 following:

13 (1) The total number of vote centers to be established.

14 (2) The location of each vote center.

15 (3) The total number of voters within the election
16 jurisdiction.

17 (4) The number of active voters within the election
18 jurisdiction.

19 (5) The number of inactive voters within the election
20 jurisdiction.

21 (6) For each vote center designated under paragraph
22 (2):

23 (A) a description of how the vote center will
24 ensure every ballot style appearing in the
25 jurisdiction will be available to voters at the vote
26 center; and

1 (B) certification that at least 3 poll workers will
2 be present at each vote center on election day.

3 (7) A certification that the proposed vote centers are
4 accessible to disabled voters and comply with the
5 accessibility requirements applicable to polling places.

6 (8) The total number and locations of early voting
7 locations to be established at vote center locations
8 designated under paragraph (2).

9 (9) A plan to educate voters on the transition to vote
10 centers.

11 (10) A plan and allocation request to send a one-time
12 vote by mail application to all registered voters prior to
13 the first election where vote centers are used.

14 (11) Consideration of the following accommodations for
15 accessibility and placement:

16 (A) vote center proximity to public
17 transportation;

18 (B) vote center proximity to communities with
19 historically low vote by mail usage;

20 (C) vote center location proximity to population
21 centers;

22 (D) vote center proximity to language minority
23 communities;

24 (E) vote center proximity to voters with
25 disabilities;

26 (F) vote center location proximity to low-income

1 communities;

2 (G) vote center proximity to communities of
3 eligible voters who are not registered to vote and may
4 need access to same day voter registration; and

5 (H) proximity to accessible and free parking at
6 vote centers.

7 (d) Except as provided otherwise in this subsection, a plan
8 must provide a vote center for use by voters residing within
9 the election jurisdiction for use in a primary election,
10 general election, special election, municipal primary, or
11 municipal election conducted on or after the effective date of
12 the board's order.

13 (1) The plan must provide for at least one vote center
14 for each 7,500 active voters who are eligible to vote in
15 the election in which the vote centers are used.

16 (2) In addition to the vote centers designated in
17 paragraph (1), the plan must provide for a vote center for
18 any remaining fraction of 7,500 active voters who are
19 eligible to vote in the election in which the vote centers
20 are used.

21 (e) Before adopting an order establishing vote centers in
22 an election jurisdiction in accordance with this Section, the
23 election authority must determine that:

24 (1) the secure electronic connection at each vote
25 center is sufficient to prevent:

26 (A) any voter from voting more than once; and

1 (B) unauthorized access by any person to the
2 computerized list of voters in the election
3 jurisdiction;

4 (2) the planned design and location of the equipment
5 and precinct officers will provide the most efficient
6 access for:

7 (A) voters to enter the polls, cast their ballots,
8 and leave the vote center; and

9 (B) precinct election officials, watchers,
10 challengers, and poll book holders to exercise their
11 and perform their duties within the vote center;

12 (3) the planned design does not have a
13 disproportionately negative effect on racial or language
14 minority voters, based on 52 U.S.C. 10301; and

15 (4) the planned design includes one vote center per
16 each 7,500 voters eligible to vote in the election on
17 Election Day, and one vote center per each 10,000
18 registered voters eligible to vote in the election for at
19 least 8 hours on each of the 3 days before election day;
20 and

21 (5) distributes the vote centers equitably across the
22 jurisdiction so as to afford maximally convenient options
23 for voters.

24 (f) Except as provided in subsection (h) or as specified
25 otherwise by the board, an order establishing vote centers in
26 an election jurisdiction in accordance with subsection (b)

1 takes effect immediately upon the filing of the order with the
2 State Board of Elections, after local approval. The State Board
3 of Elections shall publish the plan on its website once it is
4 filed.

5 (g) An order filed with the State Board of Elections in
6 accordance with subsection (b) during the final 60 days before
7 an election becomes effective on the day following the
8 election. An order filed with the State Board of Elections in
9 accordance with subsection (b) remains in effect until the
10 board, by a three-fifths vote, rescinds the order establishing
11 vote centers in the election jurisdiction and files a copy of
12 the document rescinding the order with the State Board of
13 Elections.

14 (h) Each election authority in a county with a vote center
15 and the State Board of Elections shall publish notice of the
16 location of each vote center. Each election authority shall
17 publish the location of the vote centers electronically on its
18 website, if the election authority has a website, as well as in
19 the manner prescribed for the publication of other polling
20 places under Article 12 of this Code. For the first election
21 after the establishment of vote centers under subsection (b),
22 the election authority shall mail to each voter a notice of the
23 vote center locations, and notice that the voter may vote in
24 person at any vote center in the election jurisdiction. The
25 notice shall also include information regarding which early
26 voting locations will also serve as election day vote centers.

1 (i) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the
2 election authority shall administer an election conducted at a
3 vote center in accordance with federal law, this Code, and the
4 plan adopted with the board's order under subsection (b).

5 (j) A vote center shall replace a polling place when used
6 on election day and shall serve as a temporary early voting
7 site before election day.

8 (k) This Section shall apply only to election jurisdictions
9 with less than 1,000,000 residents.

10 (l) Within 2 years of the adoption of a vote center plan
11 under this Section, the election jurisdiction shall hold public
12 meetings to consider revising the plan with the public's
13 input."