



## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

#### 2011 and 2012

##### HB5177

Introduced 2/8/2012, by Rep. Deborah Mell, Kelly M. Cassidy  
and Robyn Gabel

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/4-50  
10 ILCS 5/5-50  
10 ILCS 5/6-100  
10 ILCS 5/19A-15

Amends the Election Code. Extends the grace period for the registration of voters to until the 3rd day (now, the 7th day) before the primary or election. Provides that the period for early voting by personal appearance begins the 18th day (now, the 22nd day) before the election and extends through the 3rd day (now, the 5th day) before the election. Effective immediately.

LRB097 18973 PJG 64212 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing  
5 Sections 4-50, 5-50, 6-100, and 19A-15 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/4-50)

7 Sec. 4-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other  
8 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
9 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
10 for change of address during the period from the close of  
11 registration for a primary or election and until the 3rd ~~7th~~  
12 day before the primary or election. During this grace period,  
13 an unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
14 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
15 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
16 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
17 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
18 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
19 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
20 Article for registration and change of address.

21 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
22 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
23 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace

1 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
2 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
3 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
4 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
5 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article  
6 19.

7       Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
8 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
9 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as  
10 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall  
11 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
12 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
13 State and local political committees. The name of each person  
14 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the  
15 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early  
16 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9  
17 and 18-5.

18       A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be  
19 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
20 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
21 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
22 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
23 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
24 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
25 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
26 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which

1 the ballots were opened.

2 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

3 (10 ILCS 5/5-50)

4 Sec. 5-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other  
5 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
6 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
7 for change of address during the period from the close of  
8 registration for a primary or election and until the 3rd ~~7th~~  
9 day before the primary or election. During this grace period,  
10 an unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
11 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
12 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
13 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
14 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
15 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
16 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
17 Article for registration and change of address.

18 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
19 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
20 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace  
21 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
22 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
23 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
24 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
25 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article

1 19.

2 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
3 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
4 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as  
5 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall  
6 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
7 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
8 State and local political committees. The name of each person  
9 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the  
10 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early  
11 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9  
12 and 18-5.

13 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be  
14 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
15 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
16 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
17 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
18 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
19 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
20 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
21 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which  
22 the ballots were opened.

23 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

24 (10 ILCS 5/6-100)

25 Sec. 6-100. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other

1 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
2 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
3 for change of address during the period from the close of  
4 registration for a primary or election and until the 3rd ~~7th~~  
5 day before the primary or election. During this grace period,  
6 an unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
7 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
8 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
9 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
10 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
11 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
12 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
13 Article for registration and change of address.

14 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
15 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
16 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace  
17 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
18 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
19 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
20 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
21 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article  
22 19.

23 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
24 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
25 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as  
26 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall

1 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
2 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
3 State and local political committees. The name of each person  
4 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the  
5 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early  
6 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9  
7 and 18-5.

8 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be  
9 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
10 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
11 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
12 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
13 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
14 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
15 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
16 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which  
17 the ballots were opened.

18 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

19 (10 ILCS 5/19A-15)

20 Sec. 19A-15. Period for early voting; hours.

21 (a) The period for early voting by personal appearance  
22 begins the 18th ~~22nd~~ day preceding a general primary,  
23 consolidated primary, consolidated, or general election and  
24 extends through the 3rd ~~5th~~ day before election day.

25 (b) A permanent polling place for early voting must remain

1 open during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or 9:00 a.m.  
2 to 5:00 p.m., on weekdays and 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on  
3 Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays; except that, in addition to  
4 the hours required by this subsection, a permanent early voting  
5 polling place designated by an election authority under  
6 subsection (c) of Section 19A-10 must remain open for a total  
7 of at least 8 hours on any holiday during the early voting  
8 period and a total of at least 14 hours on the final weekend  
9 during the early voting period.

10 (c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), an election  
11 authority may close an early voting polling place if the  
12 building in which the polling place is located has been closed  
13 by the State or unit of local government in response to a  
14 severe weather emergency. In the event of a closure, the  
15 election authority shall conduct early voting on the 2nd day  
16 before election day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or 9:00 a.m. to  
17 5:00 p.m. The election authority shall notify the State Board  
18 of Elections of any closure and shall make reasonable efforts  
19 to provide notice to the public of the extended early voting  
20 period.

21 (Source: P.A. 96-637, eff. 1-1-10; 97-81, eff. 7-5-11.)

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
23 becoming law.