



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB6198

by Rep. Renée Kosel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/19A-15

Amends the Election Code. Provides that, when the religious holidays of Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday occur during the early voting period, an election authority may close an early voting place on those days, provided that the early voting place remains open 2 hours later on at least 2 weekdays during the final week of the early voting period. Provides that the election authority shall notify the State Board of Elections of any closure and shall provide notice to the public of the closure and the extended hours during the final week. Effective immediately.

LRB097 21601 PJG 69832 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 Section
5 19A-15 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/19A-15)

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

8 (a) The period for early voting by personal appearance
9 begins the 22nd day preceding a general primary, consolidated
10 primary, consolidated, or general election and extends through
11 the 5th day before election day.

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

22 (c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), an election
23 authority may close an early voting polling place if the

1 building in which the polling place is located has been closed
2 by the State or unit of local government in response to a
3 severe weather emergency. In the event of a closure, the
4 election authority shall conduct early voting on the 2nd day
5 before election day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or 9:00 a.m. to
6 5:00 p.m. The election authority shall notify the State Board
7 of Elections of any closure and shall make reasonable efforts
8 to provide notice to the public of the extended early voting
9 period.

10 (d) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), when the
11 religious holidays of Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter
12 Sunday occur during the early voting period, an election
13 authority may close an early voting place on those days,
14 provided that the early voting place remains open 2 hours later
15 on at least 2 weekdays during the final week of the early
16 voting period. The election authority shall notify the State
17 Board of Elections of any closure and shall provide notice to
18 the public of the closure and the extended hours during the
19 final week.

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

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