



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

SB3318

Introduced 2/19/2016, by Sen. Scott M. Bennett

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/1-25 new

Amends the Election Code. Provides that the election officials of McHenry, Champaign, Jackson, Adams, Logan, and McLean Counties may establish vote centers in lieu of precinct polling locations for the 2017 consolidated primary election, the 2017 consolidated election, the 2018 general primary election, and the 2018 general election. Establishes requirements for vote centers. Provides that the locations of the vote centers shall be approved by a majority vote of the county board in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Provides that the election authorities in the affected counties shall report the General Assembly the rate of voter turnout in the 2017 consolidated primary election, the 2017 consolidated election, the 2018 general primary election, and the 2018 general election, as well as the 2013 and 2015 consolidated elections and 2014 general elections, no later than June 1, 2017. Repeals this provision on January 1, 2018. Effective on January 1, 2017.

LRB099 20791 MLM 45476 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 adding Section  
5 1-25 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/1-25 new)

7 Sec. 1-25. Vote center pilot program.

8 (a) As used in this Section:

9 "Vote center" means a polling place where a voter who  
10 resides in the county in which the vote center is located  
11 may vote without regard to the precinct in which the voter  
12 resides.

13 (b) This Section applies to only McHenry, Champaign,  
14 Jackson, Adams, Logan, and McLean Counties.

15 (c) The purpose of this Section is to create a pilot  
16 program to determine whether vote centers could successfully be  
17 established for local and State elections to increase  
18 convenience of voting and thus increase voter turnout rates.

19 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the  
20 designated election officials of each of the counties in this  
21 Section may establish vote centers in lieu of precinct polling  
22 locations for the 2017 consolidated primary election, the 2017  
23 consolidated election, the 2018 general primary election, and

1 the 2018 general election. The number of vote centers to be  
2 established in each county shall be at least one vote center  
3 per 7,500 residents.

4 These counties shall not also use precinct polling places  
5 unless each precinct polling place has a secure electronic  
6 connection to provide voting information to and receive voting  
7 information from the computerized registration book.

8 The locations of the vote centers shall be approved by a  
9 majority vote of the county board in accordance with the Open  
10 Meetings Act.

11 Vote centers shall have available a sufficient amount of  
12 ballot styles for each precinct in the county.

13 (e) The election authority shall publish the location of  
14 the vote centers in the manner prescribed for the publication  
15 of other polling places under Article 12 of this Code. The  
16 county election authority shall mail to each voter a notice of  
17 the vote center locations and notice that the voter may vote in  
18 person at any vote center in the county. The notice shall also  
19 include information regarding which early voting locations  
20 will also serve as election day vote centers.

21 (f) Each vote center shall have access to an electronic  
22 connection capable of ensuring that no person is able to vote  
23 more than once in a single election.

24 (g) Each vote center shall meet all applicable federal and  
25 State laws, including the Help America Vote Act.

26 (h) The election authorities in the affected counties shall

1 report the General Assembly the rate of voter turnout in the  
2 2017 consolidated primary election, the 2017 consolidated  
3 election, the 2018 general primary election, and the 2018  
4 general election, as well as the 2013 and 2015 consolidated  
5 elections and 2014 general elections, no later than June 1,  
6 2019.

7 (i) This Section is repealed January 1, 2020.

8 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect January  
9 1, 2017.