

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
5 HOUSE BILL NO. 1865

By: Roberts of the House

6 and

7 Bergstrom of the Senate

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10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2021,
12 Section 4-120.4, which relates to convicted felons
13 and cancellation of voter registration; directing the
14 Secretary of the State Election Board to accept
15 notice from tribal court clerk; directing the
16 Secretary to cancel voter registration of persons
17 convicted of felonies in a tribal court; directing
18 the Secretary to notify appropriate county election
19 board of cancellation; amending Section 1, Chapter
20 291, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-
21 104.1), which relates to paper ballots; directing for
22 ballots to be printed in advance of election;
23 permitting certain additional ballots be printed;
24 clarifying does not apply to printing or marking of
 ballots for certain persons; amending 26 O.S. 2021,
 Section 7-104, which relates to hours for voting;
 clarifying applicability to county election board;
 directing that voter appear at assigned polling
 place; prohibiting voting centers; clarifying voting
 centers; providing exception; clarifying subprecincts
 are not prohibited; providing an effective date; and
 declaring an emergency.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

2 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 4-120.4, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 A. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall accept
5 written notice from the United States Attorney of persons convicted
6 of felonies in a district court of the United States. The Secretary
7 of the State Election Board shall cause the voter registrations of
8 persons listed in the written notice to be cancelled in the county
9 of the person's residence and shall notify the secretary of the
10 appropriate county election board of the cancellation.

11 B. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall accept
12 written notice from the tribal court clerk of a federally-recognized
13 tribe of persons convicted of felonies in a tribal court in the
14 United States. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall
15 cause the voter registrations of persons listed in the written
16 notice to be cancelled in the county of the person's residence and
17 shall notify the secretary of the appropriate county election board
18 of the cancellation.

19 C. The court clerk in each county shall prepare a list monthly
20 of all persons convicted in the county of a felony and shall
21 transmit the list to the secretary of the county election board.
22 The list shall include information necessary to identify a person on
23 the list as a registered voter prescribed by the Secretary of the
24 State Election Board. The secretary shall cancel the registration

1 of registered voters in the county included on the list. The
2 secretary of the county election board shall forward the names of
3 any persons on the list who are not residents of the county to the
4 Secretary of the State Election Board. The Secretary of the State
5 Election Board shall cause the voter registrations of persons from a
6 list who are forwarded to the Secretary to be cancelled in the
7 county of the person's residence.

8 E. D. The Secretary of the State Election Board, secretaries of
9 county election boards, and their agents and employees shall not be
10 held civilly liable for any action taken based upon information
11 concerning felony convictions received from a United States Attorney
12 or a county court clerk pursuant to subsections A and B of this
13 section if a reasonable effort was made to make an accurate match of
14 the information provided with voter registration records before
15 canceling any voter's registration.

16 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY Section 1, Chapter 291, O.S.L.
17 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2024, Section 6-104.1), is amended to read as
18 follows:

19 Section 6-104.1. A. All ballots used for any election shall be
20 printed on paper to ensure a fair and accurate count; provided, each
21 precinct polling place and in-person absentee voting location shall
22 provide a means for any voter who requires assistance by reason of
23 blindness, disability, or inability to read or write to cast a
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1 ballot privately and independently, in a manner to be determined by
2 the Secretary of the State Election Board.

3 B. 1. Ballots for each election day precinct shall be printed
4 in advance of the date of the election. Provided, the Secretary of
5 the State Election Board may authorize the printing of additional
6 ballots on election day in the event of a ballot shortage or due to
7 an emergency or unforeseen circumstance as described in Section 22-
8 101 of this title.

9 2. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the printing or
10 marking of ballots for persons with blindness, disability, or
11 inability to read or write as provided in subsection A of this
12 section.

13 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 7-104, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 7-104. A. At every Primary, Runoff Primary and General
16 Election and any other election conducted by a county election
17 board, each polling place in the state shall open at 7:00 a.m. and
18 shall remain open continuously until 7:00 p.m., and every registered
19 voter of a precinct who presents himself or herself between said
20 hours shall be entitled to vote, as provided by law, provided
21 further, all qualified voters who are in line waiting to vote at
22 7:00 p.m. shall be allowed to vote.

23 B. 1. A registered voter wishing to vote on election day shall
24 appear at the polling place for his or her assigned precinct.

1 2. Neither the State Election Board nor any county election
2 board shall utilize vote centers for voting on election day. For
3 the purposes of this section, "vote center" means a place where any
4 voter in the entire jurisdiction can vote on election day,
5 regardless of the voter's precinct assignment. Provided, an
6 exception to this requirement may be authorized for a county
7 election board by the Secretary of the State Election Board in the
8 event of an emergency as described in Section 22-101 of this title.
9 The emergency use of a countywide vote center must be limited to the
10 precincts directly impacted by the emergency.

11 3. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit the use of
12 subprecincts as described in Section 3-119 of this title, nor shall
13 it prohibit the assignment of precinct officials to serve more than
14 one precinct, if authorized by law, if the precincts share the same
15 election day polling place.

16 C. If any provision of federal law specifies hours for voting
17 in federal elections, the Secretary of the State Election Board
18 shall direct the county election boards to allow voting in all
19 elections held on the same day as such federal elections during the
20 hours specified by federal law.

21 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective July 1, 2025.

22 SECTION 5. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
23 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
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1 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
2 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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4 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT, dated
02/26/2025 - DO PASS, As Amended.