

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 641

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to meet notification requirements for voters affected by polling place changes, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Mr. BROWN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

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## A BILL

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require States to meet notification requirements for voters affected by polling place changes, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Polling Change Aware-  
5 ness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MINIMUM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VOT-**  
2 **ERS AFFECTED BY POLLING PLACE**  
3 **CHANGES.**

4 (a) REQUIREMENTS.—Section 302 of the Help Amer-  
5 ica Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
7 section (e); and

8 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
9 lowing new subsection:

10 “(d) MINIMUM NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR  
11 VOTERS AFFECTED BY POLLING PLACE CHANGES.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If a State assigns an indi-  
13 vidual who is a registered voter in a State to a poll-  
14 ing place with respect to an election for Federal of-  
15 fice which is not the same polling place to which the  
16 individual was previously assigned with respect to  
17 the most recent election for Federal office in the  
18 State in which the individual was eligible to vote—

19 “(A) the State shall notify the individual of  
20 the location of the polling place not later than  
21 7 days before the date of the election or the  
22 first day of an early voting period (whichever  
23 occurs first); or

24 “(B) if the State makes such an assign-  
25 ment fewer than 7 days before the date of the  
26 election and the individual appears on the date

1 of the election at the polling place to which the  
2 individual was previously assigned, the State  
3 shall make every reasonable effort to enable the  
4 individual to vote on the date of the election.

5 “(2) METHODS OF NOTIFICATION.—The State  
6 shall notify an individual under subparagraph (A) of  
7 paragraph (1) by mail, telephone, and (if available)  
8 text message and electronic mail.

9 “(3) PLACEMENT OF SIGNS AT CLOSED POLL-  
10 ING PLACES.—If a location which served as a polling  
11 place in an election for Federal office does not serve  
12 as a polling place in the next election for Federal of-  
13 fice held in the jurisdiction involved, the State shall  
14 ensure that signs are posted at such location on the  
15 date of the election and during any early voting pe-  
16 riod for the election containing the following infor-  
17 mation:

18 “(A) A statement that the location is not  
19 serving as a polling place in the election.

20 “(B) The locations serving as polling  
21 places in the election in the jurisdiction in-  
22 volved.

23 “(C) Contact information, including a tele-  
24 phone number and website, for the appropriate  
25 State or local election official through which an

1 individual may find the polling place to which  
2 the individual is assigned for the election.

3 “(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall  
4 apply with respect to elections held on or after Janu-  
5 ary 1, 2022.”.

6 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 302(e) of  
7 such Act (52 U.S.C. 21082(e)), as redesignated by sub-  
8 section (a), is amended by striking “Each State” and in-  
9 serting “Except as provided in subsection (d)(4), each  
10 State”.

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