

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3600

To enforce the guarantees of the first, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States by prohibiting certain devices used to deny the right to participate in certain elections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2007

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

A BILL

To enforce the guarantees of the first, fourteenth, and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States by prohibiting certain devices used to deny the right to participate in certain elections.

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 “Voter Freedom Act
5 of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. BALLOT ACCESS RIGHTS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall have the right
8 to be placed as a candidate on, and to have such individ-

1 ual's political party, body, or group affiliation in connec-
2 tion with such candidacy placed on, a ballot or similar vot-
3 ing materials to be used in a Congressional election, if—

4 (1) such individual presents a petition stating
5 in substance that its signers desire such individual's
6 name and political party, body or group affiliation,
7 if any, to be placed on the ballot or other similar
8 voting materials to be used in the election with re-
9 spect to which such rights are to be exercised;

10 (2) such petition has at least 1,000 signatures
11 of persons who are registered to vote in the district,
12 or, if the State in which the district is located does
13 not provide for voter registration, such petition must
14 bear the signatures of at least 1,000 persons who
15 are eligible to vote in that State and that district;

16 (3) with respect to an election the date of which
17 was fixed 345 or more days in advance, such peti-
18 tion was circulated during a period beginning on the
19 345th day and ending on the 75th day before the
20 date of the election; and

21 (4) with respect to an election the date of which
22 was fixed less than 345 days in advance, such peti-
23 tion was circulated during a period established by
24 the State holding the election, or, if no such period
25 was established, during a period beginning on the

1 day after the date the election was scheduled and
2 ending on the thirtieth day before the date of the
3 election.

4 (b) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Subsection (a) shall not
5 apply with respect to any State that provides by law for
6 greater ballot access rights than the ballot access rights
7 provided for under such subsection.

8 **SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.**

9 The Attorney General shall make rules to carry out
10 this Act.

11 **SEC. 4. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.**

12 As used in this Act—

13 (1) the term “Congressional election” means a
14 general or special election for the office of Rep-
15 resentative in, or Delegate or Resident Commis-
16 sioner to, the Congress;

17 (2) the term “State” means a State of the
18 United States, the District of Columbia, the Com-
19 monwealth of Puerto Rico, and any other territory
20 or possession of the United States;

21 (3) the term “individual” means an individual
22 who has the qualifications required by law of a per-
23 son who holds the office for which such individual
24 seeks to be a candidate;

1 (4) the term “petition” includes a petition
2 which conforms to section 2(a)(1) and upon which
3 signers’ addresses and/or printed names are required
4 to be placed;

5 (5) the term “signer” means a person whose
6 signature appears on a petition and who can be
7 identified as a person qualified to vote for an indi-
8 vidual for whom the petition is circulated, and in-
9 cludes a person who requests another to sign a peti-
10 tion on his or her behalf at the time when, and at
11 the place where, the request is made;

12 (6) the term “signature” includes the incom-
13 plete name of a signer, the name of a signer con-
14 taining abbreviations such as first or middle initial,
15 and the name of a signer preceded or followed by ti-
16 tles such as “Mr.,” “Ms.,” “Dr.,” “Jr.,” or “III”;
17 and

18 (7) the term “address” means the address
19 which a signer uses for purposes of registration and
20 voting.

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