

HB 2271 -- EARLY VOTING

SPONSOR: Dugger

This bill requires each local election authority to establish one advance voting center in each senatorial district in the state or at least one center in each county in a senatorial district if there is more than one county in a senatorial district. Any registered voter may vote by advance ballot in person at any election for a federal or statewide office. Advance voting will begin on the seventh Tuesday prior to the election until the first Tuesday immediately preceding the election, excluding weekends. Voting will be from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on weekdays.

The Secretary of State and each local election authority must provide adequate public notice of the advance voting centers and voting times including a posting at each local election authority's respective office and on the web site of each authority that maintains a web site. No statement of the person's reason for voting an absentee ballot will be required as is currently required to vote by absentee ballot. All current procedures for casting and counting absentee ballots and the appointment of election judges and polling places will apply to advance voting. All costs associated with advance voting centers must be reimbursed by the state. If there is no appropriation, an election authority must not conduct advance voting.