



## 97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

HB1540

Introduced 2/15/2011, by Rep. Daniel V. Beiser

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/4-50  
10 ILCS 5/5-50  
10 ILCS 5/6-100

Amends the Election Code. Provides that nursing homes shall be designated as grace period registration sites for nursing home residents. In counties with less than 500,000 inhabitants, provides that nursing homes shall be designated as grace period registration sites for nursing home residents and employees. Provides that nursing home residents who register or change their address during the grace period shall be permitted to vote during the regular nursing home voting period and shall not be required to have submitted an absentee ballot request in advance. Effective immediately.

LRB097 09332 HLH 49467 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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 changing  
5 Sections 4-50, 5-50, and 6-100 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/4-50)

7 Sec. 4-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other  
8 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
9 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
10 for change of address during the period from the close of  
11 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day  
12 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an  
13 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
14 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
15 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
16 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
17 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
18 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
19 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
20 Article for registration and change of address. To provide  
21 nursing home residents an equal opportunity to exercise their  
22 right to vote, each nursing home shall be designated a grace  
23 period registration site solely for purposes of registering and

1 completing address changes for residents and employees of that  
2 nursing home. A deputy registrar employed by each nursing home  
3 shall be designated to conduct all grace period registrations  
4 and address changes for that nursing home in the absence of an  
5 employee of the election authority. Upon completion of a grace  
6 period registration or address change, the deputy registrar  
7 shall deliver to the election authority within 24 hours all  
8 completed forms, and the election authority receiving the forms  
9 shall add the names of residents who have completed the forms  
10 to the list of residents entitled to vote during the regular  
11 nursing home voting period.

12 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
13 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
14 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace  
15 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
16 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
17 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
18 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
19 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article  
20 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address  
21 during the grace period shall be permitted to vote during the  
22 regular nursing home voting period and shall not be required to  
23 have submitted an absentee ballot request in advance.

24 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
25 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
26 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as

1 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall  
2 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
3 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
4 State and local political committees. The name of each person  
5 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the  
6 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early  
7 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9  
8 and 18-5.

9 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be  
10 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
11 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
12 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
13 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
14 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
15 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
16 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
17 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which  
18 the ballots were opened.

19 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

20 (10 ILCS 5/5-50)

21 Sec. 5-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other  
22 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
23 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
24 for change of address during the period from the close of  
25 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day

1 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an  
2 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
3 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
4 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
5 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
6 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
7 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
8 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
9 Article for registration and change of address. To permit  
10 nursing home residents equitable access to grace period  
11 registration, nursing homes shall be designated grace period  
12 registration sites for nursing home residents.

13 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
14 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
15 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace  
16 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
17 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
18 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
19 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
20 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article  
21 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address  
22 during the grace period may vote during the regular nursing  
23 home voting period.

24 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
25 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
26 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as

1 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall  
2 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
3 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
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10 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
11 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
12 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
13 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
14 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
15 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
16 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
17 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which  
18 the ballots were opened.

19 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

20 (10 ILCS 5/6-100)

21 Sec. 6-100. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other  
22 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority  
23 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and  
24 for change of address during the period from the close of  
25 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day

1 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an  
2 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a  
3 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person  
4 in the office of the election authority or at a voter  
5 registration location specifically designated for this purpose  
6 by the election authority. The election authority shall  
7 register that individual, or change a registered voter's  
8 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this  
9 Article for registration and change of address. To permit  
10 nursing home residents equitable access to grace period  
11 registration, nursing homes shall be designated grace period  
12 registration sites for nursing home residents.

13 If a voter who registers or changes address during this  
14 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary  
15 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace  
16 period voting, either in person in the office of the election  
17 authority or at a location specifically designated for this  
18 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the  
19 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall  
20 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article  
21 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address  
22 during the grace period may vote during the regular nursing  
23 home voting period.

24 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,  
25 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street  
26 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as

1 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall  
2 maintain those names and that information in an electronic  
3 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to  
4 State and local political committees. The name of each person  
5 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the  
6 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early  
7 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9  
8 and 18-5.

9 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be  
10 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with  
11 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons  
12 who register or change address during the grace period must be  
13 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central  
14 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and  
15 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots  
16 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for  
17 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which  
18 the ballots were opened.

19 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
21 becoming law.