

1 AN ACT proposing to amend Section 147 of the Constitution of Kentucky relating  
2 to early voting.

3 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

4 ➔Section 1. Are you in favor of amending Section 147 of the Kentucky  
5 Constitution to allow any person who requests to vote early be permitted to vote without a  
6 prescribed excuse, in a manner provided by law, and eliminate the early voting excuse  
7 requirement that a person be absent from the county of his or her legal residence, or from  
8 the state, as stated below?

9 ➔Section 2. It is proposed that Section 147 of the Constitution of Kentucky be  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 The General Assembly shall provide by law for the registration of all persons  
12 entitled to vote in cities and towns having a population of five thousand or more; and may  
13 provide by general law for the registration of other voters in the state. Where registration  
14 is required, only persons registered shall have the right to vote. The mode of registration  
15 shall be prescribed by the General Assembly. In all elections by persons in a  
16 representative capacity, the voting shall be viva voce and made a matter of record; but all  
17 elections by the people shall be by secret official ballot, furnished by public authority to  
18 the voters at the polls, and marked by each voter in private at the polls, and then and there  
19 deposited, or any person ***who requests to vote early***~~absent from the county of his legal~~  
20 ~~residence, or from the state~~, may be permitted to vote ***without a prescribed excuse*** in a  
21 manner provided by law. Counties so desiring may use voting machines, these machines  
22 to be installed at the expense of such counties. The word "elections" in this section  
23 includes the decision of questions submitted to the voters, as well as the choice of officers  
24 by them. The General Assembly shall pass all necessary laws to enforce this section, and  
25 shall provide that persons illiterate, blind, or in any way disabled may have their ballots  
26 marked or voted as herein required.

27 ➔Section 3. This amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the

1 Commonwealth for their ratification or rejection at the time and in the manner provided  
2 for under Sections 256 and 257 of the Constitution, KRS 118.415, and Sections 4 and 5  
3 of this Act.

4       ➔Section 4. Notwithstanding any language in KRS 118.415 to the contrary, the  
5 Secretary of State shall cause the entirety of the question in Section 1 of this Act and the  
6 entirety of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Kentucky contained in Section  
7 2 of this Act to be published at least one time in a newspaper of general circulation  
8 published in this state, and shall also cause to be published at the same time and in the  
9 same manner the fact that the amendment will be submitted to the voters for their  
10 acceptance or rejection at the next regular election at which members of the General  
11 Assembly are to be voted for. The publication required by this section and KRS 118.415  
12 shall be made no later than the first Tuesday in August preceding the election at which the  
13 amendment is to be voted on.

14       ➔Section 5. Notwithstanding any language in KRS 118.415 to the contrary, the  
15 Secretary of State, not later than the second Monday after the second Tuesday in August  
16 preceding the next regular election at which members of the General Assembly are to be  
17 chosen in a year in which there is not an election for President and Vice President of the  
18 United States, or not later than the Thursday after the first Tuesday in September  
19 preceding a regular election in a year in which there is an election for President and Vice  
20 President of the United States, shall certify the entirety of the question in Section 1 of this  
21 Act and the entirety of the proposed amendment to the Constitution of Kentucky  
22 contained in Section 2 of this Act to the county clerk of each county, and the county clerk  
23 shall have the entirety of the question and the amendment, as so certified, indicated on the  
24 ballots provided to the voters in paper or electronic form as applicable to the voting  
25 machines in use in each county or precinct.