

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 481

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require each individual who desires to vote in an election for Federal office to provide the appropriate election official with a government-issued photo identification, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 16, 2007

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

A BILL

To amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require each individual who desires to vote in an election for Federal office to provide the appropriate election official with a government-issued photo identification, 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 “Federal Election Integ-
5 rity Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING VOTERS TO PROVIDE PHOTO IDENTI-**
2 **FICATION.**

3 (a) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE PHOTO IDENTIFICA-
4 TION AS CONDITION OF RECEIVING BALLOT.—Section
5 303(b) of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C.
6 15483(b)) is amended—

7 (1) in the heading, by striking “FOR VOTERS
8 WHO REGISTER BY MAIL” and inserting “FOR PRO-
9 VIDING PHOTO IDENTIFICATION”; and

10 (2) by striking paragraphs (1) through (3) and
11 inserting the following:

12 “(1) INDIVIDUALS VOTING IN PERSON.—

13 “(A) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE IDENTI-
14 FICATION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
15 sion of law and except as provided in subpara-
16 graph (B), the appropriate State or local elec-
17 tion official may not provide a ballot for an
18 election for Federal office to an individual who
19 desires to vote in person unless the individual
20 presents to the official—

21 “(i) a government-issued, current, and
22 valid photo identification; or

23 “(ii) in the case of the regularly
24 scheduled general election for Federal of-
25 fice held in November 2010 and each sub-
26 sequent election for Federal office, a gov-

19 “(2) INDIVIDUALS VOTING OTHER THAN IN
20 PERSON.—

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any
22 other provision of law and except as provided in
23 subparagraph (B), the appropriate State or
24 local election official may not accept any ballot
25 for an election for Federal office provided by an

1 individual who votes other than in person unless
2 the individual submits with the ballot—

3 “(i) a copy of a government-issued,
4 current, and valid photo identification; or

5 “(ii) in the case of the regularly
6 scheduled general election for Federal of-
7 fice held in November 2010 and each sub-
8 sequent election for Federal office, a copy
9 of a government-issued, current, and valid
10 photo identification for which the indi-
11 vidual was required to provide proof of
12 United States citizenship as a condition for
13 the issuance of the identification.

14 “(B) EXCEPTION FOR OVERSEAS MILITARY
15 VOTERS.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply
16 with respect to a ballot provided by an absent
17 uniformed services voter who, by reason of ac-
18 tive duty or service, is absent from the United
19 States on the date of the election involved. In
20 this subparagraph, the term ‘absent uniformed
21 services voter’ has the meaning given such term
22 in section 107(1) of the Uniformed and Over-
23 seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.
24 1973ff-6(1)), other than an individual de-
25 scribed in section 107(1)(C) of such Act.

1 “(3) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR IDENTI-
2 FICATIONS.—For purposes of paragraphs (1) and
3 (2)—

4 “(A) an identification is ‘government-
5 issued’ if it is issued by the Federal Govern-
6 ment or by the government of a State; and

7 “(B) an identification is one for which an
8 individual was required to provide proof of
9 United States citizenship as a condition for
10 issuance if the identification displays an official
11 marking or other indication that the individual
12 is a United States citizen.”.

13 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 303 of
14 such Act (42 U.S.C. 15483) is amended—

15 (1) in the heading, by striking “**FOR VOTERS**
16 **WHO REGISTER BY MAIL**” and inserting “**FOR**
17 **PROVIDING PHOTO IDENTIFICATION**”; and

18 (2) in subsection (c), by striking “subsections
19 (a)(5)(A)(i)(II) and (b)(3)(B)(i)(II)” and inserting
20 “subsection (a)(5)(A)(i)(II)”.

21 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
22 of such Act is amended by amending the item relating to
23 section 303 to read as follows:

“Sec. 303. Computerized statewide voter registration list requirements and re-
 quirements for providing photo identification.”.

24 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

9 “(2) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection
10 (b) shall apply with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2008 and each subsequent election for Federal office.”.

15 SEC. 3. MAKING PHOTO IDENTIFICATIONS AVAILABLE.

16 (a) REQUIRING STATES TO MAKE IDENTIFICATION
17 AVAILABLE.—Section 303(b) of the Help America Vote
18 Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. 15483(b)), as amended by section
19 2(a)(2), is amended—

20 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as
21 paragraphs (5) and (6); and

22 (2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
23 lowing new paragraph:

24 “(4) MAKING PHOTO IDENTIFICATIONS AVAIL-
25 ABLE.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—During fiscal year
2 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year, each
3 State shall establish a program to provide photo
4 identifications which may be used to meet the
5 requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) by indi-
6 viduals who desire to vote in elections held in
7 the State but who do not otherwise possess a
8 government-issued photo identification.

9 “(B) IDENTIFICATIONS PROVIDED AT NO
10 COST TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS.—If a State
11 charges an individual a fee for providing a
12 photo identification under the program estab-
13 lished under subparagraph (A)—

14 “(i) the fee charged may not exceed
15 the reasonable cost to the State of pro-
16 viding the identification to the individual;
17 and

18 “(ii) the State may not charge a fee
19 to any individual who provides an attesta-
20 tion that the individual is unable to afford
21 the fee.

22 “(C) IDENTIFICATIONS NOT TO BE USED
23 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.—Any photo identifica-
24 tion provided under the program established
25 under subparagraph (A) may not serve as a

1 government-issued photo identification for pur-
2 poses of any program or function of a State or
3 local government other than the administration
4 of elections.”.

5 (b) PAYMENTS TO STATES TO COVER COSTS.—Sub-
6 title D of title II of such Act (42 U.S.C. 15321 et seq.)
7 is amended by adding at the end the following new part:
8 **“PART 7—PAYMENTS TO COVER COSTS OF PRO-**
9 **VIDING PHOTO IDENTIFICATIONS TO INDI-**
10 **GENT INDIVIDUALS**

11 **“SEC. 297. PAYMENTS TO COVER COSTS TO STATES OF PRO-**
12 **VIDING PHOTO IDENTIFICATIONS FOR VOT-**
13 **ING TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS.**

14 “(a) PAYMENTS TO STATES.—The Commission shall
15 make payments to States to cover the costs incurred in
16 providing photo identifications under the program estab-
17 lished under section 303(b)(4) to individuals who are un-
18 able to afford the fee that would otherwise be charged
19 under the program.

20 “(b) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—The amount of the
21 payment made to a State under this part for any year
22 shall be equal to the amount of fees which would have
23 been collected by the State during the year under the pro-
24 gram established under section 303(b)(4) but for the ap-
25 plication of section 303(b)(4)(B)(ii), as determined on the

1 basis of information furnished to the Commission by the
2 State at such time and in such form as the Commission
3 may require.

4 **“SEC. 297A. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

5 “There are authorized to be appropriated for pay-
6 ments under this part such sums as may be necessary for
7 fiscal year 2008 and each succeeding fiscal year.”.

8 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
9 of such Act is amended by adding at the end of the item
10 relating to subtitle D of title II the following:

“PART 7—PAYMENTS TO COVER COSTS OF PROVIDING PHOTO
IDENTIFICATIONS TO INDIGENT INDIVIDUALS

“Sec. 297. Payments to cover costs to States of providing photo identifications
for voting to indigent individuals.

“Sec. 297A. Authorization of appropriations.”.

11 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amend-
12 ments made by this section shall take effect October 1,
13 2007.

