

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1828

To change the date for regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office to the first Saturday and Sunday after the first Friday in November in every even-numbered year.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2017

Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KING, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

A BILL

To change the date for regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office to the first Saturday and Sunday after the first Friday in November in every even-numbered year.

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 “Weekend Voting Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WEEKEND VOTING FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULED**
 2 **GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE.**

3 (a) ELECTIONS FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
 4 AND SENATE.—Section 25 of the Revised Statutes of the
 5 United States (2 U.S.C. 7) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 25. DATES AND TIME OF ELECTIONS.**

7 “(a) DATES OF ELECTION.—The first Saturday and
 8 Sunday after the first Friday in November, in every even-
 9 numbered year, are established as the dates for the elec-
 10 tion in each of the States of Representatives and Dele-
 11 gates to the next Congress commencing after the dates
 12 of the election.

13 “(b) HOURS OF OPERATION OF POLLING PLACES.—
 14 Each State shall by law establish the hours of operation
 15 for polling places in the State on the dates of election es-
 16 tablished under subsection (a).

17 “(c) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term
 18 ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of
 19 Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,
 20 American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, and
 21 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”.

22 (b) ELECTIONS FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESI-
 23 DENT.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1 of title 3, United
 25 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 1. Date and time of appointing electors**

2 “(a) DATES OF ELECTION.—The electors of Presi-
3 dent and Vice President shall be appointed, in each State,
4 on the first Saturday and Sunday after the first Friday
5 in November, in every fourth year succeeding every elec-
6 tion of a President and Vice President.

7 “(b) HOURS OF OPERATION OF POLLING PLACES.—
8 Each State shall by law establish the hours of operation
9 for polling places in the State on the dates of election es-
10 tablished under subsection (a).”.

11 (2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
12 tions for chapter 1 of title 3, United States Code,
13 is amended by striking the item relating to section
14 1 and inserting the following:

“1. Date and time of appointing electors.”.

15 (c) NO INTERFERENCE WITH RELIGIOUS PRAC-
16 TICES.—It is the sense of Congress that the holding of
17 elections over a weekend, as established by this Act, should
18 be carried out in a manner which does not interfere with
19 religious practices.

20 (d) COST SAVINGS.—It is the sense of Congress that
21 the holding of elections over a weekend, as established by
22 this Act, should result in cost savings to the American tax-
23 payer.

24 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 this section shall apply with respect to regularly scheduled

- 1 general elections for Federal office beginning with the
- 2 elections held in November 2018.

