

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1451

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interfering with voter registration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Mr. KIM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit interfering with voter registration, 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 “Alice Paul Voter Pro-
5 tection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING HINDERING, INTERFERING WITH, OR**
2 **PREVENTING VOTER REGISTRATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 29 of title 18, United
4 States Code is amended by adding at the end the following
5 new section:

6 **“§ 612. Hindering, interfering with, or preventing**
7 **registering to vote**

8 “(a) PROHIBITION.—It shall be unlawful for any per-
9 son, whether acting under color of law or otherwise, to
10 corruptly hinder, interfere with, or prevent another person
11 from registering to vote or to corruptly hinder, interfere
12 with, or prevent another person from aiding another per-
13 son in registering to vote.

14 “(b) ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts to commit
15 any offense described in subsection (a) shall be subject to
16 the same penalties as those prescribed for the offense that
17 the person attempted to commit.

18 “(c) PENALTY.—Any person who violates subsection
19 (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more
20 than 5 years, or both.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
22 for chapter 29 of title 18, United States Code is amended
23 by adding at the end the following new item:

“612. Hindering, interfering with, or preventing registering to vote.”.

24 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
25 this section shall apply with respect to elections held on

1 or after the date of the enactment of this Act, except that
2 no person may be found to have violated section 612 of
3 title 18, United States Code (as added by subsection (a)),
4 on the basis of any act occurring prior to the date of the
5 enactment of this Act.

6 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF BEST PRACTICES.**

7 (a) BEST PRACTICES.—Not later than 180 days after
8 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Election Assist-
9 ance Commission shall develop and publish recommenda-
10 tions for best practices for States to use to deter and pre-
11 vent violations of section 612 of title 18, United States
12 Code (as added by section 2), and section 12 of the Na-
13 tional Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20511)
14 (relating to the unlawful interference with registering to
15 vote, or voting, or attempting to register to vote or vote),
16 including practices to provide for the posting of relevant
17 information at polling places and voter registration agen-
18 cies under such Act, the training of poll workers and elec-
19 tion officials, and relevant educational materials. For pur-
20 poses of this subsection, the term “State” includes the
21 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,
22 Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Is-
23 lands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana
24 Islands.

1 (b) INCLUSION IN VOTER INFORMATION REQUIRE-
2 MENTS.—Section 302(b)(2) of the Help America Vote Act
3 of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21082(b)(2)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
5 graph (E);

6 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
7 paragraph (F) and inserting “; and”; and

8 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
9 paragraph:

10 “(G) information relating to the prohibi-
11 tions of section 612 of title 18, United States
12 Code, and section 12 of the National Voter
13 Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20511)
14 (relating to the unlawful interference with reg-
15 istering to vote, or voting, or attempting to reg-
16 ister to vote or vote), including information on
17 how individuals may report allegations of viola-
18 tions of such prohibitions.”.

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