



CHAPTER 163
ARTICLE 24 - CONDUCT OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

N.C.G.S. § 163-302.

Absentee and early voting.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2023-140, s. 41 — twelfth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 03:38 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT d89d77e35045733a06c7423e - 11781e47aa33344179bfe098 - 4feb7741e3235b2d
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§ 163-302(a) In any municipal election, including a primary or general election or referendum, mail-in absentee voting and early voting may, upon resolution of the municipal governing body, be permitted. Such resolution must be adopted no later than 60 days prior to an election in order to be effective for that election. Any such resolution shall remain effective for all future elections unless repealed no later than 60 days before an election. A copy of all resolutions adopted under this section shall be filed with the State Board and the county board of elections conducting the election within 10 days of passage in order to be effective. In addition, mail-in absentee voting and early voting shall be allowed in any referendum on incorporation of a municipality.

§ 163-302(b) The provisions of Articles 20 and 21A of this Chapter shall apply to mail-in absentee voting in municipal elections, special district elections, and other elections for an area less than an entire county other than elections for the General Assembly, except that the earliest date by which mail-in absentee ballots shall be required to be available for mail-in absentee voting in such elections shall be 30 days prior to the primary or election or as quickly following the filing deadline specified in G.S. 163-291(2) or G.S. 163-294(c) as the county board of elections is able to secure the official ballots. In elections on incorporation of a municipality not held at the same time as another election in the same area, the county board of elections shall adopt a special schedule of meetings of the county board of elections to approve mail-in absentee ballot applications so as to reduce the cost of the process, and to further implement the last paragraph of G.S. 163-230(2)a. If no application has been received since the last meeting, no meeting shall be held of the county board of elections under such schedule unless the meeting is scheduled for another purpose. If another election is being held

in the same area on the same day, or elsewhere in the county, the cost of per diem for meetings of the county board of elections to approve absentee ballots shall not be considered a cost of the election to be billed to the municipality being created.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
12 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.

1971	1997		2023
TICK HEIGHT = ACTS IN THAT YEAR DASHED = RECODIFICATION, NOT AMENDMENT			
Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1971	c. 835, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1975	c. 370, s. 1	AMENDED
03	1975	c. 836	AMENDED
04	1977	c. 475, s. 1	AMENDED
05	1983	c. 324, s. 6	AMENDED
06	1983	1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 933, s. 1	AMENDED
07	2014	S.L. 2014-111, s. 10	AMENDED
08	2017	S.L. 2017-6, s. 3	AMENDED
09	2018	S.L. 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b)	AMENDED
10	2021	S.L. 2021-56, s. 1.5(c)	AMENDED
11	2022	S.L. 2022-6, s. 20.6A(b), (e)	AMENDED
12	2023	S.L. 2023-140, s. 41	AMENDED

APPARATUS II

3 AUTHORITIES

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 163-291(2)	(b)	<i>"following the filing deadline specified in"</i>

G.S. 163-294(c)	(b)	"deadline specified in G.S. 163-291(2) or"
G.S. 163-230(2)	(b)	"further implement the last paragraph of"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-302 (2023).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 163-302(a) (2023).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1971, c. 835, s. 1; 1975, c. 370, s. 1; c. 836; 1977, c. 475, s. 1; 1983, c. 324, s. 6; 1991 (Reg. Sess., 1992), c. 933, s. 1; 2014-111, s. 10; 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b); 2021-56, s. 1.5(c); 2022-6, s. 20.6A(b), (e); 2023-140, s. 41.)

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