



Roy Cooper, Governor
State of North Carolina

GOVERNOR ROY COOPER OBJECTIONS AND VETO MESSAGE:

Senate Bill 747, "AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES REGARDING ELECTIONS LAW."

This legislation has nothing to do with election security and everything to do with Republicans keeping and gaining power. In working to erect new barriers for younger and non-white voters, many of whom use early voting and absentee ballots, this bill also hurts older adults, rural voters and people with disabilities. It requires valid votes to be tossed out if the post office delivers them even one minute after 7:30 p.m. on Election Day or if a computer rejects a signature. It encourages voter intimidation at the polls by election deniers and conspiracy believers. North Carolina has conducted fair and secure elections but this bill will block voters and their ballots unnecessarily.

Therefore, I veto the bill.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roy Cooper".

Roy Cooper
Governor

The bill, having been vetoed, is returned to the Clerk of the North Carolina Senate on this the 24th day of August 2023, at 3:55 p.m. for reconsideration by that body.

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date Aug. 24, 2023

Time 3:55 p.m.

Signed Sarah Holland

The Capitol Building, Raleigh, NC 27602
Mail: 20301 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-0301
Phone: (919)814-2100

- (1) A compilation of the information reported from the selected county boards of elections as required by subsection (b) of this section.
- (2) The estimated cost to implement signature verification for mail-in absentee ballots statewide.
- (3) Any suggested law changes to fully implement signature verification statewide for mail-in absentee ballots, including suggestions on a process for how a voter can cure a deficiency related to signature verification of mail-in absentee ballots.
- (4) Any other information relevant to signature verification of mail-in absentee ballots.

SECTION 49. If any provision of this act or its application to any person, group of persons, or circumstances is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this act that can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application and, to this end, the provisions of this act are severable.

SECTION 50. Sections 1 through 36 and Sections 38 through 43 of this act become effective January 1, 2024, and apply to elections on or after that date. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 17th day of August, 2023.

VETO
Roy Cooper

Phil Berger

Phil Berger
 President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Tim Moore

Tim Moore
 Speaker of the House of Representatives

Roy Cooper
 Governor

Approved _____ m. this _____ day of _____, 2023

RECEIVED FROM GOVERNOR

Date Aug. 24, 2023

Time 3:55 p.m.

Signed Aimee Holland