

AN ACT

Codification
District of
Columbia
Official Code

2001 Edition

2011 Winter
Supp.

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To amend the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955 to prohibit corrupt election practices, including paying individuals to register to vote or voting, giving false information about residence, submitting false voter registration applications, submitting false ballots, or conspiring to commit any such actions, to require the Board of Elections to consider what action should be taken to clarify the identity of a candidate and prevent voter confusion, to limit early voting to 7 days and to prohibit early voting on holidays, and to require the Board of Elections to designate early voting centers in each of the 8 wards.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Corrupt Election Practices Amendment Act of 2010”.

Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 5(a) (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.05(a)) is amended as follows:

(1) Paragraph (15) is amended by striking the word “and” at the end.

Amend
§ 1-1001.05

(2) A new paragraph (15A) is added to read as follows:

“(15A) At the request of a candidate, consider what action, if any, should be taken to clarify the identity of a candidate if there is potential for confusion among voters about the identity of a candidate because of the similarity of his or her name to another candidate or elected official; and”.

(b) Section 9(b-1)(1) and (2) (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.09(b-1)(1) and (2)) is amended to read as follows:

Amend
§ 1-1001.09

“(b-1)(1) For each primary and general election, the Board shall designate an early voting center in each of the 8 election wards.

“(2) At each early voting center, the Board shall allow persons to vote in person for not more than 7 days before election day; provided, that no early voting shall occur on a holiday.”.

(c) Section 14 (D.C. Official Code § 1-1004.14) is amended by adding a new subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

Amend
§ 1-1004.14

“(a-1)(1) A person shall not knowingly or willfully:

“(A) Pay, offer to pay, or accept payment of any consideration, compensation,

gratuity, reward, or thing of value for registration to vote or for voting;

“(B) Give false information as to his or her name, address, or period of residence for the purpose of establishing his eligibility to register or vote, that is known by the person to be false;

“(C) Procure or submit voter registration applications that are known by the person to be materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent;

“(D) Procure, cast, or tabulate ballots that are known by the person to be materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent; or

“(E) Conspire with another individual to do any of the above.

“(2) A person who violates paragraph (1) of this subsection shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$10,000, be imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both.”.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia