NORTH CAROLINA VOTERS’ BILL OF RIGHTS

You have the right to vote – it’s the law and the proof is in your hands! You’ll notice letters and numbers after each of your rights listed below. These codes tell lawyers and poll workers where to find the N.C. statute that protects your rights as a properly registered voter. You can take this document with you to vote. Learn more about the rules for voting at NCVoter.org

You Have The Right To Vote

1. HOURS. Each polling place is open between 6:30 am and 7:30 pm on Election Day. You must be allowed to vote if you are in line or inside the polling place at 7:30 pm (or at the closing time of an Early Voting poll location). It’s the law: NC General Statute (NCGS) 163-166.01

2. ID TO REGISTER. New voters are asked to list an ID number on the registration form – either their NC driver’s license # or the last 4 digits of their Social Security #. If officials can’t verify the number, or if the voter omits it, the voter will be asked at the polls to show a photo ID or one of these with their name and current address: a utility bill (electric, phone, water or cable), pay stub, bank statement or any document from any government agency. NCGS 163-166.12

3. ID TO VOTE. North Carolina’s ID requirement to vote is being contested in court. Basically, you can vote with or without a ID. You need to show a NC driver’s license or other “acceptable photo ID” to vote inside the poll with a regular ballot, but you have other options if you don’t have one. See www.GotIDNC.com for details.

4. PROVISIONAL BALLOT. If any problem arises, you have a right to vote with a provisional ballot and to learn later if it was counted and, if not, the reason why not. For example, ask for a provisional ballot if you believe you’re registered but your name is not on the rolls. The ballot probably will not count if you vote in the wrong precinct on Election Day. NCGS 163-166.11.

5. IF YOU MOVE. If you have moved within your county and have lived in your new location more than 30 days, you have the right to vote in your new precinct or at a central location. If you have lived in your new location less than 30 days, you must vote in your old precinct or cast a provisional ballot in your new precinct. If you have moved within your precinct, you can update your info at the polls and vote. If you move to a new county, you must register like a new voter, by 25 days before the election. NCGS 163-82.15.

6. NAME CHANGE. If your name has changed since you registered to vote, you have the right to vote, even if you have not reported your name change to election officials. NCGS 163-82.16

7. SPOILED BALLOT. If you make a mistake on your ballot, you have a right to new ballot. You can spoil up to three ballots. 8 NCAC 10B.0104b

8. ASSISTANCE. You have the right to receive assistance from a family member. If you have a disability or difficulty reading (due to language ability, vision, etc.), you have a right to assistance from anyone of your choice, except your employer or union agent. Some counties offer ballot instructions in Spanish, but that is not required. NCGS 163-166.8 and 168-165-5A

9. CURBSIDE. If the polling place is difficult to reach due to your age or physical disability, you have a right to vote in a vehicle at the curb or at the door of the polling place. NCGS 163-166.9

10. JUSTICE SYSTEM. Your right to vote is not lost if you are convicted of a misdemeanor. You regain your right to vote when you finish a felony sentence, including parole or probation. No special document is needed to register. NCGS 13-1.

11. INTIMIDATION. You have a right to vote without being intimidated or forced to vote in a certain way. NCGS 163-271.