



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Agenda Item

September 13, 2022

Substitute

File ID: 2022-1656

Choose an item.

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Board of Commissioner - District 6

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): all

Ordinance to allow certain DeKalb County employees up to four hours paid time off to vote.

Information Contact: Commissioner Edward "Ted" Terry

Phone Number: 404 371-4909

PURPOSE:

To consider adopting a new section 20-53 in the DeKalb County Code to allow certain DeKalb County employees up to four hours paid time off to vote, so as to encourage employees to exercise their right to vote.

NEED/IMPACT:

To encourage DeKalb County employees to exercise their right to vote.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Unknown.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached ordinance to add a new section 20-53 to the DeKalb County Code.

AN ORDINANCE

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA,
AS REVISED 1988, CHAPTER 20, ARTICLE II, TO ALLOW CERTAIN EMPLOYEES
PAID TIME OFF TO VOTE.**

WHEREAS, DeKalb County recognizes the importance of the right to vote and wants to encourage its employees to participate in the democratic process, and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County governing authority seeks to facilitate County employees' participation in the democratic process by allowing employees who are registered to vote up to four hours of paid time off to vote in primary, general and runoff elections;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the governing authority of DeKalb County, Georgia, and it is hereby ordained by the authority of the same, that Chapter 20, Article II of the Code of DeKalb County, Georgia, as Revised 1988, be and the same is hereby amended as follows:

PART I: ENACTMENT

By adding a new section 20-53 to Chapter 20, Article II of the Code of DeKalb County, as revised 1988, to state as follows:

Sec. 20-53 Paid time off to vote.

Any employee in a position subject to this chapter shall, upon reasonable notice to his or her department head, be permitted to take time off from his or her county employment to vote in any municipal, county, state, or federal primary, election, or runoff for which such employee is qualified and registered to vote. Time off pursuant to this paragraph may be taken only once for each primary, election or runoff; may be taken only on election day or during the advance voting period prior to election day; shall not exceed four hours; and shall be paid time off. The department head may specify the hours during which the employee may take the time off provided for in this paragraph.

PART II. EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption by the Board of Commissioners and approval by the Chief Executive Officer.

PART III. SEVERABILITY

Should any section or provision of this ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, nor any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be invalid or unconstitutional. All ordinances or resolutions or parts thereof, in conflict with this ordinance are repealed.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this _____ day of _____, 2022.

ROBERT J. PATRICK
Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this _____ day of _____, 2022.

MICHAEL L. THURMOND
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

August 31, 2022

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BENITA RANSOM
Human Resources and Merit System Director

VIVIANE H. ERNSTES
County Attorney