GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2003

H D

HOUSE DRH10181-RR-28 (3/20)

Short Title: Campaigning Outside Polls. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Miller and Ellis (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS MUST PROVIDE BEYOND THE BUFFER ZONE AROUND THE VOTING PLACE A SPACE WHERE CAMPAIGNING AND OTHER ELECTION-RELATED ACTIVITY CAN BE CONDUCTED.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. G.S. 163-166.4 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163-166.4. Limitation on activity in the voting place and in a buffer zone around it.

No person or group of persons shall hinder access, harass others, distribute campaign literature, place political advertising, solicit votes, or otherwise engage in election-related activity in the voting place or in a buffer zone which shall be prescribed by the county board of elections around the voting place. In determining the dimensions of that buffer zone for each voting place, the county board of elections shall, where practical, set the limit at 50 feet from the door of entrance to the voting place, measured when that door is closed, but in no event shall it set the limit at less than 25 feet. The county board of elections shall also, where practical, also provide an area adjacent to the buffer zone for each voting place in which persons or groups of persons may distribute campaign literature, place political advertising, solicit votes, or otherwise engage in election-related activity. No later than 30 days before each election, the county board of elections shall make available to the public the following information concerning each voting place:

- (1) The door from which the buffer zone is measured.
- (2) The distance the buffer zone extends from that door.
- (3) Any available information concerning <u>where</u> political activity, including sign placement, that is permitted beyond the buffer zone."

SECTION 2. This act is effective when it becomes law.