

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2007

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DRHJR80517-RR-51 (05/08)

Sponsors: Representative Boylan.

Referred to:

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE 2007 GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
2 REGULAR SESSION 2008, TO CONSIDER A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT
3 TO REQUIRE GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AT THE
4 POLLING LOCATION AND ELIMINATING THE FEE FOR SPECIAL
5 IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

6 Whereas, the prospect of election fraud threatens the integrity and the public's
7 confidence in elections in North Carolina; and

8 Whereas, voter fraud results in suppressing the voice of valid voters by
9 diluting the strength of their valid votes; and

10 Whereas, North Carolina is one of those states where voter fraud has marred
11 the history of the electoral process; and

12 Whereas, a growing number of states, now at 18, have responded to the threat
13 of voter fraud by requiring all voters to provide some kind of identification before
14 voting; and

15 Whereas, the states of Florida, Georgia, and Indiana have sought to make
16 their identification requirement more effective by insisting that the identification contain
17 the voter's photograph; and

18 Whereas, despite North Carolina's history of voter fraud, this State has only
19 the minimal voter identification mandated by Congress in the Help America Vote Act of
20 2002 for a tiny percentage of its voters; and

21 Whereas, one of the arguments in North Carolina against enacting a photo
22 identification requirement has been doubt about whether such a measure would be
23 constitutional; and

24 Whereas, on April 28, 2008, the Supreme Court of the United States, in
25 *Crawford et al. v. Marion County Election Board*, 128 S. Ct. 1610, upheld Indiana's
26 photo identification law against a constitutional challenge; and

27 Whereas, opinion polls indicate the public supports voter identification
28 requirements, as when Rasmussen Reports asked likely voters nationwide in January

1 2008, "Should voters be required to show photo identification such as a drivers license
2 before being allowed to vote?" and the percentage answering "yes" was 80%; Now,
3 therefore,
4 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:
5 **SECTION 1.** The 2007 General Assembly, Regular Session 2008, may
6 consider "A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT TO REQUIRE
7 GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PHOTO IDENTIFICATION AT THE POLLING
8 LOCATION AND ELIMINATING THE FEE FOR SPECIAL IDENTIFICATION
9 CARDS."
10 **SECTION 2.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.