

## HOUSE BILL No. 2239

By Committee on Ethics and Elections

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AN ACT concerning election crimes; amending K.S.A. 25-2415 and 25-2430 and repealing the existing sections.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

New Section 1. (a) Voter registration suppression is knowingly: (1) Destroying any application for voter registration signed by a person pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto, (2) obstructing the delivery of any such signed application to the county election officer or the chief state election official, or (3) failing to deliver any such application to the appropriate county election officer or the chief state election official as required by law.

(b) Voter registration suppression is a severity level 10, nonperson felony.

New Sec. 2. (a) Vote trading is exchanging or offering to exchange a vote with the intent to affect the fair expression of the popular will at any election. Vote trading occurs when a person agrees to vote for or against a candidate or question in return for another voter agreeing to vote for or against a different candidate or question.

(b) Vote trading is a severity level 7, nonperson felony.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 25-2415 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2415. (a) Intimidation of voters is: (1) intimidating, threatening, coercing or attempting to intimidate, threaten, or coerce any person for the purpose of interfering with the right of such person to vote or to vote as he may choose, or of causing such person to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for any office or question submitted at any election; or

(2) *mailing, publishing, broadcasting, telephoning or transmitting by any means false information intended to keep one or more voters from casting a ballot or applying for or returning an advance voting ballot.*

(b) Intimidation of voters is a ~~class A misdemeanor~~ severity level 7, nonperson felony.

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-2430 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2430. (a) ~~Electioneering at polling places is~~ *No person shall knowingly perform any act of electioneering on election day within any polling place or advance voting site during the time period allowed by law for casting a ballot by advance voting or within a radius of two hundred fifty (250)*

1 250 feet from the entrance thereof. As used in this section, electioneering  
2 means an attempt to persuade or influence by any means, eligible voters,  
3 to vote for or against a particular candidate, party or question submitted.  
4 *The actions prohibited by this section shall include, but not be limited to,*  
5 *distributing, wearing or in any way exhibiting signs, posters, stickers,*  
6 *labels and other materials that clearly identify a candidate in the election*  
7 *or clearly indicate support or opposition to a question submitted.*

8 (b) Electioneering ~~at polling places~~ is a class C misdemeanor.

9 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 25-2415 and 25-2430 are hereby repealed.

10 Sec. 6. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
11 publication in the statute book.

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