APA-4
Revised 1/2018

CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41-22-5(b) and 41-22-6(c)(2)a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency (amendment, new rule, new chapter, repeal or adoption by reference) is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on the 12th day of November, 2020.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Secretary of State

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 820-2-2-.32-.01ER Oath in the Voter Registration Form

EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULE: November 12, 2020

EXPIRATION DATE (If less than 120 days):

NATURE OF EMERGENCY:

Because voter registration is an ongoing process, this rule would allow any applicant who modifies the voter registration oath for sincerely held beliefs to not have their registration form rejected.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 17-3-52

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON PERMANENT BASIS X YES ___NO

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE:

Hugh Evans
State Capitol Suite E-201
600 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36130
(334)353-7857

REC'D & FILED
NOV 12 2020
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

Secretary of State

NOVEMBER 12, 2020
(For APA Use Only)

820-2-2-.32-.01ER Oath on the Voter Registration Form.

Pursuant to 17-3-52 of the *Code of Alabama*, voter registration applicants must sign a voter registration form that contains an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the State Constitution of Alabama. Currently, that oath ends with the phrase "so help me God." If an applicant objects to that phrase due to sincerely held beliefs, the applicant may strike through the phrase and then sign the registration form. If the applicant is otherwise qualified to vote, the Board of Registrars shall accept a valid voter registration form when the phrase "so help me God" is stricken through by the applicant. Striking through this phrase is the only modification that applicants may make to the language of the voter registration form.

Authors: David Brewer, Hugh Evans, Clay Helms, Jeff Elrod.

Statutory Authority: 17-3-52

History: New Rule: Filed November 12, 2020