

Atlanta Journal - 3/17/67

Senate Modifies and Passes Revamp of Fulton Voting

By ROBERT CORAM

The Senate has approved a watered-down version of a bill that would reorganize Fulton's election procedures.

The bill, which has been sent back to the House where an amendment must be approved, strips the ordinary of his election duties and places this authority in the hands of a bipartisan election board.

A provision in Rep. Grace Hamilton's original bill placing Registrar Leon Hay under the supervision of the board was removed in the Senate.

Mr. Hay will remain a de-

partment head having no connection with the election board.

The purpose of Rep. Hamilton's bill was to coordinate the different branches of county government having anything to do with elections and to have one man responsible for the entire operation.

THE SENATE amendment weakened the purpose of the bill considerably.

Rep. Hamilton said she was not pleased with the amendment but that she would accept it.

She indicated that next year

a separate bill regarding the registrar's office would be offered.

After last fall's elections, which showed little coordination between offices having election functions, officials of both parties said the entire process should be under one person and not spread throughout the courthouse.

The bill calls for the Democratic and Republican parties to each appoint two men to the election board. The county commissioners will appoint a fifth person who will be the election supervisor.