

**Subject** Absentee and mail balloting timelines

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## Overview

This bill modifies several deadlines related to activities that occur prior to an election. The primary policy outcome of these changes is an authority for accepted absentee ballots to be opened and counted during the 14 days prior to an election, rather than seven days prior, and an authority for voters to cast an in-person absentee ballot using a ballot counter during that same period. Other substantive and administrative deadlines are modified to conform to these changes.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b>Corrected list.</b> Shifts the deadline for the county auditor to prepare a final corrected master voter registration list for each precinct so that it is complete by 14 days prior to each election, rather than seven days prior.
2	<b>Alternative procedure.</b> Authorizes county auditors to make a ballot counter and ballot box available for use by voters to cast an in-person absentee ballot during the 14 days prior to an election, rather than seven days prior.
3	<b>Duties of ballot board; absentee ballots.</b> Conforms absentee ballot board procedures to reflect the newly-authorized possibility that a voter may have cast an in-person absentee ballot during the 14 days prior to an election, rather than during the seven days prior.
4	<b>Record of voting.</b> Updates the deadline by which a voter who has an absentee ballot accepted may no longer cast another ballot at the election to 14 days before the election, to conform to the absentee voting procedures authorized in this bill.

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5	<p><b>Opening of envelopes.</b></p> <p>Extends the period during which accepted absentee ballots may be opened and counted to include the 14 days prior to an election. Current law permits accepted absentee ballots to be opened and counted beginning seven days prior to an election.</p>
6	<p><b>Write-in candidates.</b></p> <p>Conforms the deadline for a write-in candidate who wishes to have the candidate's write-in votes counted to reflect the changes elsewhere in this bill; the request must be submitted no later than 14 days prior to the general election, rather than seven days prior.</p>
7	<p><b>Procedure.</b></p> <p>Extends the period during which accepted ballots cast in a jurisdiction that conducts an election entirely by mail can be opened and counted, to include the 14 days prior to an election. Current law permits these ballots to be opened and counted beginning seven days prior to an election.</p>
8	<p><b>Mail elections; questions.</b></p> <p>Extends the period during which accepted ballots cast in a jurisdiction that conducts a special election entirely by mail can be opened and counted, to include the 14 days prior to an election. Current law permits these ballots to be opened and counted beginning seven days prior to an election.</p>
9	<p><b>Candidates on the ballot.</b></p> <p>Conforms the deadline for the chair of a major political party to request that votes be counted for a write-in candidate at the presidential nomination primary, to reflect the changes elsewhere in this bill; the request must be submitted no later than 14 days prior to the general election, rather than seven days prior.</p>



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