

Subject Permanent absentee voters

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Date February 25, 2020

Overview

This bill authorizes voters to request that an absentee ballot be delivered automatically prior to an election. Under current law, a voter may request that an absentee ballot application be delivered automatically, but the voter is still required to complete and return the application each year before being provided the actual absentee ballot.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>Form.</p> <p>Requires the voter registration application to include a space allowing a registrant to indicate their preference to join the permanent absentee voter list established later in this bill.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Permanent absentee voter status.</p> <p>Modifies the existing process that allows a voter to request that an absentee ballot application be sent automatically prior to each election. Instead of the application, this section would allow a voter to request that the absentee ballot itself be sent automatically prior to each election, without the need for an additional application. This section would not apply in jurisdictions where elections are already conducted entirely by mail.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Printing and delivery of forms.</p> <p>Eliminates existing language setting a timeline for the delivery of absentee ballot applications prior to an election to those voters who request automatic delivery. These changes conform to the changes made earlier in this bill providing for the automatic delivery of an absentee ballot, rather than an application, prior to each election.</p> |

Section	Description
4	Delivery of ballots. Establishes timelines for the delivery of absentee ballots to voters who request automatic delivery. The ballots must be mailed at least 46 days prior to a federal, state, county, city, or school board election. For town elections held in March, ballots must be mailed at least 30 days prior to the election.
5	Duties of ballot board; absentee ballots. Provides a conforming reference in the law governing absentee ballot board procedures to reflect the permanent absentee ballot authorization established by this bill.
6	Effective date. Provides that the bill is effective and applies to elections held on or after July 1, 2020.



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