

**Subject** Elections Administration

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**Date** March 19, 2026

## Overview

This bill provides a number of miscellaneous changes to the laws governing election administration.

## Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p><b>Generally.</b></p> <p>Amends the law governing the notice required when a full-time city clerk will administer absentee voting. This notice would newly be required to specify whether the municipality's office will be designated to administer absentee voting starting on the 46<sup>th</sup> day before the election, or only during the early voting period beginning on the 18<sup>th</sup> day before the election.</p> |
| 2 | <p><b>Delivery of ballots.</b></p> <p>Eliminates redundant language in a section of law that governs the prompt delivery of absentee ballots to a designated agent.</p>   |
| 3 | <p><b>Using the registration system.</b></p> <p>Provides for the use of the Statewide Voter Registration System (SVRS) for administering all absentee voting at primary and general elections, with the exception of town elections. A town is provided the option to use the SVRS if it chooses.</p>   |

These changes are effective September 1, 2027.

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| 4 | <p><b>Voting procedure.</b></p> <p>Requires the early voting official to maintain a printed copy of an early voter's certificate of eligibility.</p> <p>This section is effective upon the revisor of statutes receipt of the early voting certification and applies to elections held on or after the 85<sup>th</sup> day following that date.</p> |
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<b>Section</b>	<b>Description</b>
5	<p><b>Processing of ballots.</b></p> <p>Provides that when the early voting official is processing ballots each day and ensuring that the number of ballots removed from the ballot box is equal to the number of voter certificates that were signed by voters, the early voting official must use the procedures in law relating to determining the proper number of ballots, dealing with excess ballots, dealing with ballots in the wrong box, and disposing of ballots not counted.</p>
6	<p><b>Election law and instructions.</b></p> <p>Eliminates a requirement that the secretary of state provide local election officials with a printed copy of the state laws that generally govern elections. Instead, the secretary is required to post an electronic copy of this volume on the secretary's website no later than July 15 of each year.</p>
7	<p><b>Summary statements; contents.</b></p> <p>Eliminates an obsolete reference to ballots that historically had been designated by their color.</p>
8	<p><b>Envelopes for counted ballots.</b></p> <p>Eliminates an obsolete reference to ballots that historically had been designated by their color.</p>
9	<p><b>Special elections; reimbursement of local expenses; appropriation.</b></p> <p>Requires the secretary of state to reimburse local governments for certain expenses incurred in administering a special primary or special general election for a state or federal office that is held separately from the regularly-scheduled state primary or state general election. A standing appropriation to the secretary of state to fund these reimbursements is also provided.</p>
10	<p><b>Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition.</b></p> <p>Requires the canvassing board with responsibility for canvassing a municipal election to declare duly elected the candidates who received the highest number of votes for each municipal office and the results of any ballot question. The timeline for conducting the canvass is extended to the 14<sup>th</sup> day after the election, rather than the tenth day after the election.</p>
11	<p><b>Canvass of returns, certificate of election, ballots, disposition.</b></p> <p>Requires the canvassing board with responsibility for canvassing a school district election to declare duly elected the candidates who received the highest number of votes for each school office and the results of any ballot question. The timeline for</p>

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|    | conducting the canvass is extended to the 14th day after the election, rather than the tenth day after the election.   |
| 12 | <b>Ballot questions.</b><br>Modifies the timing for county elections on ballot questions. Instead of holding the election within 84 days of passing the resolution authorizing the ballot question, the bill requires the election to be held at least 84 days after the resolution is passed. The election must be held on a uniform election date. |
| 13 | <b>Repealer.</b><br>Repeals a law that permits the secretary of state to sell intellectual property rights related to the SVRS to other states or to local governments in other states. The law requires that receipts from these sales be credited to the Help America Vote Act account.  |



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