

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 1312

## 100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SHULL (16).

3100H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To repeal section 115.277, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to absentee voting.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Section 115.277, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 115.277, to read as follows:

115.277. 1. Except as provided in subsections 2, 3, 4, and 5 of this section, any registered voter of this state may vote by absentee ballot for all candidates and issues for which such voter would be eligible to vote at the polling place if such voter expects to be prevented from going to the polls to vote on election day due to:

(1) Absence on election day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which such voter is registered to vote;

(2) Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;

(3) Religious belief or practice;

(4) Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than such voter's polling place;

(5) Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained;

(6) Certified participation in the address confidentiality program established under sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of safety concerns;

**(7) Being sixty years of age or older on the day of the election.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           2. Any covered voter, as defined in section 115.275, who is eligible to register and vote  
18 in this state may vote in any election for federal office, statewide office, state legislative office,  
19 or statewide ballot initiatives by submitting a federal postcard application to apply to vote by  
20 absentee ballot or by submitting a federal postcard application at the polling place even though  
21 the person is not registered. A federal postcard application submitted by a covered voter  
22 pursuant to this subsection shall also serve as a voter registration application under section  
23 115.908 and the election authority shall, if satisfied that the applicant is entitled to register, place  
24 the voter's name on the voter registration file. Each covered voter may vote by absentee ballot  
25 or, upon submitting an affidavit that the person is qualified to vote in the election, may vote at  
26 the person's polling place.

27           3. Any interstate former resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee  
28 ballot for presidential and vice presidential electors.

29           4. Any intrastate new resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee ballot  
30 at the election for presidential and vice presidential electors, United States senator, representative  
31 in Congress, statewide elected officials and statewide questions, propositions and amendments  
32 from such resident's new jurisdiction of residence after registering to vote in such resident's new  
33 jurisdiction of residence.

34           5. Any new resident, as defined in section 115.275, may vote by absentee ballot for  
35 presidential and vice presidential electors after registering to vote in such resident's new  
36 jurisdiction of residence.

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