

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 864

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MOSLEY.

1941H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 115.295, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to rejected absentee ballots.

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

Section A. Section 115.295, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 115.295, to read as follows:

115.295. 1. As each absentee ballot is received by the election authority, the election authority shall indicate its receipt on the list.

2. If the statements on any ballot envelope have not been completed, **or if the voter has failed to sign the oath, or if the signature does not appear to be valid, or if the oath has not been verified as provided by law, or if the absentee ballot has been rejected for any other reason provided by law, or if the voter is otherwise found disqualified to vote,** the absentee ballot in the envelope shall be rejected **and the election authority shall write across the face of the envelope "Rejected", giving the reason therefor. The election authority shall promptly notify the voter of such rejection, and the deadline and procedures that must be followed to cure said rejection, a copy of which notification shall be retained in the files of the election authority for at least two years. Such voter shall have until the end of the period for verifying provisional ballots as provided by law to cure the problem resulting in the rejection of the absentee ballot. The voter may cure a failure to complete a statement on the ballot envelope, to sign the oath, an invalid signature, or failure to have the signature verified in the manner provided by law, by submitting an affidavit to the election authority, along with a copy of one of the forms of identification provided by law, before the close of such period. The affidavit shall affirm**

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.

18 **that the ballot was submitted by the voter, is the voter's ballot, and that the voter is**
19 **registered and qualified to vote in the election in question. Provided that the voter is**
20 **otherwise qualified to vote or has cured any disqualification as provided by law for**
21 **voter's casting provisional ballots, if the election authority finds the affidavit and**
22 **identification to be sufficient, the absentee ballot shall be counted.**

23 3. All ballot envelopes received by the election authority shall be kept together in a
24 safe place and shall not be opened except as provided in this subchapter.

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