

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1184

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE HOVIS.

2525H.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 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Section A. Section 115.295, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 115.295, to read as follows: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~~[, the absentee ballot in the envelope shall be rejected]~~ **or the envelope has not been notarized as required by section 115.291, the election authority shall notify the voter of the incomplete information by all means reasonably calculated to make contact with the voter including, but not limited to, postal mail, telephone, and email. The notice shall include a description of the missing information and instructions for how the voter can provide the missing information to the election authority.**

3. **The election authority shall allow the voter to supply the missing information by either visiting the office of the election authority in person or by completing an affidavit that includes the missing information. The secretary of state shall develop the form of the affidavit for use by voters to supply the missing information as described in this section.**

4. **Only an employee of the election authority shall contact the voter concerning missing ballot envelope information. An election authority may not authorize any third-party organization to contact voters concerning missing ballot envelope information.**

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 **5. Voters may provide missing information for the ballot envelope only after the**
19 **envelope containing the ballot has been received in the office of the election authority.**
20 **No person shall change any selections on the ballot contained within the envelope after it**
21 **is initially received in the office of the election authority.**

22 **6. If the voter provides the missing information by either method described**
23 **above no later than the close of polls on election day, the ballot shall be accepted for**
24 **counting according to the requirements of section 115.299. If the voter fails to provide**
25 **the missing information by the close of polls on election day, the ballot shall be rejected.**

26 ~~3.~~ **7. All ballot envelopes received by the election authority shall be kept together in**
27 **a safe place and shall not be opened except as provided in this subchapter.**

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