

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 84th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2003
4

A Bill

Act 647 of 2003
SENATE BILL 690

5 By: Senator Madison
6 By: Representatives Edwards, Agee
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

10 AN ACT TO REVISE THE PROCEDURE FOR VOTING BY
11 ABSENTEE BALLOT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 AN ACT TO REVISE THE PROCEDURE FOR
15 VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.
16
17

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
19

20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-409(b)(5), concerning materials
21 furnished to qualified voters, is amended to read as follows:

22 (5) A blank voter statement in the following form:

23 "I reside at the address indicated on my application.

24 I have enclosed my ballot stub ~~in the Return Envelope, and I have enclosed~~
25 my marked ballot in the ~~Ballot Only~~ envelope, ~~which I will place in the~~
26 ~~Return Envelope~~. I will not vote again in this election.

27 THE INFORMATION I HAVE PROVIDED IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE UNDER
28 PENALTY OF PERJURY. IF I HAVE PROVIDED FALSE INFORMATION, I MAY BE SUBJECT
29 TO A FINE OF UP TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000) OR IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO
30 TEN (10) YEARS, OR BOTH, UNDER FEDERAL OR STATE LAWS.

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32 signature of voter

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34 printed name of voter

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36 address of voter



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 2 date of birth of voter
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 4 signature of designated bearer, relative or authorized agent
 5
 6 address of designated bearer, relative or authorized agent."; and
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8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code 7-5-412(a) and (b), concerning marking and
 9 returning absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) Upon receiving the blank ballot, statement, and envelopes, whether
 11 in the office of the county clerk or elsewhere, the voter shall mark the
 12 ballot, tear off the lower ballot stub end, and place the ballot in the
 13 provided envelope. He or she shall ~~then seal the envelope containing~~ place
 14 the ballot, the and place it with his executed statement, and the ballot stub
 15 in the ~~other~~ provided envelope.

16 (b) The envelope containing ballot, ballot stub, and statement must be
 17 received in the office of the county clerk not later than 7:30 p.m. on the
 18 day of the election.
 19

20 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code 7-5-416(b)(1)(B), concerning the counting of
 21 absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

22 (B) As each ~~outer~~ envelope is opened and the name of the
 23 voter is read, the election officials for the absentee box shall list in
 24 duplicate the name and voting precinct of the voter and shall write on the
 25 stub end of the ballot taken from the ~~outer~~ envelope the number of the voter
 26 taken from this list of voters;
 27

28 SECTION 4. Arkansas Code 7-5-416(d), concerning the counting of
 29 absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

30 (d) It is the intent of this section to permit the election officials
 31 for absentee ballots to meet and open the outer envelope and make a list in
 32 duplicate of the name and voting precinct of each voter casting an absentee
 33 ballot, to write on the stub end of the ballot ~~taken from the outer envelope~~
 34 the number of the voter taken from the list of voters, and to deposit the
 35 ~~inner~~ envelope containing the ballot in the ballot box and to deposit the
 36 ballot stub ends in another ballot box prior to the closing of the polls on

1 election day.

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APPROVED: 3/25/2003

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