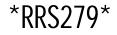
Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 2	State of Arkansas 82nd General Assembly	A Bill	
3	Regular Session, 1999		HOUSE BILL 1520
4	Regular Bession, 1999		HOUSE DILL 1520
5	By: Representative Faris		
6			
7			
8	For An Act To Be Entitled		
9	"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 7-5-409 PERTAINING TO		
10	MATERIALS FURNISHED TO QUALIFIED VOTERS; TO AMEND		
11	ARKANSAS CODE 7-5-412 PERTAINING TO THE MARKING AND		
12	RETURN OF BALLOTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."		
13			
14	Subtitle		
15	"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 7-5-409		
16	PERTAINING TO MATERIALS FURNISHED TO		
17	QUALIFIED VOTERS; TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE		
18	7-5-412 PERTAINING TO THE MARKING AND		
19	RETUR	N OF BALLOTS."	
20			
21			
22 23	BE IT ENACTED BY THE G	ENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAN	ISAS:
24	SECTION 1. Arkar	nsas Code 7-5-409(b)(3), one of the i	tems to be
25	furnished to applicants for absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows"		
26	"(3) A sealable envelope upon which shall be printed the address of the		
27	county clerk and the words: 'ABSENTEE BALLOT,		
28	This envelope shall have a place for the voter's name to be printed and a line		
29	<u>across the gummed flap for the voter's signature;</u> "		
30			
31	SECTION 2. Arkar	nsas Code 7-5-412 is amended to read	as follows:
32	"7-5-412. Marking and return of ballots - Delivery of mailed ballots.		
33	(a) Upon receiving the blank ballot, statement, and envelopes, whether		
34	in the office of the county clerk or elsewhere, the voter shall mark the		
35	ballot, tear off the lower ballot stub end, and place the ballot in the		
36	provided envelope. He s	shall then seal the envelope containi	ng the ballot and



place it with his executed statement and the ballot stub in the other provided
 envelope. <u>After sealing the outside envelope</u>, the voter shall print his name
 and sign the outside envelope across the sealed flap.

4 (b) The envelope containing ballot, ballot stub, and statement must be 5 received in the office of the county clerk not later than 7:30 p.m. on the day 6 of the election.

7 (c) Ballots by mail shall be counted if received no later than the time 8 the polls close on election day. Ballots received by mail on election day, and 9 before the polls close, shall be delivered promptly by the county clerk to the 10 election officials designated to canvass and count absentee ballots.

11 (d) The County Clerk shall verify the voter's signature on the outside 12 envelope against the voter registration records. If the county clerk is 13 unable to verify the voter's identity or is unable to verify the signature, 14 the envelope shall remain sealed and the County Board of Election 15 Commissioners shall review whether or not to count the ballots. A ballot 16 shall not be counted if the outside of the envelope does not contain the 17 voter's signature or verified mark."

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SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

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SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act arehereby repealed.

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