

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013
4
5 By: Representative Lea

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2068

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO PREVENT ELECTION MISCONDUCT; TO CLARIFY THE
9 PROCEDURES FOR ABSENTEE VOTING; AND FOR OTHER
10 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14 TO PREVENT ELECTION MISCONDUCT; AND TO
15 CLARIFY THE PROCEDURES FOR ABSENTEE
16 VOTING.

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

21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-409(b)(4)(A)(v), concerning absentee
22 voting procedures, is amended to read as follows:

23 (v) The voter statement shall include a the
24 following statement for a first-time voter who registers by mail: "If I am a
25 newly registered voter of this county and this is the first time I am voting
26 in this county, statement: "I am enclosing a copy of a current and valid
27 photo identification card or a current utility bill, bank statement,
28 government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows my name
29 and address, or the documentation from the administrator of a long-term care
30 or residential care facility licensed by the state attesting that I am a
31 resident of the facility."

33 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-412 is amended to read as follows:

34 7-5-412. Marking and return of absentee ballots – Delivery of mailed
35 absentee ballots.

36 (a)(1) Upon receiving the blank absentee ballot, statement, and



1 envelopes, whether in the office of the county clerk or elsewhere, the voter
 2 shall mark the absentee ballot and place the absentee ballot in the provided
 3 envelope.

4 ~~(2) He or she~~ The voter shall ~~then~~ seal the envelope containing
 5 the absentee ballot and place it in the other provided outer envelope with
 6 the following:

7 ~~(1)(A)~~ The executed voter statement; and

8 ~~(2)(B)~~ Either:

9 (i) A copy of a current and valid photographic
 10 identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement,
 11 government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name
 12 and address of the ~~first-time voter, for first-time voters who registered by~~
 13 ~~mail. However, this requirement does not apply if:~~ voter; or

14 (ii) If the voter resides in a long-term care or
 15 residential care facility licensed by the state, documentation from the
 16 administrator of the facility attesting that the person is a resident of the
 17 facility.

18 ~~(A) The voter registered to vote by mail and provided the~~
 19 ~~identification at that time; or~~

20 ~~(B) The first-time voter registered to vote by mail and~~
 21 ~~submitted his or her driver's license number or at least the last four (4)~~
 22 ~~digits of his or her social security number at the time and this information~~
 23 ~~matches the information in an existing state identification record bearing~~
 24 ~~the same number, name, and date of birth as provided in the registration.~~

25 ~~(b) A voter who desires to cast an absentee ballot but who does not~~
 26 ~~meet the identification requirements of subdivision (a)(2) of this section~~
 27 ~~may cast his or her absentee ballot by mail, and the absentee ballot shall be~~
 28 ~~considered as a provisional ballot.~~

29 ~~(c)~~ (b) Absentee ballots received by mail on election day before the
 30 polls close shall be delivered promptly by the county clerk to the election
 31 officials designated to canvass and count absentee ballots.

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