

H. B. No. 680  
As Introduced

\_\_\_\_\_ moved to amend as follows:

- In line 1 of the title, after "3509.04" insert ", 3509.05" 1
- In line 10, after "3509.04" insert ", 3509.05" 2
- In line 161, delete "If the" and insert "The"; delete "or a"; strike 3  
through "board of elections" 4
- In line 162, strike through "mails an absent voter's ballot 5  
application to an elector" 6
- In line 163, delete ", the secretary of state or the board, as" 7
- In line 164, delete "applicable,"; strike through "not"; strike 8  
through "that" and insert "an absent voter's ballot" 9
- In line 165, after "application" insert ", unless, under 39 U.S.C. 10  
3406, no postage payment is required" 11
- In line 246, delete "or a"; strike through "board of elections" 12
- In line 248, strike through "not" 13
- In line 249, after "ballots" insert "unless, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, 14  
no postage payment is required" 15
- After line 261, insert: 16



"Sec. 3509.05. (A) When an elector receives an absent voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and sealed within the identification envelope received from the director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall cause the statement of voter on the outside of the identification envelope to be completed and signed, under penalty of election falsification.

If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's license number or the last four digits of the elector's social security number on the statement of voter on the identification envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope with the identification envelope a copy of the elector's current valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector.

The elector shall mail the identification envelope to the director from whom it was received in the return envelope ~~postage prepaid~~, or the elector may personally deliver it to the director, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter,

adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 48  
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 49  
director. The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 50  
director in no other manner, except as provided in section 51  
3509.08 of the Revised Code. 52

When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at 53  
the office of the board, the elector may retire to a voting 54  
compartment provided by the board and there mark the ballots. 55  
Thereupon, the elector shall fold them, place them in the 56  
identification envelope provided, seal the envelope, fill in and 57  
sign the statement on the envelope under penalty of election 58  
falsification, and deliver the envelope to the director of the 59  
board. 60

Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 61  
section, all other envelopes containing marked absent voter's 62  
ballots shall be delivered to the director not later than the 63  
close of the polls on the day of an election. Absent voter's 64  
ballots delivered to the director later than the times specified 65  
shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the 66  
sealed identification envelopes in which they are delivered to 67  
the director, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 68  
Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at 69  
the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they 70  
shall be destroyed. 71

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 72  
this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to 73  
the day of the election shall be delivered to the director prior 74  
to the eleventh day after the election. Ballots delivered in 75  
envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election that are 76  
received after the close of the polls on election day through 77

the tenth day thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at 78  
the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) 79  
and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner 80  
provided in division (E) of that section, as applicable. Any 81  
such ballots that are received by the director later than the 82  
tenth day following the election shall not be counted, but shall 83  
be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as 84  
provided in division (A) of this section. 85

(2) Division (B) (1) of this section shall not apply to any 86  
mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, 87  
including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1." 88

In line 545, delete "If the" and insert "The"; delete "or a"; strike 89  
through "board of elections" 90

In line 546, strike through "mails a federal post card application 91  
or other absent" 92

In line 547, strike through "voter's ballot application to an 93  
elector"; delete ", the" 94

In line 548, delete "secretary of state or the board, as 95  
applicable,"; strike through "not" 96

In line 549, strike through "that" and insert "an absent voter's 97  
ballot"; after "application" insert "unless, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, no 98  
postage payment is required" 99

In line 599, delete "or a"; strike through "board of elections" 100

In line 602, strike through "not" 101

In line 603, after "ballots" insert ", unless, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, 102  
no postage payment is required" 103

In line 662, after "3509.04" insert ", 3509.05" 104

The motion was \_\_\_\_\_ agreed to.

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| <u>SYNOPSIS</u>   | 105 |
| <b>Prepaid postage for absent voter's ballots and applications</b>  | 106 |
|   | 107 |
| <b>R.C. 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.04</b>   | 108 |
| Requires the Secretary of State to prepay the return postage for absent voter's ballots and applications. | 109 |
|   | 110 |