

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
2017-2018**

S. B. No. 318

Senator LaRose

A BILL

To enact section 3509.031 of the Revised Code to 1
authorize the Secretary of State to establish a 2
secure online process for applying to vote by 3
absent voter's ballots. 4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 3509.031 of the Revised Code be 5
enacted to read as follows: 6

Sec. 3509.031. (A) The secretary of state, by rule adopted 7
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall establish a secure 8
online process for applying to vote by absent voter's ballots. 9
The rules shall provide for all of the following: 10

(1) An elector to submit an application to vote by absent 11
voter's ballots online through the internet; 12

(2) The elector to be sent proper absent voter's ballots 13
for the applicable election, if all of the following apply: 14

(a) The application contains all of the required 15
information. 16

(b) The elector is registered to vote and eligible to vote 17
in the election for which the elector is seeking absent voter's 18

ballots.

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(c) The elector attests to the truth and accuracy of the
information submitted in the online application under penalty of
election falsification using the last four digits of the
elector's social security number, the elector's Ohio driver's
license number, or the elector's Ohio identification card number
as proof of the elector's identity.

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(B) If an elector applies to vote by absent voter's
ballots under this section, the secretary of state shall obtain
an electronic copy of the elector's signature that is on file
with the statewide voter registration database. That electronic
signature shall be used as the elector's signature on the absent
voter's ballot application for the purpose of matching the
signature with the elector's signature on the elector's voter
registration record.

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(C) The secretary of state shall employ security measures
necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of information
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in
processing applications for absent voter's ballots in the online
system shall not prevent an elector from receiving absent
voter's ballots.

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