

**As Passed by the House**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2019-2020**

**Sub. H. B. No. 680**

**Representative Abrams**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Wiggam, Hambley, Carruthers, Patton, Seitz**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3503.16, 3509.03, 3509.04, 1  
3509.08, 3511.02, and 3511.04 and to enact 2  
section 3501.40 of the Revised Code to modify 3  
certain deadlines for absent voting and to 4  
direct the Secretary of State's use of federal 5  
CARES Act funds. 6

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3503.16, 3509.03, 3509.04, 7  
3509.08, 3511.02, and 3511.04 be amended and section 3501.40 of 8  
the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 9

Sec. 3501.40. Except as permitted under section 161.09 of 10  
the Revised Code, and notwithstanding any other contrary 11  
provision of the Revised Code, no public official shall cause an 12  
election to be conducted other than in the time, place, and 13  
manner prescribed by the Revised Code. 14

As used in this section, "public official" means any 15  
elected or appointed officer, employee, or agent of the state or 16  
any political subdivision, agency, board, commission, bureau, or 17  
other public body established by law. 18

**Sec. 3503.16.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 19  
(E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever a registered 20  
elector changes the place of residence of that registered 21  
elector from one precinct to another within a county or from one 22  
county to another, or has a change of name, that registered 23  
elector shall report the change by delivering a change of 24  
residence or change of name form, whichever is appropriate, as 25  
prescribed by the secretary of state under section 3503.14 of 26  
the Revised Code to the state or local office of a designated 27  
agency, a public high school or vocational school, a public 28  
library, the office of the county treasurer, the office of the 29  
secretary of state, any office of the registrar or deputy 30  
registrar of motor vehicles, or any office of a board of 31  
elections in person or by a third person. Any voter 32  
registration, change of address, or change of name application, 33  
returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary of state or 34  
the board of elections. 35

A registered elector also may update the registration of 36  
that registered elector by filing a change of residence or 37  
change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general 38  
election at the polling place in the precinct in which that 39  
registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at 40  
another site designated by the board. 41

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 42  
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 43  
special election and has not filed a notice of change of 44  
residence with the board of elections may vote in that election 45  
by going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, 46  
completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing 47  
identification in the form of a current and valid photo 48  
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 49

current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 50  
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 51  
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 52  
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current 53  
address of the elector, and casting a ballot. 54

(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that 55  
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to 56  
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 57  
filed a notice of change of name with the board of elections may 58  
vote in that election by going to that registered elector's 59  
assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a 60  
change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section 61  
3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides 62  
to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change, 63  
such as a marriage license or court order that includes the 64  
elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and 65  
sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot. 66

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 67  
another within a county or moves from one precinct to another 68  
and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to 69  
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 70  
filed a notice of change of residence or change of name, 71  
whichever is appropriate, with the board of elections may vote 72  
in that election if that registered elector complies with 73  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 74

(a) Appears at anytime during regular business hours on or 75  
after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that 76  
registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on 77  
the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day 78  
prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the 79

election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any 80  
time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 81  
election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on 82  
the day of the election at either of the following locations: 83

(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that 84  
registered elector resides; 85

(ii) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 86  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 87  
has designated another location in the county at which 88  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 89  
the office of the board of elections. 90

(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 91  
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 92  
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence 93  
or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 94

(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 95  
the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the 96  
board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 97  
3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another 98  
location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at 99  
that other location instead of the office of the board of 100  
elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which 101  
that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered 102  
elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 103

(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 104  
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 105  
elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, 106  
on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional 107  
ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that 108

registered elector resides, at the office of the board of 109  
elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of 110  
the Revised Code the board has designated another location in 111  
the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 112  
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 113  
whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 114  
at any other location for that particular election. 115

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 116  
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 117  
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 118  
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 119  
vote in that election if that registered elector complies with 120  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 121

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 122  
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 123  
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 124  
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 125  
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 126  
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 127  
or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 128  
Revised Code the board has designated another location in the 129  
county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 130  
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 131  
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 132  
election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 133  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 134  
has designated another location in the county at which 135  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 136  
the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of 137  
the election at the office of the board of elections or, if 138  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 139

the board has designated another location in the county at which 140  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 141  
the office of the board of elections; 142

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 143  
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 144  
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 145

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 146  
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 147  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 148  
the board has designated another location in the county at which 149  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 150  
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 151  
that registered elector has moved; 152

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 153  
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 154  
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 155  
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 156  
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 157  
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 158  
another location in the county at which registered electors may 159  
vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 160  
of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 161  
location for that particular election. 162

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 163  
to division (G) of this section shall not make written 164  
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 165  
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 166  
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 167  
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 168  
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 169

that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 170  
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 171  
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 172  
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 173  
to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 174  
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 175  
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 176

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 177  
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 178  
different from the office of the board at which registered 179  
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 180  
section. 181

(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 182  
change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send 183  
the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of 184  
residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall 185  
update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is 186  
incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the 187  
acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the 188  
information necessary to complete or update that registrant's 189  
registration. 190

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 191  
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 192  
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 193  
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 194  
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 195  
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 196

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 197  
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 198  
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 199

eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 200  
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 201  
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 202  
within five days after receiving them. 203

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 204  
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 205  
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 206  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 207  
has designated another location in the county at which 208  
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 209  
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 210  
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 211  
of the following: 212

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 213  
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 214  
to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or 215  
after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the 216  
registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the ~~Saturday~~ 217  
seventh day prior to that election and requests that the absent 218  
voter's ballot be sent to the address to which the registered 219  
elector has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the 220  
address of that registered elector who has not moved but has had 221  
a change of name; 222

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 223  
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 224  
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 225  
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 226  
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 227  
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 228  
infirmity; 229

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice of change of name, whichever is appropriate;

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other location or address for that particular election.

**Sec. 3509.03.** (A) Except as provided in division (B) of section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, any qualified elector desiring to vote absent voter's ballots at an election shall make written application for those ballots to the director of elections of the county in which the elector's voting residence is located.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section, the application need not be in any particular form but shall contain all of the following:

- (1) The elector's name;
- (2) The elector's signature;
- (3) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;
- (4) The elector's date of birth;
- (5) One of the following:

(a) The elector's driver's license number;	258
(b) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;	259 260
(c) A copy of the elector's current and 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.	261 262 263 264 265 266 267
(6) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;	268 269
(7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;	270 271
(8) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;	272 273
(9) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed.	274 275
(C) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the elector may provide the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.	276 277 278 279 280
(D) Each application for absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the elections for which the absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be	281 282 283 284 285

voted, whichever is earlier, ~~and~~. An application to receive 286  
absent voter's ballots by mail shall be delivered to the 287  
director not later than twelve noon of the ~~third~~ seventh day 288  
before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be 289  
voted, ~~or~~. An application to receive absent voter's ballots in 290  
person shall be delivered to the director not later than six 291  
p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election at which 292  
the ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in 293  
person to the office of the board. 294

(E) ~~A~~ If the secretary of state or a board of elections 295  
~~that~~ mails an absent voter's ballot application to an elector 296  
~~under this section,~~ the secretary of state or the board, as 297  
applicable, shall not prepay the return postage for that 298  
application. 299

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 300  
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 301  
official shall not fill out any portion of an application for 302  
absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary 303  
of state or a board of elections may preprint only an 304  
applicant's name and address on an application for absent 305  
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 306  
applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter 307  
registration record, the secretary of state or a board of 308  
elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the 309  
application. 310

**Sec. 3509.04.** (A) If a director of a board of elections 311  
receives an application for absent voter's ballots that does not 312  
contain all of the required information, the director promptly 313  
shall notify the applicant of the additional information 314  
required to be provided by the applicant to complete that 315

application. 316

(B) Upon receipt by the director of elections of an 317  
application for absent voter's ballots that contains all of the 318  
required information, as provided by section 3509.03 and 319  
division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code, the 320  
director, if the director finds that the applicant is a 321  
qualified elector, shall deliver to the applicant in person or 322  
mail directly to the applicant by special delivery mail, air 323  
mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, proper absent voter's 324  
ballots. The director shall deliver or mail with the ballots an 325  
unsealed identification envelope upon the face of which shall be 326  
printed a form substantially as follows: 327

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter 328

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Name of voter), declare under 329  
penalty of election falsification that the within ballot or 330  
ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received 331  
them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed 332  
in the identification envelope, and sealed in that envelope. 333

My voting residence in Ohio is 334

\_\_\_\_\_ 335

(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number) 336

of \_\_\_\_\_ (City, Village, or Township) 337

Ohio, which is in Ward \_\_\_\_\_ Precinct \_\_\_\_\_ 338

in that city, village, or township. 339

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am 340  
providing my program participant identification number instead 341  
of my residence address: \_\_\_\_\_ 342

The primary election ballots, if any, within this envelope 343

are primary election ballots of the \_\_\_\_\_ Party. 344

Ballots contained within this envelope are to be voted at 345

the \_\_\_\_\_ (general, special, or primary) election to be 346

held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of 347

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. 348

My date of birth is \_\_\_\_\_ (Month and Day), 349

\_\_\_\_\_ (Year). 350

(Voter must provide one of the following:) 351

My driver's license number is \_\_\_\_\_ (Driver's 352

license number). 353

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are 354

\_\_\_\_\_ (Last four digits of Social Security Number). 355

\_\_\_\_\_ In lieu of providing a driver's license number or 356

the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am 357

enclosing a copy of one of the following in the return envelope 358

in which this identification envelope will be mailed: a current 359

and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a 360

current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 361

paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 362

voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows my 363

name and address. 364

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 365

that the statements above are true, as I verily believe. 366

\_\_\_\_\_ 367

(Signature of Voter) 368

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF 369

THE FIFTH DEGREE." 370

The director shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed 371  
identification envelope an unsealed return envelope upon the 372  
face of which shall be printed the official title and post- 373  
office address of the director. In the upper left corner on the 374  
face of the return envelope, several blank lines shall be 375  
printed upon which the voter may write the voter's name and 376  
return address. The return envelope shall be of such size that 377  
the identification envelope can be conveniently placed within it 378  
for returning the identification envelope to the director. 379

~~A The secretary of state or a board of elections that 380  
mails or otherwise delivers absent voter's ballots to an elector 381  
under this section shall not prepay the return postage for those 382  
on any absent voter's ballots.~~ 383

Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 384  
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 385  
official shall not fill out any portion of an identification 386  
envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on 387  
behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an 388  
elector's name and address on an identification envelope 389  
statement of voter before mailing absent voter's ballots to the 390  
elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter 391  
registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the 392  
Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the 393  
elector's address on the identification envelope statement of 394  
voter. 395

**Sec. 3509.08.** (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account 396  
of the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or 397  
infirmity, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail 398  
or workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial 399  
on a felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the 400

elector's home or place of confinement to the voting booth in 401  
the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or 402  
primary election may make application in writing for an absent 403  
voter's ballot to the director of the board of elections of the 404  
elector's county. The application shall include all of the 405  
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 406  
and shall state the nature of the elector's illness, physical 407  
disability, or infirmity, or the fact that the elector is 408  
confined in a jail or workhouse and the elector's resultant 409  
inability to travel to the election booth in the elector's 410  
precinct on election day. The application shall not be valid if 411  
it is delivered to the director before the ninetieth day or 412  
after twelve noon of the ~~third~~ seventh day before the day of the 413  
election at which the ballot is to be voted. 414

The absent voter's ballot may be mailed directly to the 415  
applicant at the applicant's voting residence or place of 416  
confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or the 417  
board may designate two board employees belonging to the two 418  
major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot 419  
to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the 420  
board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or private 421  
institution within the county, in which case the board shall 422  
designate two board employees belonging to the two major 423  
political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to 424  
the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board. 425  
In all other instances, the ballot shall be returned to the 426  
office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05 427  
of the Revised Code. 428

Any disabled or confined elector who declares to the two 429  
board employees belonging to the two major political parties 430  
that the elector is unable to mark the elector's ballot by 431

reason of physical infirmity that is apparent to the employees 432  
to be sufficient to incapacitate the voter from marking the 433  
elector's ballot properly, may receive, upon request, the 434  
assistance of the employees in marking the elector's ballot, and 435  
they shall thereafter give no information in regard to this 436  
matter. Such assistance shall not be rendered for any other 437  
cause. 438

When two board employees belonging to the two major 439  
political parties deliver a ballot to a disabled or confined 440  
elector, each of the employees shall be present when the ballot 441  
is delivered, when assistance is given, and when the ballot is 442  
returned to the office of the board, and shall subscribe to the 443  
declaration on the identification envelope. 444

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 445  
application for absent voter's ballots under this division. 446

This chapter applies to disabled and confined absent 447  
voter's ballots except as otherwise provided in this section. 448

(B) (1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to 449  
the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any 450  
general, special, or primary election may apply to the director 451  
of the board of elections of the county where the elector is a 452  
qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's 453  
ballot if either of the following apply: 454

(a) The elector is confined in a hospital as a result of 455  
an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency occurring before 456  
the election; 457

(b) The elector's minor child is confined in a hospital as 458  
a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency 459  
occurring before the election. 460

(2) The application authorized under division (B) (1) of 461  
this section shall be made in writing, shall include all of the 462  
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, 463  
and shall be delivered to the director not later than three p.m. 464  
on the day of the election. The application shall indicate the 465  
hospital where the applicant or the applicant's child is 466  
confined, the date of the applicant's or the applicant's child's 467  
admission to the hospital, and the offices for which the 468  
applicant is qualified to vote. The applicant may also request 469  
that a member of the applicant's family, as listed in section 470  
3509.05 of the Revised Code, deliver the absent voter's ballot 471  
to the applicant. The director, after establishing to the 472  
director's satisfaction the validity of the circumstances 473  
claimed by the applicant, shall supply an absent voter's ballot 474  
to be delivered to the applicant. When the applicant or the 475  
applicant's child is in a hospital in the county where the 476  
applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a 477  
member of the family to deliver the ballot, the director shall 478  
arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the 479  
applicant, and for its return to the office of the board, by two 480  
board employees belonging to the two major political parties 481  
according to the procedures prescribed in division (A) of this 482  
section. When the applicant or the applicant's child is in a 483  
hospital outside the county where the applicant is a qualified 484  
elector and no request is made for a member of the family to 485  
deliver the ballot, the director shall arrange for the delivery 486  
of an absent voter's ballot to the applicant by mail, and the 487  
ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the 488  
manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code. 489

(3) Any qualified elector who is eligible to vote under 490  
division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code but 491

is unable to do so because of the circumstances described in 492  
division (B) (2) of this section may vote in accordance with 493  
division (B) (1) of this section if that qualified elector states 494  
in the application for absent voter's ballots that that 495  
qualified elector moved or had a change of name under the 496  
circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of section 497  
3503.16 of the Revised Code and if that qualified elector 498  
complies with divisions (G) (1) to (4) of section 3503.16 of the 499  
Revised Code. 500

(C) Any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B) 501  
(1) of this section who needs no assistance to vote or to return 502  
absent voter's ballots to the board of elections may apply for 503  
absent voter's ballots under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 504  
instead of applying for them under this section. 505

**Sec. 3511.02.** (A) Notwithstanding any section of the 506  
Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 507  
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 508  
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 509  
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973ff 510  
(1986), this application shall be sufficient for voter 511  
registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. 512  
Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be 513  
obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 514  
3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the 515  
secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in 516  
which the person's voting residence is located in accordance 517  
with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the 518  
director of the board of elections of the county in which the 519  
person's voting residence is located, in one of the following 520  
ways: 521

(1) That person may make written application for those	522
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to	523
the director or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send	524
it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such	525
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary	526
of state, or otherwise send it to the director. Except as	527
otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the	528
application need not be in any particular form but shall contain	529
all of the following information:	530
(a) The elector's name;	531
(b) The elector's signature;	532
(c) The address at which the elector is registered to	533
vote;	534
(d) The elector's date of birth;	535
(e) One of the following:	536
(i) The elector's driver's license number;	537
(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security	538
number;	539
(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo	540
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy	541
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check,	542
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of	543
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section	544
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of	545
the elector.	546
(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent	547
voter's ballots are requested;	548

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;	549 550
(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6;	551 552 553
(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, whichever is applicable;	554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561
(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;	562 563
(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed;	564 565
(l) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they shall be so sent;	566 567 568
(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact information.	569 570 571 572 573
(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division (A) (3) of this section may use a single federal post card application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in	574 575 576 577

a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 578  
that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the 579  
Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated 580  
by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting 581  
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to 582  
the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application 583  
shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 584  
3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied 585  
separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 586  
ballots for each election. 587

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas 588  
absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to 589  
such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father- 590  
in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or 591  
sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting 592  
parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, 593  
son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The 594  
application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only 595  
by the director or on a single federal post card as provided in 596  
division (A) (2) of this section. The form of the application 597  
shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The director 598  
shall furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified 599  
in this division desiring to make the application, only upon the 600  
request of such a relative made in person at the office of the 601  
board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to 602  
the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in 603  
division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and 604  
sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following: 605

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are 606  
requested; 607

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6;	608 609 610
(c) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;	611 612
(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, as the case may be;	613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620
(e) The elector's date of birth;	621
(f) One of the following:	622
(i) The elector's driver's license number;	623
(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;	624 625
(iii) A copy of the elector's current and 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.	626 627 628 629 630 631 632
(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;	633 634
(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is	635

a qualified elector; 636

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 637  
elector's party affiliation; 638

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to 639  
the elector as specified in division (A)(3) of this section; 640

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the 641  
telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile 642  
machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be 643  
sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by 644  
the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet 645  
contact information to which ballots shall be sent through 646  
internet delivery; 647

(l) The signature and address of the person making the 648  
application. 649

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration 650  
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the 651  
application may include the elector's program participant 652  
identification number instead of the address at which the 653  
elector is registered to vote. 654

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas 655  
absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director not 656  
earlier than the first day of January of the year of the 657  
elections for which the uniformed services or overseas absent 658  
voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days 659  
before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be 660  
voted, whichever is earlier, ~~and~~. An application to receive 661  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots by mail or 662  
by another method permitted under section 3511.021 of the 663  
Revised Code shall be delivered to the director not later than 664

twelve noon of the ~~third~~ seventh day preceding the day of the 665  
election, ~~or~~. An application to receive uniformed services or 666  
overseas absent voter's ballots in person shall be delivered to 667  
the director not later than six p.m. on the last Friday before 668  
the day of the election at which those ballots are to be voted 669  
if the application is delivered in person to the office of the 670  
board. 671

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is 672  
entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors 673  
only, the applicant shall submit to the director in addition to 674  
the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to 675  
the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential 676  
and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices. 677

(E) ~~A~~ If the secretary of state or a board of elections 678  
~~that~~ mails a federal post card application or other absent 679  
voter's ballot application to an elector ~~under this section,~~ the 680  
secretary of state or the board, as applicable, shall not prepay 681  
the return postage for that application. 682

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 683  
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 684  
official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card 685  
application or other application for absent voter's ballots on 686  
behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of 687  
elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a 688  
federal post card application or other application for absent 689  
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 690  
applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter 691  
registration record, the secretary of state or the board of 692  
elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the 693  
application. 694

**Sec. 3511.04.** (A) If a director of a board of elections 695  
receives an application for uniformed services or overseas 696  
absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required 697  
information, the director promptly shall notify the applicant of 698  
the additional information required to be provided by the 699  
applicant to complete that application. 700

(B) Not later than the forty-sixth day before the day of 701  
each general or primary election, and at the earliest possible 702  
time before the day of a special election held on a day other 703  
than the day on which a general or primary election is held, the 704  
director of the board of elections shall mail, send by facsimile 705  
machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery 706  
if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the 707  
secretary of state, or otherwise send uniformed services or 708  
overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use as provided 709  
for in section 3511.03 of the Revised Code and for which the 710  
director has received valid applications prior to that time. 711  
Thereafter, and until twelve noon of the ~~third~~ seventh day 712  
preceding the day of election, the director shall promptly, upon 713  
receipt of valid applications for them, mail, send by facsimile 714  
machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery 715  
if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the 716  
secretary of state, or otherwise send to the proper persons all 717  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready 718  
for use. 719

If, after the seventieth day before the day of a general 720  
or primary election, any other question, issue, or candidacy is 721  
lawfully ordered submitted to the electors voting at the general 722  
or primary election, the board shall promptly provide a separate 723  
official issue, special election, or other election ballot for 724  
submitting the question, issue, or candidacy to those electors, 725

and the director shall promptly mail, send by facsimile machine, 726  
send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such 727  
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 728  
of state, or otherwise send each such separate ballot to each 729  
person to whom the director has previously mailed or sent other 730  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots. 731

~~A-The secretary of state or a board of elections that~~ 732  
~~mails or otherwise delivers uniformed services or overseas~~ 733  
~~absent voter's ballots to an elector under this section shall~~ 734  
not prepay the return postage for those on any uniformed 735  
services or overseas absent voter's ballots. In mailing 736  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the 737  
director shall use the fastest mail service available, but the 738  
director shall not mail them by certified mail. 739

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3503.16, 3509.03, 740  
3509.04, 3509.08, 3511.02, and 3511.04 of the Revised Code are 741  
hereby repealed. 742

**Section 3.** Any funds received by the Secretary of State 743  
through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security 744  
(CARES) Act shall be used in accordance with this act. This 745  
provision applies to all appropriations made to appropriation 746  
item 050616, Help America Vote Act (HAVA), related to funding 747  
received through the CARES Act and deposited into the Help 748  
America Vote Act Fund (Fund 3AS0) for the biennium ending June 749  
30, 2021. 750

The Secretary of State shall use the received CARES Act 751  
funding described above in the following manner: 752

(A) To pay all costs associated with the completion of the 753  
March 17, 2020, primary election in accordance with H.B. 197 of 754

the 133rd General Assembly; 755

(B) To pay any costs associated with recruiting and 756  
training precinct election officials and temporary employees of 757  
the boards of elections for the general election to be held on 758  
November 3, 2020; 759

(C) To provide personal protective equipment for election 760  
officials, and to pay for cleaning and modifying the layout of 761  
polling places and the offices of the boards of elections to 762  
provide for adequate social distancing; 763

(D) To provide any additional electronics or related 764  
equipment needed to handle increased volumes of mail that may 765  
result during the general election to be held on November 3, 766  
2020; 767

(E) To pay the cost of mailing an application for absent 768  
voter's ballots to each elector in this state for the general 769  
election to be held on November 3, 2020, if the Controlling 770  
Board approves the transfer of CARES Act funds for that purpose 771  
instead of the transfer of moneys from the Controlling Board 772  
Emergency Purposes/Contingencies Fund (Fund 5KM0) for that 773  
purpose, as permitted under Section 395.20 of H.B. 166 of the 774  
133rd General Assembly. 775

**Section 4.** The items of law contained in this act, and 776  
their applications, are severable. If any item of law contained 777  
in this act, or if any application of any item of law contained 778  
in this act, is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect 779  
other items of law contained in this act and their applications 780  
that can be given effect without the invalid item of law or 781  
application. 782