

As Introduced

**133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
2019-2020**

S. B. No. 191

Senator Gavarone

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. 19

(c) The elector attests to the truth and accuracy of the 20
information submitted in the online application under penalty of 21
election falsification using the elector's birth date and the 22
last four digits of the elector's social security number, the 23
elector's Ohio driver's license number, or the elector's Ohio 24
identification card number as proof of the elector's identity. 25

(B) If an elector applies to vote by absent voter's 26
ballots under this section, the secretary of state shall obtain 27
an electronic copy of the elector's signature that is on file 28
with the statewide voter registration database. That electronic 29
signature shall be used as the elector's signature on the absent 30
voter's ballot application for the purpose of matching the 31
signature with the elector's signature on the elector's voter 32
registration record. 33

(C) The secretary of state shall employ security measures 34
necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of information 35
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in 36
processing applications for absent voter's ballots in the online 37
system shall not prevent an elector from receiving absent 38
voter's ballots. 39