

**As Introduced**

**132nd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2017-2018**

**H. B. No. 596**

**Representative Ramos**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Antonio, Rogers, Smith, K., Boggs, Kelly, Ashford,  
Sykes, Miller**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3501.10, 3503.16, 3509.02, 1  
3509.03, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.10 of the 2  
Revised Code to specify the conditions under 3  
which a board of county commissioners may 4  
establish one or more branch offices of the 5  
board of elections for in-person absent voting. 6

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3501.10, 3503.16, 3509.02, 7  
3509.03, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.10 of the Revised Code be 8  
amended to read as follows: 9

**Sec. 3501.10.** (A) The board of elections shall, as an 10  
expense of the board, provide suitable rooms for its offices and 11  
records and the necessary and proper furniture and supplies for 12  
those rooms. The board may lease such offices and rooms, 13  
necessary to its operation, for the length of time and upon the 14  
terms the board deems in the best interests of the public, 15  
provided that the term of any such lease shall not exceed 16  
fifteen years. 17

Thirty days prior to entering into such a lease, the board shall notify the board of county commissioners in writing of its intent to enter into the lease. The notice shall specify the terms and conditions of the lease. Prior to the thirtieth day after receiving that notice and before any lease is entered into, the board of county commissioners may reject the proposed lease by a majority vote. After receiving written notification of the rejection by the board of county commissioners, the board of elections shall not enter into the lease that was rejected, but may immediately enter into additional lease negotiations, subject to the requirements of this section.

The board of elections in any county may, by resolution, request that the board of county commissioners submit to the electors of the county, in accordance with section 133.18 of the Revised Code, the question of issuing bonds for the acquisition of real estate and the construction on it of a suitable building with necessary furniture and equipment for the proper administration of the duties of the board of elections. The resolution declaring the necessity for issuing such bonds shall relate only to the acquisition of real estate and to the construction, furnishing, and equipping of a building as provided in this division.

(B) The board of elections in each county shall keep its offices, or one or more of its branch registration offices, open for the performance of its duties until nine p.m. on the last day of registration before a general or primary election. At all other times during each week, the board shall keep its offices and rooms open for a period of time that the board considers necessary for the performance of its duties.

(C) (1) The board of elections may maintain permanent or

temporary branch offices at any place within the county, 48  
~~provided that, if the . The board of elections permits electors~~ 49  
~~to vote at~~ may designate a branch office, as the office of the 50  
board for the purpose of allowing electors to cast absent 51  
voter's ballots in person or to cast provisional ballots under 52  
section 3503.16 of the Revised Code before an election. Except 53  
as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, if the 54  
board designates a branch office as the office of the board for 55  
that purpose, electors shall not be permitted to vote cast 56  
absent voter's ballots in person or to cast provisional ballots 57  
before that election at any other branch office or any other 58  
office of the board of elections. 59

(2) Not later than the ninetieth day before the day of an 60  
election, the board of county commissioners of a county having a 61  
population of not less than sixty thousand, as determined by the 62  
most recent federal decennial census, may adopt a resolution to 63  
require the board of elections to establish one or more branch 64  
offices of the board of elections for the purpose of allowing 65  
electors to cast absent voter's ballots in person for that 66  
election. The number of branch offices established in the county 67  
for that purpose shall not exceed one branch office for every 68  
sixty thousand residents of the county, as determined by the 69  
most recent federal decennial census. The board of elections 70  
shall permit electors to cast absent voter's ballots in person 71  
before an election at the office of the board and at each branch 72  
office established under this division. 73

**Sec. 3503.16.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 74  
(D) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever a registered 75  
elector changes the place of residence of that registered 76  
elector from one precinct to another within a county or from one 77  
county to another, or has a change of name, that registered 78

elector shall report the change by delivering a change of 79  
residence or change of name form, whichever is appropriate, as 80  
prescribed by the secretary of state under section 3503.14 of 81  
the Revised Code to the state or local office of a designated 82  
agency, a public high school or vocational school, a public 83  
library, the office of the county treasurer, the office of the 84  
secretary of state, any office of the registrar or deputy 85  
registrar of motor vehicles, or any office of a board of 86  
elections in person or by a third person. Any voter 87  
registration, change of address, or change of name application, 88  
returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary of state or 89  
the board of elections. 90

A registered elector also may update the registration of 91  
that registered elector by filing a change of residence or 92  
change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general 93  
election at the polling place in the precinct in which that 94  
registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at 95  
another site designated by the board. 96

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 97  
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 98  
special election and has not filed a notice of change of 99  
residence with the board of elections may vote in that election 100  
by going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, 101  
completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing 102  
identification in the form of a current and valid photo 103  
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 104  
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 105  
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 106  
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 107  
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current 108  
address of the elector, and casting a ballot. 109

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

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

(a) Appears at ~~anytime~~ any time during regular business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of the election at ~~either of~~ the ~~following locations~~:

~~(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides,~~ 140  
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~~(ii) The or at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections.~~;~~ 142  
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(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 147  
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(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code at the polling place, or at the office of the board of elections, ~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ whichever is appropriate, using the address to which that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 151  
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(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides, or at the office of the board of elections, ~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 160  
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whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 170  
at any other location for that particular election. 171

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 172  
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 173  
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 174  
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 175  
vote in that election if that registered elector complies with 176  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 177

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 178  
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 179  
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 180  
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 181  
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 182  
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 183  
~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the~~ 184  
~~Revised Code the board has designated another location in the~~ 185  
~~county at which registered electors may vote, at that other~~ 186  
~~location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 187  
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 188  
election at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant~~ 189  
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 190  
~~has designated another location in the county at which~~ 191  
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of~~ 192  
~~the office of the board of elections,~~ or appears on the day of 193  
the election at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if~~ 194  
~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code~~ 195  
~~the board has designated another location in the county at which~~ 196  
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of~~ 197  
~~the office of the board of elections;~~ 198

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 199

falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 200  
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 201

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 202  
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if~~ 203  
~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code~~ 204  
~~the board has designated another location in the county at which~~ 205  
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of~~ 206  
~~the office of the board of elections,~~ using the address to which 207  
that registered elector has moved; 208

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 209  
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 210  
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 211  
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 212  
office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant to division (C)~~ 213  
~~of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated~~ 214  
~~another location in the county at which registered electors may~~ 215  
~~vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board~~ 216  
~~of elections,~~ and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 217  
location for that particular election. 218

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 219  
to division (G) of this section shall not make written 220  
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 221  
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 222  
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 223  
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 224  
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 225  
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 226  
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 227  
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 228  
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 229



to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 230  
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 231  
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 232

~~Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 233  
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 234  
different from the office of the board at which registered 235  
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 236  
section. 237~~

(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 238  
change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send 239  
the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of 240  
residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall 241  
update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is 242  
incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the 243  
acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the 244  
information necessary to complete or update that registrant's 245  
registration. 246

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 247  
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 248  
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 249  
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 250  
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 251  
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 252

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 253  
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 254  
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 255  
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 256  
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 257  
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 258  
within five days after receiving them. 259

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 260  
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 261  
appear at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant~~ 262  
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 263  
~~has designated another location in the county at which~~ 264  
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location,~~ on account 265  
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 266  
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 267  
of the following: 268

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 269  
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 270  
to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or 271  
after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the 272  
registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday 273  
prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's 274  
ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector 275  
has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address 276  
of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a 277  
change of name; 278

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 279  
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 280  
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 281  
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 282  
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 283  
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 284  
infirmity; 285

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 286  
voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 287  
address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice 288  
of change of name, whichever is appropriate; 289

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 290  
falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector 291  
has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before 292  
the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of 293  
personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that 294  
prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of 295  
elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 296  
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other 297  
location or address for that particular election. 298

**Sec. 3509.02.** (A) Any qualified elector may vote by absent 299  
voter's ballots at an election. 300

(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the 301  
office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant to division (C)~~ 302  
~~of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated~~ 303  
~~another location in the county at which registered electors may~~ 304  
~~vote, at that other location~~ on account of personal illness, 305  
physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one 306  
precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name 307  
and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves 308  
from one county to another county within the state, on or prior 309  
to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has 310  
not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name may 311  
vote by absent voter's ballots in that election as specified in 312  
division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 313

**Sec. 3509.03.** (A) Except as provided in division (B) of 314  
section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, any qualified elector 315  
desiring to vote absent voter's ballots at an election shall 316  
make written application for those ballots to the director of 317  
elections of the county in which the elector's voting residence 318  
is located. 319

(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:	320 321 322
(1) The elector's name;	323
(2) The elector's signature;	324
(3) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;	325 326
(4) The elector's date of birth;	327
(5) One of the following:	328
(a) The elector's driver's license number;	329
(b) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;	330 331
(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.	332 333 334 335 336 337 338
(6) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;	339 340
(7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;	341 342
(8) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;	343 344
(9) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed.	345 346

(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.

(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 voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of the third day before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, or not later than six p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in person to the office of the board or to a branch office established under division (C) (2) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code.

(E) A board of elections that mails an absent voter's ballot application to an elector under this section shall not prepay the return postage for that application.

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

application. 377

**Sec. 3509.05.** (A) When an elector receives an absent 378  
voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, 379  
the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note 380  
whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any 381  
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the 382  
board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 383  
ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and 384  
the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the 385  
board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and 386  
sealed within the identification envelope received from the 387  
director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 388  
cause the statement of voter on the outside of the 389  
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under 390  
penalty of election falsification. 391

If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's 392  
license number or the last four digits of the elector's social 393  
security number on the statement of voter on the identification 394  
envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope 395  
with the identification envelope a copy of the elector's current 396  
valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, 397  
or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government 398  
check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a 399  
notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections 400  
under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name 401  
and address of the elector. 402

The elector shall mail the identification envelope to the 403  
director from whom it was received in the return envelope, 404  
postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver it to the 405  
director, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, 406

father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, 407  
or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, 408  
adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 409  
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 410  
director. The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 411  
director in no other manner, except as provided in section 412  
3509.08 of the Revised Code. 413

When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at 414  
the office of the board or at a branch office established under 415  
division (C) (2) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code, the 416  
elector may retire to a voting compartment provided by the board 417  
and there mark the ballots. Thereupon, the elector shall fold 418  
them, place them in the identification envelope provided, seal 419  
the envelope, fill in and sign the statement on the envelope 420  
under penalty of election falsification, and deliver the 421  
envelope to the director of the board. 422

Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 423  
section, all other envelopes containing marked absent voter's 424  
ballots shall be delivered to the director not later than the 425  
close of the polls on the day of an election. Absent voter's 426  
ballots delivered to the director later than the times specified 427  
shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the 428  
sealed identification envelopes in which they are delivered to 429  
the director, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 430  
Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at 431  
the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they 432  
shall be destroyed. 433

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 434  
this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to 435  
the day of the election shall be delivered to the director prior 436

to the eleventh day after the election. Ballots delivered in 437  
envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election that are 438  
received after the close of the polls on election day through 439  
the tenth day thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at 440  
the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) 441  
and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner 442  
provided in division (E) of that section, as applicable. Any 443  
such ballots that are received by the director later than the 444  
tenth day following the election shall not be counted, but shall 445  
be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as 446  
provided in division (A) of this section. 447

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section shall not apply to any 448  
mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, 449  
including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1. 450

**Sec. 3511.02.** (A) Notwithstanding any section of the 451  
Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 452  
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 453  
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 454  
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973ff 455  
(1986), this application shall be sufficient for voter 456  
registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. 457  
Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be 458  
obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 459  
3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the 460  
secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in 461  
which the person's voting residence is located in accordance 462  
with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the 463  
director of the board of elections of the county in which the 464  
person's voting residence is located, in one of the following 465  
ways: 466



(1) That person may make written application for those 467  
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to 468  
the director or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send 469  
it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such 470  
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 471  
of state, or otherwise send it to the director. Except as 472  
otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the 473  
application need not be in any particular form but shall contain 474  
all of the following information: 475

- (a) The elector's name; 476
- (b) The elector's signature; 477
- (c) The address at which the elector is registered to 478  
vote; 479
- (d) The elector's date of birth; 480
- (e) One of the following: 481
  - (i) The elector's driver's license number; 482
  - (ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 483  
number; 484
  - (iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 485  
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 486  
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 487  
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 488  
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 489  
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of 490  
the elector. 491
- (f) A statement identifying the election for which absent 492  
voter's ballots are requested; 493

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;	494 495
(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6;	496 497 498
(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;	499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506
(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;	507 508
(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed;	509 510
(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;	511 512 513
(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.	514 515 516 517 518
(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	519 520 521 522

a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 523  
that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the 524  
Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated 525  
by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting 526  
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to 527  
the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application 528  
shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 529  
3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied 530  
separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 531  
ballots for each election. 532

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas 533  
absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to 534  
such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father- 535  
in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or 536  
sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting 537  
parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, 538  
son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The 539  
application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only 540  
by the director or on a single federal post card as provided in 541  
division (A) (2) of this section. The form of the application 542  
shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The director 543  
shall furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified 544  
in this division desiring to make the application, only upon the 545  
request of such a relative made in person at the office of the 546  
board or at a branch office established under division (C) (2) of 547  
section 3501.10 of the Revised Code or upon the written request 548  
of such a relative mailed to the office of the board. Except as 549  
otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the 550  
application, subscribed and sworn to by the applicant, shall 551  
contain all of the following: 552

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are 553

requested;	554
(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed	555
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-	556
6;	557
(c) The address at which the elector is registered to	558
vote;	559
(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of	560
residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of	561
service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or	562
near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the	563
United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal	564
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish	565
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the	566
United States, as the case may be;	567
(e) The elector's date of birth;	568
(f) One of the following:	569
(i) The elector's driver's license number;	570
(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security	571
number;	572
(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo	573
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy	574
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check,	575
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of	576
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section	577
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of	578
the elector.	579
(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent	580
voter's ballots are requested;	581

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector; 582  
583

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation; 584  
585

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to the elector as specified in division (A) (3) of this section; 586  
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(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet contact information to which ballots shall be sent through internet delivery; 588  
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(l) The signature and address of the person making the application. 595  
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(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the application may include the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote. 597  
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(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas 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 uniformed services or overseas 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 voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of the third day preceding the day of the election, or not later than six p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election 602  
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at which those ballots are to be voted if the application is 611  
delivered in person to the office of the board or to a branch 612  
office established under division (C) (2) of section 3501.10 of 613  
the Revised Code. 614

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is 615  
entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors 616  
only, the applicant shall submit to the director in addition to 617  
the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to 618  
the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential 619  
and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices. 620

(E) A board of elections that mails a federal post card 621  
application or other absent voter's ballot application to an 622  
elector under this section shall not prepay the return postage 623  
for that application. 624

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 625  
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 626  
official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card 627  
application or other application for absent voter's ballots on 628  
behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of 629  
elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a 630  
federal post card application or other application for absent 631  
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 632  
applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter 633  
registration record, the secretary of state or the board of 634  
elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the 635  
application. 636

**Sec. 3511.10.** If, after the first day after the close of 637  
voter registration before a general or primary election and 638  
before the close of the polls on the day of that election, a 639  
valid application for uniformed services or overseas absent 640

voter's ballots is delivered to the director of the board of 641  
elections at the office of the board or at a branch office 642  
established under division (C) (2) of section 3501.10 of the 643  
Revised Code by a person making the application on the person's 644  
own behalf, the director shall forthwith deliver to the person 645  
all uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then 646  
ready for use, together with an identification envelope. The 647  
person shall then immediately retire to a voting booth in the 648  
office of the board or in the branch office, as applicable, and 649  
mark the ballots. The person shall then fold each ballot 650  
separately so as to conceal the person's markings thereon, and 651  
deposit all of the ballots in the identification envelope and 652  
securely seal it. Thereupon the person shall fill in answers to 653  
the questions on the face of the identification envelope, and by 654  
writing the person's usual signature in the proper place 655  
thereon, the person shall declare under penalty of election 656  
falsification that the answers to those questions are true and 657  
correct to the best of that person's knowledge and belief. The 658  
person shall then deliver the identification envelope to the 659  
director. If thereafter, and before the third day preceding such 660  
election, the board provides additional separate official issue 661  
or special election ballots, as provided for in section 3511.04 662  
of the Revised Code, the director shall promptly, and not later 663  
than twelve noon of the third day preceding the day of election, 664  
mail such additional ballots to such person at the address 665  
specified by that person for that purpose. Except as otherwise 666  
provided in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an 667  
election official shall not fill out any portion of an 668  
application for absent voter's ballots, an identification 669  
envelope statement of voter, or an absent voter's ballot 670  
requested under this section on behalf of an applicant. 671

In the event any person serving in the armed forces of the United States is discharged after the closing date of registration, and that person or that person's spouse, or both, meets all the other qualifications set forth in section 3511.011 of the Revised Code, the person or spouse shall be permitted to vote prior to the date of the election in the office of the board in the person's or spouse's county or in a branch office established under division (C) (2) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code, as set forth in this section.

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3501.10, 3503.16, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.10 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

**Section 3.** Section 3511.10 of the Revised Code is presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Sub. S.B. 205 and Am. S.B. 238 of the 130th General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this act.