As Passed by the Senate

126th General Assembly Regular Session 2005-2006

Sub. H. B. No. 234

Representatives Wolpert, Kearns, C. Evans, D. Evans, Beatty, Miller, Brown, Distel, S. Smith, Widowfield, Trakas, Boccieri, Hood, Allen, D. Stewart, Law, Uecker, Barrett, Book, Calvert, Carano, Cassell, Chandler, Combs, DeBose, Dolan, Domenick, Flowers, Hartnett, Harwood, Healy, Hoops, Hughes, Key, Koziura, Mason, McGregor, Otterman, T. Patton, Perry, Schneider, Seaver, G. Smith, J. Stewart, Ujvagi, White, Williams, Yuko Senators Cates, Niehaus, Mumper, Grendell, Clancy, Coughlin, Goodman, Padgett, Austria, Harris

ABILL

То	amend sections 3501.17, 3501.22, 3501.27, 3503.16,	1
	3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.031, 3509.04, 3509.05,	2
	3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3511.02, 3511.04,	3
	3511.09, 3599.12, 3599.21, and 4109.06 and to	4
	enact sections 3509.022, 3509.09, and 3511.13 of	5
	the Revised Code to permit a board of elections,	6
	in conjunction with a board of education, the	7
	governing authority of a community school, or the	8
	chief administrator of a nonpublic school, to	9
	establish a program permitting certain high school	10
	seniors to serve as precinct officers on the day	11
	of an election, and to revise the law governing	12
	absent voter's ballots and armed service absent	13
	voter's ballots.	14

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.17, 3501.22, 3501.27, 3503.16,	15
3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.031, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.06, 3509.07,	16
3509.08, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.09, 3599.12, 3599.21, and 4109.06	17
be amended and sections 3509.022, 3509.09, and 3511.13 of the	18
Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:	19

Sec. 3501.17. (A) The expenses of the board of elections 20 shall be paid from the county treasury, in pursuance of 21 appropriations by the board of county commissioners, in the same 22 manner as other county expenses are paid. If the board of county 23 commissioners fails to appropriate an amount sufficient to provide 24 for the necessary and proper expenses of the board of elections 25 pertaining to the conduct of elections, other than expenses for 26 employee compensation and benefits incurred in the conduct of 27 elections, the board of elections may apply to the court of common 28 pleas within the county, which shall fix the amount necessary to 29 be appropriated and the amount shall be appropriated. Payments 30 shall be made upon vouchers of the board of elections certified to 31 by its chairperson or acting chairperson and the director or 32 deputy director, upon warrants of the county auditor. 33

The board of elections shall not incur any obligation 34 involving the expenditure of money unless there are moneys 35 sufficient in the funds appropriated therefor to meet the 36 obligation as required in division (D) of section 5705.41 of the 37 Revised Code. If the board of elections requests a transfer of 38 funds from one of its appropriation items to another, the board of 39 county commissioners shall adopt a resolution providing for the 40 transfer except as otherwise provided in section 5705.40 of the 41 Revised Code. The expenses of the board of elections shall be 42 apportioned among the county and the various subdivisions as 43 provided in this section, and the amount chargeable to each 44 subdivision shall be withheld by the auditor from the moneys 45

payable thereto at the time of the next tax settlement. At the

time of submitting budget estimates in each year, the board of

elections shall submit to the taxing authority of each

subdivision, upon the request of the subdivision, an estimate of

the amount to be withheld from the subdivision during the next

fiscal year.

- (B) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this section, the entire compensation of the members of the board of elections and of the director, deputy director, and other employees in the board's offices; the expenditures for the rental, furnishing, and equipping of the office of the board and for the necessary office supplies for the use of the board; the expenditures for the acquisition, repair, care, and custody of the polling places, booths, guardrails, and other equipment for polling places; the cost of pollbooks, tally sheets, maps, flags, ballot boxes, and all other permanent records and equipment; the cost of all elections held in and for the state and county; and all other expenses of the board which are not chargeable to a political subdivision in accordance with this section shall be paid in the same manner as other county expenses are paid.
- (C) The compensation of judges and clerks of elections; the cost of renting, moving, heating, and lighting polling places and of placing and removing ballot boxes and other fixtures and equipment thereof; the cost of printing and delivering ballots, cards of instructions, and other election supplies; and all other expenses of conducting primaries and elections in the odd-numbered years shall be charged to the subdivisions in and for which such primaries or elections are held. The charge for each primary or general election in odd-numbered years for each subdivision shall be determined in the following manner: first, the total cost of all chargeable items used in conducting such elections shall be ascertained; second, the total charge shall be divided by the

number of precincts participating in such election, in order to

fix the cost per precinct; third, the cost per precinct shall be

prorated by the board of elections to the subdivisions conducting

elections for the nomination or election of offices in such

precinct; fourth, the total cost for each subdivision shall be

determined by adding the charges prorated to it in each precinct

within the subdivision.

- (D) The entire cost of special elections held on a day other 85 than the day of a primary or general election, both in 86 odd-numbered or in even-numbered years, shall be charged to the 87 subdivision. Where a special election is held on the same day as a 88 primary or general election in an even-numbered year, the 89 subdivision submitting the special election shall be charged only 90 for the cost of ballots and advertising. Where a special election 91 is held on the same day as a primary or general election in an 92 odd-numbered year, the subdivision submitting the special election 93 shall be charged for the cost of ballots and advertising for such 94 special election, in addition to the charges prorated to such 95 subdivision for the election or nomination of candidates in each 96 precinct within the subdivision, as set forth in the preceding 97 paragraph. 98
- 99 (E) Where a special election is held on the day specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the 100 holding of a primary election, for the purpose of submitting to 101 the voters of the state constitutional amendments proposed by the 102 general assembly, and a subdivision conducts a special election on 103 the same day, the entire cost of the special election shall be 104 divided proportionally between the state and the subdivision based 105 upon a ratio determined by the number of issues placed on the 106 ballot by each, except as otherwise provided in division (G) of 107 this section. Such proportional division of cost shall be made 108 only to the extent funds are available for such purpose from 109

located, as judges. Such electors Except as otherwise provided in

139

170

171

division (C) of this section, all judges of election shall be	140
qualified electors. The judges shall constitute the election	141
officers of the precinct. Not more than one-half of the total	142
number of judges shall be members of the same political party. The	143
term of such precinct officers shall be for one year. The board	144
may, at any time, designate any number of election officers, not	145
more than one-half of whom shall be members of the same political	146
party, to perform their duties at any precinct in any election.	147
The board may appoint additional officials, equally divided	148
between the two major political parties, when necessary to	149
expedite voting.	150

Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled by the board. 151
When new precincts have been created, the board shall appoint 152
judges for such those precincts for the unexpired term. Any judge 153
may be summarily removed from office at any time by the board for 154
neglect of duty, malfeasance, or misconduct in office, or for any 155
other good and sufficient reason. 156

Precinct election officials shall perform all of the duties 157 provided by law for receiving the ballots and supplies, opening 158 and closing the polls, and overseeing the casting of ballots 159 during the time the polls are open, and any other duties required 160 by section 3501.26 of the Revised Code. 161

A board of elections may designate two precinct election

officials as counting officials to count and tally the votes cast

and certify the results of the election at each precinct, and

perform such other duties as are provided by law. To expedite the

counting of votes at each precinct, the board may appoint

additional officials, not more than one-half of whom shall be

members of the same political party.

168

The board shall designate one of the precinct election officials who is a member of the dominant political party to serve as a presiding judge, whose duty it is to deliver the returns of

243

244

245

246

247

248

249

250

251

252

(B) Each board shall establish a program as prescribed by the 233 secretary of state for the instruction of election officers in the 234 rules, procedures, and law relating to elections. In each program, 235 the board shall use training materials prepared by the secretary 236 of state, and may use additional materials prepared by or on 237 behalf of the board. The board may use the services of unpaid 238 volunteers in conducting its program and may reimburse such those 239 volunteers for necessary and actual expenses incurred in 240 participating in the program. 2.41

The board shall train each new election officer before the new officer participates in his the first election in that capacity. The board shall instruct election officials who have been trained previously only when the board or secretary of state considers such that instruction necessary, but the board shall reinstruct such persons, other than presiding judges, at least once in every three years and shall reinstruct presiding judges before the primary election in even-numbered years. The board shall schedule any program of instruction within sixty days prior to the election in which the officials to be trained will participate.

- (C) The duties of a judge of an election in each polling 253 place shall be performed only by an individual who has 254 successfully completed the requirements of the program, unless 255 such an individual is unavailable after reasonable efforts to 256 obtain such services. 257
- (D) The secretary of state shall establish a program for the instruction of members of boards of elections and employees of boards in the rules, procedures, and law relating to elections. 260 Each member and employee shall complete the training program 261 within six months after his the member's or employee's original 262 appointment or employment, and thereafter, each member and 263 employee shall complete a training program to update their 264

288

289

290

291

292

knowledge	once	every	four	years	or	more	often	as	determined	by	the	265
secretary	of st	ate.										266

(E) The secretary of state shall reimburse each county for the cost of programs established pursuant to division (B) of this section, once he the secretary of state has received an itemized statement of expenses for such instruction programs from the county. The itemized statement shall be in a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

Sec. 3503.16. (A) Whenever a registered elector changes the 273 place of residence of that registered elector from one precinct to 274 another within a county or from one county to another, or has a 275 change of name, that registered elector shall report the change by 276 delivering a change of residence or change of name form, whichever 277 is appropriate, as prescribed by the secretary of state under 278 section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to the state or local office 279 of a designated agency, a public high school or vocational school, 280 a public library, the office of the county treasurer, the office 281 of the secretary of state, any office of the registrar or deputy 282 registrar of motor vehicles, or any office of a board of elections 283 in person or by a third person. Any voter registration, change of 284 address, or change of name application, returned by mail, may be 285 sent only to the secretary of state or the board of elections. 286

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

(B)(1) Any registered elector who moves within a precinct or 293 changes the name of that registered elector and remains within a 294 precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special 295

change of name, whichever is appropriate, 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 change of residence or change of name, whichever is	election and has not filed a notice of change of residence or	296
elections may vote in that election by going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is 300	change of name, whichever is appropriate, with the board of	297
of change of residence or change of name, whichever is	elections may vote in that election by going to that registered	298
of change of residence or change of name, whichever is	elector's assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice	299
appropriate, and casting a ballot.	of change of residence or change of name, whichever is	300
	appropriate, and casting a ballot.	301

- (2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 302 another within a county or moves from one precinct to another and 303 changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to the day 304 of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a 305 notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is 306 appropriate, with the board of elections may vote in that election 307 if that registered elector complies with division (G) of this 308 section or does all of the following: 309
- (a) Appears at anytime during regular business hours on or 310 after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that 311 registered elector wishes to vote, or if the election is held on 312 the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day 313 prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the 314 election or during regular business hours on the Monday prior to 315 the election at the office of the board of elections, or appears 316 on the day of the election at either of the following locations: 317
- (i) The polling place in the precinct in which that

 registered elector resides;

 318
- (ii) The location designated by the board of elections, which
 shall be the office of the board or another appropriate site
 designated by the board in the county in which that registered
 elector resides.
- (b) Completes and signs, under penalty of electionfalsification, a notice of change of residence or change of name,whichever is appropriate, and files it with election officials at326

the polling place, at the office of the board of elections, or at

the site designated by the board, whichever is appropriate;

327

- (c) Votes at the polling place, at the office of the board of 329 elections, or at the site designated by the board, whichever is 330 appropriate, by absent voter's ballots using the address to which 331 that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered 332 elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 333
- (d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 334 falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector 335 moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, on or 336 prior to the day of the election, has voted at the polling place 337 in the precinct in which that registered elector resides, at the 338 office of the board of elections, or at the site designated by the 339 board, whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to 340 vote at any other location for that particular election. The 341 statement required under division (B)(2)(d) of this section may 342 shall be included on the notice of change of residence or change 343 of name, whichever is appropriate, required under division 344 (B)(2)(b) of this section. 345
- (C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 346 another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 347 general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 348 vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may vote in that election if that registered elector complies with division 350 (G) of this section or does all of the following: 351
- (1) Appears at 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 or during regular business hours on the Monday prior to
 352

the election at the office of the board of elections, or appears	358
on the day of the election at the location designated by the board	359
of elections, which shall be either the office of the board or	360
another appropriate site designated by the board in the county in	361
which that registered elector resides;	362

- (2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 363 falsification, a notice of change of residence and files it with 364 election officials at the board or at the site designated by the 365 board, whichever is appropriate; 366
- (3) Votes at the office of the board of elections or at a 367 site designated by the board by absent voter's ballots using the address to which that registered elector has moved; 369
- (4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 370 falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector 371 has moved from one county to another county within the state on or 372 prior to the day of the election, has voted at the office of the 373 board of elections or at the site designated by the board, 374 whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote at 375 any other location for that particular election. The statement 376 required under division (C)(4) of this section may shall be 377 included on the notice of change of residence required under 378 division (C)(2) of this section. 379
- (D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant to 380 division (B), (C), or (G) of this section shall not make written 381 application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 382 Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (B), (C), or (G) 383 of this section shall be set aside in a special envelope and 384 counted during the official canvass of votes in the manner 385 provided for in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code 386 insofar as that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the 387 pollbooks to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by 388

396

397

419

absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised	389
Code by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots	390
pursuant to division (B), (C), or (G) of this section. Any ballot	391
determined to be insufficient for any of the reasons stated above	392
or stated in section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be	393
counted.	394

A board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site different from the office of the board at which registered electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this section.

- (E) Upon receiving a change of residence or change of name 398 form, the board of elections shall immediately send the registrant 399 an acknowledgment notice. If the change of residence or change of 400 name form is valid, the board shall update the voter's 401 registration as appropriate. If that form is incomplete, the board 402 shall inform the registrant in the acknowledgment notice specified 403 in this division of the information necessary to complete or 404 update that registrant's registration. 405
- (F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be

 406

 available at each polling place, and when these forms are

 407

 completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate,

 they shall be filed with election officials at the polling place.

 409

 Election officials shall return completed forms, together with the

 pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections.

 411

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

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to vote

under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to appear	420
at the office of the board or other location designated by the	421
board on account of personal illness, physical disability, or	422
infirmity, may vote on the day of the election if that registered	423
elector does all of the following:	424

- (1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 425 information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code to 426 the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or after the 427 twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the registered 428 elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday prior to that 429 election and requests that the absent voter's ballot be sent to 430 the address to which the registered elector has moved if the 431 registered elector has moved, or to the address of that registered 432 elector who has not moved but has had a change of name; 433
- (2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had a
 change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is
 qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division
 (B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that the
 registered elector is unable to appear at the board or other
 location designated by the board because of personal illness,
 physical disability, or infirmity;

 434
- (3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 441 voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 442 address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice of 443 change of name, whichever is appropriate; 444
- (4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election

 445
 falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector

 446
 has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before

 447
 the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of

 448
 personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that prevented

 449
 the registered elector from appearing at the board or other

 450

Page 16

Sub. H. B. No. 234

Page 17

(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the	480
office of the board of elections or other location designated by	481
the board on account of personal illness, physical disability, or	482
infirmity, and who moves from one precinct to another within a	483
county or changes his or her the elector's name and moves from	484
one precinct to another within the a county, or moves from one	485
county to another county within the state, on or prior to the day	486
of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a	487
notice of change of residence or change of name may vote by absent	488
voter's ballots in that election as specified in division (B) or	489
(G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. Any qualified elector	490
who moves from one county to another county within the state on or	491
prior to the day of the election at which the elector offers to	492
vote and has not filed a notice of change of residence may vote by	493
absent voter's ballots at that election as specified in division	494
(C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code.	495
(C) The secretary of state, an employee of the secretary of	496
state, a member or employee of the board of elections or any	497
person hired by the board to work at the office of the board	498
temporarily for a specific election, or a polling place official,	499
who is a qualified elector may vote by absent voter's ballots.	500
Application shall be made to the board of elections of the county	501
where his voting residence is situated.	502
Sec. 3509.022. An overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C.	503
1973ff-6, other than an absent uniformed services voter as defined	504
in that statute, may apply for an absent voter's ballot as	505
provided in this chapter.	506
Sec. 3509.03. Except as provided in division (B) or (C) of	507
section 3503.16, section 3509.031, or division (B) of section	508
3509.08 of the Revised Code, any person qualified elector desiring	509

(F) A statement identifying the election for which absent

voter's ballots are requested;

538

539

(G) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a	540
qualified elector;	541
(H) If the request is for primary election ballots, the	542
elector's party affiliation;	543
(I) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the	544
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed.	545
A voter who will be outside the United States on the day of	546
any election during a calendar year may use a single federal post	547
card application to apply for absent voter's ballots. Such Those	548
ballots shall be sent to the voter for use at the primary and	549
general elections in that year and any special election to be held	550
on the day in that year specified by division (E) of section	551
3501.01 of the Revised Code for the holding of a primary election,	552
designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting	553
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the	554
voters of the state unless the voter reports a change in the	555
voter's voting status to the board of elections or the voter's	556
intent to vote in any such election in the precinct in this state	557
where he the voter is registered to vote. Such an A single federal	558
postcard application shall be processed by the board of elections	559
pursuant to section 3509.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the	560
voter had applied separately for absent voter's ballots for each	561
election. When mailing absent voter's ballots to a voter who	562
applied for them by single federal post card application, the	563
board shall enclose notification to the voter that the voter must	564
report to the board subsequent changes in the voter's voting	565
status or the voter's subsequent intent to vote in any such	566
election in the precinct in this state where the voter is	567
registered to vote. Such notification shall be in a form	568
prescribed by the secretary of state. As used in this section,	569
"voting status" means the voter's name at the time the voter	570

applied for absent voter's ballots by single federal post card

application and the voter's address outside the United States to 572 which the voter requested that such those ballots be sent. 573

Each application for absent voter's ballots shall be 574 delivered to the director not earlier than the first day of 575 January of the year of the elections for which the absent voter's 576 ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the 577 day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, 578 whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of the third 579 day before the day of the election at which such the ballots are 580 to be voted, or not later than the close of regular business hours 581 on the day before the day of the election at which the absent 582 voter's ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in 583 person to the office of the board. 584

Sec. 3509.031. (A) Any qualified elector who is a member of 585 the organized militia called to active duty within the state of 586 Ohio and who will be unable to vote on election day on account of 587 such that active duty may make written application for absent 588 voter's ballots to the director of elections for the county in 589 which his the elector's voting residence is located. The elector 590 may personally deliver such the application to the director or may 591 mail it, send it by facsimile machine, or otherwise send it to the 592 director. Such The application need not be in any particular form 593 but shall contain the applicant's signature. The application need 594 only contain words which, liberally construed, indicate the 595 request for ballots, the election for which such ballots are 596 requested and, if the request is for primary election ballots, the 597 party affiliation of the applicant. The applicant should indicate 598 that the applicant is a qualified elector, and that the applicant 599 is a member of the organized militia serving on active duty within 600 the state of Ohio. Sufficient information should be included to 601 enable the director to determine the precinct in which his voting 602 residence is located. If the applicant desires that such ballots 603

(B) Application to have such absent voter's ballots mailed or	633
sent by facsimile machine to such person a qualified elector who	634
is a member of the organized militia called to active duty within	635
the state and who will be unable to vote on election day on	636
account of that active duty may be made by the spouse of the	637
militia member, or the father, mother, father-in-law,	638
mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the	639
whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted	640
child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of	641
such person the militia member. The application shall be in	642
writing upon a blank form furnished only by the director. The form	643
of the application shall be prescribed by the secretary of state.	644
The director shall furnish such <u>that</u> blank form to any of the	645
relatives specified in this section, division desiring to make	646
$rac{ ext{such}}{ ext{the}}$ application, only upon the request of such $rac{ ext{a}}{ ext{c}}$ relative in	647
person at the office of the board or upon the written request of	648
such \underline{a} relative mailed to the office of the board. Such $\underline{ ext{The}}$	649
application, subscribed and sworn to by such the applicant, shall	650
contain all of the following:	651
(A) Full (1) The full name of person the elector for whom	652
ballots are requested;	653
(B) Statement (2) A statement that such person is a qualified	654
elector and that such person has a residence in the county and	655
information as to the location of such voting residence;	656
(C) Statement that such person (3) The address at which the	657
elector is registered to vote;	658
(4) The elector's date of birth;	659
(5) One of the following:	660
(a) The elector's driver's license number;	661
(b) The last four digits of the elector's social security	662

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are	782
(Last four digits of Social Security Number).	783
In lieu of providing a driver's license number or the	784
last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am enclosing a	785
copy of one of the following in the return envelope in which this	786
identification envelope will be mailed: a current and valid photo	787
identification or a current utility bill, bank statement,	788
government check, paycheck, or other government document that	789
shows my name and address.	790
I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification,	791
that the statements above are true, as I verily believe.	792
	793
(Signature of Voter)	794
WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF	795
THE FIFTH DEGREE."	796
The director shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed	797
identification envelope that the director mails an unsealed return	798
envelope upon the face of which shall be printed the official	799
title and post-office address of such the director. In the upper	800
left corner on the face of such the return envelope, several blank	801
lines shall be printed upon which the voter may write the voter's	802
name and return address, and beneath these lines there shall be	803
printed a box beside the words "check if out-of-country." The	804
voter shall check this box if the voter will be outside the United	805
States on the day of the election. The return envelope shall be of	806
such size that the identification envelope can be conveniently	807
placed within it for returning such the identification envelope to	808
the director.	809
	0.1.0
Sec. 3509.05. (A) When <u>an elector receives</u> an absent voter's	810
ballot, pursuant to his the elector's application or request	811

Sub. H. B. No. 234 As Passed by the Senate

therefor, is received by the elector, he the elector shall, before	812
placing any marks thereon <u>on the ballot</u> , note whether there are	813
any voting marks on the ballot <u>it</u> . In the event <u>If</u> there are any	814
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the	815
board of elections; otherwise he, the elector shall cause the	816
ballot to be marked, folded in $\frac{1}{2}$ such $\frac{1}{2}$ manner that the stub $\frac{1}{2}$	817
on it and the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members	818
of the board of elections on the back thereof <u>of it</u> are visible,	819
and placed and sealed within the identification envelope received	820
from the director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector	821
shall cause the statement of voter on the outside of the	822
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under penalty	823
of election falsification.	824

If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's 825 license number or the last four digits of the elector's social 826 security number on the statement of voter on the identification 827 envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope 828 with the identification envelope a copy of the elector's current 829 valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, 830 bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 831 document that shows the name and address of the elector. 832

The elector shall them mail the identification envelope to 833 the director from whom it was received in the return envelope, 834 postage prepaid, or he the elector may personally deliver it to 835 the director, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, 836 father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, 837 or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, 838 adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 839 aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 840 director, but the. The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 841 director in no other manner, except as provided in section 3509.08 842 of the Revised Code. 843

Sub. H. B. No. 234 As Passed by the Senate

	Ea	.ch e	electo	or who	will	be o	utsio	de t	the	United	States	on	the	day	8	344
of	the	elec	ction	shall	check	the	box	on	the	returr	envelo	pe			8	345
ind	icat	ing	this	fact.											8	346

When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at 847 the office of the board, the elector may retire to a voting 848 compartment provided by the board and there mark the ballots. 849 Thereupon he, the elector shall fold them, place them in the 850 identification envelope provided, seal the identification 851 envelope, fill in and sign the statement thereon on the envelope 852 under penalty of election falsification, and deliver the envelope 853 to the director of the board. 854

Except as otherwise provided in divisions (B) and (C) of this 855 section, all other envelopes containing marked absent voter's 856 ballots, shall be delivered to the director not later than the 857 close of the polls on the day of an election. Absent voter's 858 ballots delivered to the director later than the times specified 859 shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed 860 identification envelopes in which they are delivered to the 861 director, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 862 Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the 863 election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall 864 be destroyed. 865

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this 866 section, any return envelope that indicates that the voter will be 867 outside the United States on the day of the election shall be 868 delivered to the director prior to the eleventh day after the 869 election. Ballots delivered in such envelopes that are received 870 after the close of the polls on election day through the tenth day 871 thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at the board of 872 elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) and (D) of 873 section 3509.06 of the Revised Code. Any such ballots that are 874 signed or postmarked after the close of the polls on the day of 875 the election or that are received by the director later than the

tenth day following the election shall not be counted, but shall

be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as

provided in division (A) of this section.

- (C) In any year in which a presidential primary election is 880 held, any return envelope that indicates that the voter will be 881 outside the United States on the day of the presidential primary 882 election shall be delivered to the director prior to the 883 twenty-first day after that election. Ballots delivered in such 884 envelopes that are received after the close of the polls on 885 election day through the twentieth day thereafter shall be counted 886 on the twenty-first day at the board of elections in the manner 887 provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 3509.06 of the 888 Revised Code. Any such ballots that are signed or postmarked after 889 the close of the polls on the day of that election or that are 890 received by the director later than the twentieth day following 891 that election shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board 892 in the sealed identification envelopes as provided in division (A) 893 of this section. 894
- Sec. 3509.06. (A) The board of elections shall determine 895 whether absent voter's ballots shall be counted in each precinct, 896 at the office of the board, or at some other location designated 897 by the board, and shall proceed accordingly under division (B) or 898 (C) of this section.
- (B) When the board of elections determines that absent 900 voter's ballots shall be counted in each precinct, the director 901 shall deliver to the presiding judge of each precinct on election 902 day identification envelopes purporting to contain absent voter's 903 ballots of electors whose voting residence appears from the 904 statement of voter on the outside of each of such those envelopes, 905 to be located in such presiding judge's precinct, and which were 906

908

909

910

911

received by the director not later than the close of the polls on election day. The director shall deliver to such presiding judge a list containing the name and voting residence of each person whose voting residence is in such precinct to whom absent voter's ballots were mailed.

- (C) When the board of elections determines that absent 912 voter's ballots shall be counted at the office of the board of 913 elections or at another location designated by the board, special 914 election judges shall be appointed by the board for that purpose 915 having the same authority as is exercised by precinct judges. The 916 votes so cast shall be added to the vote totals by the board, and 917 the absentee absent voter's ballots shall be preserved separately 918 by the board, in the same manner and for the same length of time 919 as provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code. 920
- (D) Each of the identification envelopes purporting to 921 contain absent voter's ballots delivered to the presiding judge of 922 the precinct or the special judge appointed by the board of 923 elections shall be handled as follows: The judge shall announce 924 the name of the elector who appears to have signed the statement 925 of voter on the outside of such envelope. In counties in which 926 absent voter's ballots are counted in each precinct, election 927 officials shall compare the signature of the elector on the 928 outside of such the identification envelope shall be compared with 929 the signature of such that elector on his the elector's 930 registration form and verify that the absent voter's ballot is 931 eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code. 932 Any appointed challenger or any of the precinct officials may 933 challenge the right of the elector named on such the 934 identification envelope to vote such the absent voter's ballots 935 upon the ground that the signature on such the envelope is not the 936 same as the signature on such the registration form, or upon any 937 other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may 938

be lawfully challenged. If no such challenge is made, or if such a	939
challenge is made and not sustained, the presiding judge shall	940
open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and	941
without mutilating the ballots therein in it, and shall remove the	942
ballots contained therein in it and proceed to count them.	943

The name of each person voting who is entitled to vote only 944 an absent voter's presidential ballot shall be entered in a 945 pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook followed by the words 946 "Absentee Presidential Ballot." The name of each person voting an 947 absent voter's ballot, other than such persons entitled to vote 948 only a presidential ballot, shall be entered in the pollbook or 949 poll list or signature pollbook and his the person's registration 950 card marked to indicate that he the person has voted. 951

The date of such election shall also be entered on the 952 elector's registration form. If any such challenge is made and 953 sustained, the identification envelope of such elector shall not 954 be opened and, shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reasons 955 therefor the ballots were not counted, and shall be delivered to 956 the board.

(E) Special election judges or employees or members of the 958 board of elections shall not disclose the count or any portion of 959 the count of absent voter's ballots prior to the time of the 960 closing of the polling places. No person shall recklessly disclose 961 the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots in 962 such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 963 ballot.

sec. 3509.07. If election officials find that the statement 965 accompanying an absent voter's ballot or absent voter's 966 presidential ballot is insufficient, that the signatures do not 967 correspond with the person's registration signature, that the 968 applicant is not a qualified elector in the precinct, that the 969

970 ballot envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or any voted ballot that the elector is not entitled to vote, or that 971 Stub A is detached from the absent voter's ballot or absent 972 voter's presidential ballot, or that the elector has not included 973 with the elector's ballot any identification required under 974 section 3509.05 or 3511.09 of the Revised Code, the vote shall not 975 be accepted or counted. The vote of any absent voter may be 976 challenged for cause in the same manner as other votes are 977 challenged, and the election officials shall determine the 978 legality of that ballot. Every ballot not counted shall be 979 indorsed endorsed on its back "Not Counted" with the reasons the 980 ballot was not counted, and shall be enclosed and returned to or 981 retained by the board of elections along with the contested 982 ballots. 983

Sec. 3509.08. (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account of 984 the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or 985 infirmity, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail or 986 workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial on a 987 felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the elector's 988 home or place of confinement to the voting booth in the elector's 989 precinct on the day of any general, special, or primary election 990 may make application in writing for an absent voter's ballot to 991 the director of the board of elections of the elector's county 992 stating. The application shall include all of the information 993 required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code and shall state 994 the nature of the elector's illness, physical disability, or 995 infirmity, or the fact that the elector is confined in a jail or 996 workhouse and the elector's resultant inability to travel to the 997 election booth in the elector's precinct on election day. The 998 application shall not be valid if it is delivered to the clerk 999 director before the ninetieth day or after twelve noon of the 1000 third day before the day of the election at which such ballots are 1001

the	ballot	is	t.o	be	voted.

The absentee ballots absent voter's ballot may be mailed 1003 directly to the applicant at the applicant's voting residence or 1004 place of confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or 1005 the board may designate two board employees belonging to the two 1006 major political parties, for the purpose of delivering the ballots 1007 ballot to the disabled or confined elector and returning them it 1008 to the board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or 1009 private institution within the county, in which case the board 1010 shall designate two such employees for the purpose of delivering 1011 the ballots ballot to the disabled or confined elector and 1012 returning them it to the board. In all other instances, the 1013 ballots ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the 1014 manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code. 1015

Any disabled or confined elector who declares to the two 1016 employees that the elector is unable to mark the elector's ballot 1017 by reason of physical infirmity, and such physical infirmity that 1018 is apparent to the employees to be sufficient to incapacitate the 1019 voter from marking his the elector's ballot properly, may receive, 1020 upon request, receive the assistance of the two employees in 1021 marking the elector's ballot, and they shall thereafter give no 1022 information in regard to this matter. Such assistance shall not be 1023 rendered for any other cause. 1024

When two board employees deliver ballots a ballot to a 1025 disabled or confined elector, each of the employees shall be 1026 present when the ballots are ballot is delivered, when assistance 1027 is given, and when the ballots are ballot is returned to the 1028 office of the board, and shall subscribe to the declaration on the 1029 identification envelope.

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 1031 application for absent voter's ballots under this division (A) of 1032

this section.

1033

Chapter 3509. of the Revised Code This chapter applies to 1034 disabled and confined absent voter's ballots except as otherwise 1035 provided in this section.

(B)(1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to the 1037 voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any general, 1038 special, or primary election because of being confined in a 1039 hospital as a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical 1040 emergency occurring before the election, may apply to the director 1041 of the board of elections of the county where the elector is a 1042 qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's 1043 ballot. This application shall be made in writing, shall include 1044 all of the information required under section 3509.03 of the 1045 Revised Code, and shall be delivered to the director not later 1046 than three p.m. on the day of the election. The application shall 1047 indicate the hospital where the applicant is confined, the date of 1048 the applicant's admission to the hospital, and the offices for 1049 which the applicant is qualified to vote, and, if the applicant is 1050 requesting to vote in a primary election, the applicant's party 1051 affiliation. The applicant may also request that a member of the 1052 applicant's family, as listed in section 3509.05 of the Revised 1053 Code, deliver the absent voter's ballot to the applicant. The 1054 director, after establishing to the director's satisfaction the 1055 validity of the circumstances claimed by the applicant, shall 1056 supply an absent voter's ballot to be delivered to the applicant. 1057 When the applicant is in a hospital in the county where the 1058 applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a 1059 member of the family to deliver the ballot, the director shall 1060 arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the 1061 applicant, and for its return to the office of the board, by two 1062 employees according to the procedures prescribed in division (A) 1063 of this section. When the applicant is in a hospital outside the 1064

identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted

permitted to cast a ballot, generally in the manner prescribed in

absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be

1093

1094

1095

Page 37

division (B) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code, in that	1096
precinct on the day of that election.	1097
(2) If a registered elector appears to vote in that precinct	1098
and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot for that	1099
election and the director has received a sealed identification	1100
envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's	1101
ballots for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast	1102
a ballot, generally in the manner prescribed in division (B) of	1103
section 3503.16 of the Revised Code, in that precinct on the day	1104
of that election.	1105
(C)(1) In counting absent voter's ballots under section	1106
3509.06 of the Revised Code, the board of elections or the	1107
precinct election officials shall compare the poll list or the	1108
signature pollbook for each precinct with the name of each elector	1109
in that precinct from whom the director has received a sealed	1110
identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted	1111
absent voter's ballots for that election. Except as otherwise	1112
provided in division (C)(2) of this section, if the board of	1113
elections determines that an elector who cast a ballot, generally	1114
in the manner prescribed in division (B) of section 3503.16 of the	1115
Revised Code, in the precinct on the day of the election also	1116
returned a sealed identification envelope for that election, the	1117
absent voter's ballot in the sealed identification envelope shall	1118
be counted, and the ballot cast in the precinct on the day of the	1119
election shall not be counted.	1120
(2) The board of elections shall count the ballot cast in the	1121
precinct on the day of the election, instead of the absent voter's	1122
ballot in the returned sealed identification envelope of an	1123
elector, if both of the following apply:	1124
(a) The board of elections determines that the signature of	1125
the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in which	1126

ballots are requested, and, if the request is for primary election

1157

son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent,

1218

Page 41

Sub. H. B. No. 234

Page 42

Sub. H. B. No. 234

later than the close of regular business hours on the day before	1279
the day of the election at which <u>such</u> those ballots are to be	1280
voted if the application is delivered in person to the office of	1281
the board.	1282

(C)(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is
entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors
1284
only, the applicant shall submit to the director in addition to
1285
the requirements of divisions (A) and, (B), and (C) of this
1286
section, a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to
1287
vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no
1288
other offices.

sec. 3511.04. No (A) If a director of a board of elections

receives an application for armed service absent voter's ballots

that does not contain all of the required information, the

director promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional

information required to be provided by the applicant to complete

that application.

1290

1291

1292

(B) Not later than the twenty-fifth day before the day of 1296 each presidential primary election and not later than the 1297 thirty-fifth day before the day of each general or other primary 1298 election, and at the earliest possible time before the day of a 1299 special election held on a day other than the day on which a 1300 general or primary election is held, the director of the board of 1301 elections shall mail or send by facsimile machine armed service 1302 absent voter's ballots then ready for use as provided for in 1303 section 3511.03 of the Revised Code and for which the director has 1304 received valid applications prior to such that time. Thereafter, 1305 and until twelve noon of the third day preceding the day of 1306 election, the director shall promptly, upon receipt of valid 1307 applications therefor for them, mail or send by facsimile machine 1308 to the proper persons all armed service absent voter's ballots 1309

to be placed within the return envelope, sealed in the return

whom it is addressed. <u>If the elector does not provide the</u>

envelope, and mailed to the director of the board of elections to

1338

1339

1340

Sub. H. B. No. 234

identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted	1372
armed service absent voter's ballots for that election, the	1373
elector shall be permitted to cast a ballot, generally in the	1374
manner prescribed in division (B) of section 3503.16 of the	1375
Revised Code, in that precinct on the day of that election.	1376
(C)(1) In counting armed service absent voter's ballots under	1377
section 3511.11 of the Revised Code, the board of elections or the	1378
precinct election officials shall compare the poll list or the	1379
signature pollbook for each precinct with the name of each elector	1380
in that precinct from whom the director has received a sealed	1381
identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted	1382
armed service absent voter's ballots for that election. Except as	1383
otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, if the	1384
board of elections determines that an elector who cast a ballot,	1385
generally in the manner prescribed in division (B) of section	1386
3503.16 of the Revised Code, in the precinct on the day of the	1387
election also returned a sealed identification envelope for that	1388
election, the armed service absent voter's ballot in the sealed	1389
identification envelope shall be counted, and the ballot cast in	1390
the precinct on the day of the election shall not be counted.	1391
(2) The board of elections shall count the ballot cast in the	1392
precinct on the day of the election, instead of the armed service	1393
absent voter's ballot, of an elector from whom the director has	1394
received an identification envelope purporting to contain that	1395
elector's voted armed service absent voter's ballots, if both of	1396
the following apply:	1397
(a) The board of elections determines that the signature of	1398
the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in which	1399
the armed service absent voter's ballots are enclosed does not	1400
match the signature of the elector on the elector's registration	1401
form;	1402

(b) The elector cast a ballot, generally in the manner	1403
prescribed in division (B) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code,	1404
in the precinct on the day of the election.	1405
If the board of elections counts the ballot cast in the	1406
precinct on the day of the election under this division, the	1407
identification envelope of that elector shall not be opened, and	1408
the ballot within that envelope shall not be counted. The	1409
identification envelope shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the	1410
reason the ballot was not counted.	1411
Sec. 3599.12. (A) No person shall do any of the following:	1412
(1) Vote or attempt to vote in any primary, special, or	1413
general election in a precinct in which that person is not a	1414
legally qualified elector;	1415
(2) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at the same	1416
election by any means, including voting or attempting to vote both	1417
by absent voter's ballots under division (B), (C), or (G) of	1418
section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by regular ballot at the	1419
polls at the same election, or voting or attempting to vote both	1420
by absent voter's ballots under division (B), (C), or (G) of	1421
section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by absent voter's ballots	1422
under Chapter 3509. or armed service absent voter's ballots under	1423
Chapter 3511. of the Revised Code at the same election;	1424
(3) Impersonate or sign the name of another person, real or	1425
fictitious, living or dead, and vote or attempt to vote as that	1426
other person in any such election;	1427
(4) Cast a ballot at any such election after objection has	1428
been made and sustained to that person's vote;	1429
(5) Knowingly vote or attempt to vote a ballot other than the	1430
official ballot.	1431
(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty	1432

1522

1524

county board of mental retardation;

- (2) Minors performing services for a nonprofit organization 1523
- where the minor receives no compensation, except for any expenses incurred by the minor or except for meals provided to the minor; 1525
- (3) Minors who are employed in agricultural employment and 1526 who do not reside in agricultural labor camps. 1527
- (C) Division (D) of section 4109.07 of the Revised Code does 1528 not apply to minors who have their employment hours established as 1529 follows: 1530
- (1) A minor adjudicated to be an unruly child or delinquent 1531 child who, as a result of the adjudication, is placed on probation 1532 may either file a petition in the juvenile court in whose 1533 jurisdiction the minor resides, or apply to the superintendent or 1534 to the chief administrative officer who issued the minor's age and 1535 schooling certificate pursuant to section 3331.01 of the Revised 1536 Code, alleging the restrictions on the hours of employment 1537 described in division (D) of section 4109.07 of the Revised Code 1538 will cause a substantial hardship or are not in the minor's best 1539 interests. Upon receipt of a petition or application, the court, 1540 the superintendent, or the chief administrative officer, as 1541 appropriate, shall consult with the person required to supervise 1542 the minor on probation. If after such that consultation, the 1543 court, the superintendent, or the chief administrative officer 1544 finds the minor has failed to show the restrictions will result in 1545 a substantial hardship or that the restrictions are not in the 1546 minor's best interests, the court, the superintendent, or the 1547 chief administrative officer shall uphold the restrictions. If 1548 after such that consultation, the court, the superintendent, or 1549 the chief administrative officer finds the minor has shown the 1550 restricted hours will cause a substantial hardship or are not in 1551 the minor's best interests, the court, the superintendent, or the 1552

chief administrative officer shall establish differing hours of 1553 employment for the minor and notify the minor and the minor's 1554 employer of such those hours, which shall be binding in lieu of 1555 the restrictions on the hours of employment described in division 1556 (D) of section 4109.07 of the Revised Code.

(2) Any minor to whom division (C)(1) of this section does 1558 not apply may either file a petition in the juvenile court in 1559 whose jurisdiction the person resides, or apply to the 1560 superintendent or to the chief administrative officer who issued 1561 the minor's age and schooling certificate pursuant to section 1562 3331.01 of the Revised Code, alleging the restrictions on the 1563 hours of employment described in division (D) of section 4109.07 1564 of the Revised Code will cause a substantial hardship or are not 1565 in the minor's best interests. 1566

If, as a result of a petition or application, the court, the 1567 superintendent, or the chief administrative officer, as 1568 appropriate, finds the minor has failed to show such restrictions 1569 will result in a substantial hardship or that the restrictions are 1570 not in the minor's best interests, the court, the superintendent, 1571 or the chief administrative officer shall uphold the restrictions. 1572 If the court, the superintendent, or the chief administrative 1573 1574 officer finds the minor has shown the restricted hours will cause a substantial hardship or are not in the minor's best interests, 1575 the court, the superintendent, or the chief administrative officer 1576 shall establish the hours of employment for the minor and shall 1577 notify the minor and the minor's employer of such those hours. 1578

(D) As used in this section, "certificate of high school 1579 equivalence" means a statement issued by the state board of 1580 education or an equivalent agency of another state that the holder 1581 thereof of the statement has achieved the equivalent of a high 1582 school education as measured by scores obtained on the tests of 1583 general educational development published by the American council 1584

Sub. H. B. No. 234 As Passed by the Senate	Page 53
on education.	1585
Section 2. That existing sections 3501.17, 3501.22, 3501.27,	1586
3503.16, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.031, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.06,	1587
3509.07, 3509.08, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.09, 3599.12, 3599.21, and	1588
4109.06 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.	1589
Section 3. Section 3501.22 of the Revised Code is presented	1590
in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Am.	1591
Sub. H.B. 99 and Am. H.B. 215 of the 121st General Assembly. The	1592
General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of	1593
section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be	1594
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds	1595
that the composite is the resulting version of the section in	1596
effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in	1597
this act.	1598