

**HB0535/163525/1**

BY: Delegate Kipke

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 535  
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after “ballots;” insert “requiring a local board of elections to reject an absentee ballot if the voter failed to provide certain identifying information on the ballot envelope or ballot/return envelope and failed to correct the omission before a certain time;”; in line 5, strike “of elections”; and in line 12, before “11–101,” insert “9–310.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, before line 2, insert:

“9–310.

(a) (1) This subsection applies only to an absentee ballot that is sent by mail.

(2) (i) An absentee ballot shall be enclosed in specially printed envelopes, the form and content of which shall be prescribed by the State Board.

(ii) The outgoing envelope shall include a statement, prominently placed, requesting that the recipient return the absentee ballot to the local board if the intended recipient no longer lives at that address.

(3) (i) A local board may use either two envelopes or three envelopes.

(ii) If two envelopes are used, the inner envelope shall be designated the “ballot/return envelope”, and, when issued, it shall fit inside the envelope designated the “outgoing envelope”.

(iii) If three envelopes are used, the innermost envelope shall be designated the “ballot envelope”, which shall fit inside the envelope designated the

“return envelope”, both of which, when issued, shall fit inside the envelope designated the “outgoing envelope”.

(iv) The ballot/return envelope described under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph and the return envelope described under subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph provided to a voter voting by absentee ballot shall include:

1. prepaid postage; AND
2. A PLACE FOR THE VOTER TO PROVIDE, IN A MANNER THAT MAINTAINS THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE INFORMATION:
  - A. THE LAST FOUR DIGITS OF THE VOTER’S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER;
  - B. THE VOTER’S DRIVER’S LICENSE OR STATE-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION NUMBER; OR
  - C. THE VOTER’S GOVERNMENT-ISSUED VOTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.

(4) (i) An absentee ballot shall be accompanied by instructions for postage of the ballot/return envelope or the return envelope.

- (ii) The instructions for postage shall include:
1. a statement that the ballot/return envelope or return envelope includes prepaid postage and may be mailed as is; and
  2. directions for how a voter may attach postage for the purpose of reducing the costs of the local board.

(5) When voted and returned to the local board, an absentee ballot shall be enclosed in a ballot envelope or ballot/return envelope, on which has been printed:

- (I) an oath prescribed by the State Board; AND

**(II) A PLACE FOR THE VOTER TO PROVIDE THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH (3)(IV)2 OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

(b) The State Board shall reimburse each local board for 50% of the cost of prepaid postage included on ballot/return envelopes or return envelopes provided to a voter voting by absentee ballot under subsection (a)(3)(iv) of this section.

(c) (1) If an absentee ballot is sent by the Internet or facsimile transmission, the local board shall provide the voter with an envelope template, the oath prescribed by the State Board, and instructions for marking and returning the absentee ballot.

**(2) THE ENVELOPE TEMPLATE PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE A PLACE FOR THE VOTER TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A)(3)(IV)2 OF THIS SECTION.”.**

On page 3, in line 14, after “OATH” insert “OR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED UNDER § 9-310(A)(3)(IV)2 OF THIS ARTICLE”.

On page 4, in line 13, after “oath” insert “OR PROVIDE THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED UNDER § 9-310(A)(3)(IV)2 OF THIS ARTICLE”; and in line 29, after “OATH” insert “OR PROVIDE THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED UNDER § 9-310(A)(3)(IV)2 OF THIS ARTICLE”.

On page 5, in line 3, after “1.” insert “A.”; in line 6, after “ENVELOPE” insert “;  
OR

**B. TO SUPPLY THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED UNDER § 9-310(A)(3)(IV)2 OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE LOCAL BOARD BY E-MAIL, AN ACCESSIBLE ONLINE PORTAL, A MAILED FORM, OR AN IN-PERSON VISIT TO THE LOCAL BOARD OFFICE IF THE VOTER FAILED TO PROVIDE THE**

(Over)

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**IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON THE BALLOT ENVELOPE OR BALLOT/RETURN ENVELOPE**”;

and in line 9, after “OATH” insert “**OR PROVIDE THE IDENTIFYING INFORMATION**”.