

SENATE BILL No. 283

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 3-6; IC 3-7; IC 3-11; IC 9-24-2.5-4.

Synopsis: Voting. Provides that an application to obtain or renew a motor vehicle driver's license or permit or an identification card serves as a voter registration application unless the applicant expressly declines on the application to register to vote. Provides that a voter becomes registered to vote when the county voter registration office determines the voter appears to be eligible to vote at the address on the voter's voter registration application. Permits a voter who is qualified to vote in person to vote by absentee ballot. Removes all other qualifications for a voter to vote by absentee ballot except for a voter with disabilities who is unable to make a voting mark on the ballot or sign the absentee ballot secrecy envelope. (Such a voter with a disability is currently required to vote before an absentee voter board.) Provides that an elderly voter or a voter with disabilities may apply for permanent absentee voter status. Provides that absentee ballots would be sent automatically to voters who have permanent absentee voter status. Makes conforming changes.

Effective: January 1, 2025.

Hunley

January 16, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections.



Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 283

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning elections.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 3-6-6-6 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY
- 2 1, 2025]. ~~Sec. 6: Each inspector; judge; poll clerk; assistant poll clerk;~~
- 3 ~~and election sheriff who is:~~
- 4 ~~(1) a voter of the county; and~~
- 5 ~~(2) not a resident of the precinct;~~
- 6 ~~is entitled to vote by absentee ballot.~~
- 7 SECTION 2. IC 3-6-7-3 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY
- 8 1, 2025]. ~~Sec. 3: A challenger or pollbook holder who is not a resident~~
- 9 ~~of the precinct is entitled to vote by absentee ballot.~~
- 10 SECTION 3. IC 3-7-14-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
- 11 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 2. (a) Except as provided in
- 12 subsection (b), the definitions in IC 9-13-2 apply to this chapter.
- 13 (b) A reference to the "commission" in this chapter is a reference to
- 14 the Indiana election commission unless otherwise stated:
- 15 (b) A reference to an "application" in this chapter is a reference
- 16 to an application to obtain or renew a motor vehicle driver's
- 17 license or permit or an identification card unless otherwise stated.



1 SECTION 4. IC 3-7-14-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2015,
 2 SECTION 35, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 3 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 4. **(a)** An application to obtain or renew a
 4 motor vehicle driver's license, permit, or identification card serves as
 5 an application for voter registration:

6 (1) under this article; and

7 (2) as provided in 52 U.S.C. 20504(a)(1). ~~unless the applicant~~
 8 ~~fails to sign~~

9 **(b) An individual's signature on an application is considered the**
 10 **individual's signature for the individual's voter registration**
 11 **application.**

12 SECTION 5. IC 3-7-14-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2015,
 13 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 14 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 5. ~~As provided in 52 U.S.C. 20504(c)(1);~~
 15 The bureau of motor vehicles commission shall **design each**
 16 **application form to include the information required for** a voter
 17 registration application form as a part of the application for a driver's
 18 license prescribed under ~~IC 9-24;~~ **required by Indiana law.**

19 SECTION 6. IC 3-7-14-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2015,
 20 SECTION 18, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 21 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 6. The **bureau of motor vehicles**
 22 **commission and the election division shall prescribe the jointly**
 23 **design of the registration application form required under section 5 of**
 24 **this chapter.**

25 SECTION 7. IC 3-7-14-7 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY
 26 1, 2025]. ~~Sec. 7. As provided in 52 U.S.C. 20504(c)(2); the registration~~
 27 ~~form described in section 5 of this chapter must meet the following~~
 28 ~~requirements:~~

29 ~~(1) The form may not require information that duplicates~~
 30 ~~information required in the driver's license application part of the~~
 31 ~~form, except as set forth in subdivision (3).~~

32 ~~(2) The form may require only the minimum amount of~~
 33 ~~information necessary to do the following:~~

34 ~~(A) Prevent duplication of voter registrations:~~

35 ~~(B) Permit the circuit court clerk or board of registration to:~~

36 ~~(i) assess the eligibility of the applicant; and~~

37 ~~(ii) administer the election and voter registration system.~~

38 ~~(3) The form must include a statement that does the following:~~

39 ~~(A) Sets forth each eligibility requirement for registration~~
 40 ~~(including citizenship):~~

41 ~~(B) Contains an attestation that the applicant meets each of the~~
 42 ~~eligibility requirements:~~



- 1 (C) Requires the signature of the applicant, under penalty of
2 perjury.
- 3 (4) The form must include the following, in print that is identical
4 to the print used in the attestation part of the application:
- 5 (A) Information setting forth the penalties provided by law for
6 submission of a false voter registration application.
- 7 (B) A statement that, if an applicant declines to register to
8 vote, the fact that the applicant has declined to register will
9 remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration
10 purposes.
- 11 (C) A statement that if an applicant does register to vote, the
12 office at which the applicant submits a voter registration
13 application will remain confidential and will be used only for
14 voter registration purposes.
- 15 SECTION 8. IC 3-7-14-7.1 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
16 AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17 JANUARY 1, 2025]: **Sec. 7.1. The application form described in
18 section 5 of this chapter must meet the following requirements:**
- 19 (1) **The form must obtain all information required for a
20 driver's license or permit or an identification card.**
- 21 (2) **The form may require only the minimum amount of
22 information necessary to do the following:**
- 23 (A) **Prevent duplication of voter registrations.**
- 24 (B) **Permit the circuit court clerk or board of registration
25 to:**
- 26 (i) **assess the eligibility of the applicant; and**
- 27 (ii) **administer the election and voter registration system.**
- 28 (3) **The form must set forth each eligibility requirement for
29 voter registration, including citizenship.**
- 30 (4) **The form must contain each of the following options, one
31 (1) of which an applicant may select as provided on the form:**
- 32 (A) **The applicant meets the eligibility requirements for
33 voter registration and wishes to register to vote or to
34 update the applicant's voter registration record.**
- 35 (B) **The applicant does not wish to register to vote or to
36 update the applicant's voter registration record.**
- 37 (5) **The form must inform the applicant that if the applicant
38 does not select an option set forth under subdivision (4), the
39 applicant will be considered to have chosen the option that the
40 applicant:**
- 41 (A) **meets the eligibility requirements for voter
42 registration; and**



- 1 **(B) wishes to register to vote or to update the applicant's**
- 2 **voter registration record.**
- 3 **(6) The form must require the signature of the applicant**
- 4 **under the penalties of perjury.**
- 5 **(7) The form must include the following in print that is**
- 6 **identical to the print used in the attestation part of the**
- 7 **application:**
- 8 **(A) Information setting forth the penalties provided by law**
- 9 **for submission of a false voter registration application.**
- 10 **(B) A statement that, regardless of the applicant's decision**
- 11 **regarding registering to vote or updating the applicant's**
- 12 **voter registration record, the applicant's decision will**
- 13 **remain confidential and will be used only for voter**
- 14 **registration purposes.**
- 15 SECTION 9. IC 3-7-14-8 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JANUARY
- 16 1, 2025]. Sec. 8: To register under this chapter, an individual must do
- 17 the following while on the premises of the license branch:
- 18 (1) Complete the voter registration application under section 4 of
- 19 this chapter.
- 20 (2) Present the application to an employee of the license branch.
- 21 SECTION 10. IC 3-7-14-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.164-2006,
- 22 SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 23 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 9. (a) An employee of the bureau of motor
- 24 vehicles commission who provides an individual with a ~~driver's license~~
- 25 ~~or identification card~~ **an application shall do the following:**
- 26 (1) Inform each individual who ~~applies for a driver's license or an~~
- 27 ~~identification card~~ **seeks to complete an application** that the
- 28 information the individual provides on the individual's application
- 29 will be used to register the individual to vote unless **any of the**
- 30 **following apply:**
- 31 (A) The individual is not eligible to vote.
- 32 (B) The individual declines to register to vote. ~~or fails to~~
- 33 ~~complete the voter registration part of the application;~~ **The**
- 34 **employee shall explain to the individual that if the**
- 35 **individual does not select an option set forth under section**
- 36 **7.1(4) of this chapter, the individual will be considered to**
- 37 **have selected the option that the individual:**
- 38 (i) **meets the eligibility requirements for voter**
- 39 **registration; and**
- 40 (ii) **wishes to register to vote or to update the individual's**
- 41 **voter registration record.**
- 42 (C) The individual answers "no" to either question described



- 1 by IC 3-7-22-5(3) or IC 3-7-22-5(4).
- 2 (2) Provide each individual ~~who indicates a desire to register or~~
 3 ~~transfer registration~~ with assistance in filling out the ~~voter~~
 4 ~~registration~~ application if requested to do so by the individual.
- 5 (3) Check the completed ~~voter registration~~ form for legibility and
 6 completeness.
- 7 (4) Inform the individual that the individual will receive a mailing
 8 from the county voter registration office of the county where the
 9 individual resides concerning the disposition of the voter
 10 registration application.
- 11 (5) Inform each individual who submits a change of address for
 12 a driver's license or identification card that the information serves
 13 as notice of a change of address for voter registration unless the
 14 applicant **states in writing indicates** on the form that the change
 15 of address is not for voter registration purposes.
- 16 (b) The bureau of motor vehicles commission shall transmit ~~a voter~~
 17 ~~registration form information~~ to the election division for transmittal
 18 to the appropriate county voter registration office in accordance with
 19 IC 3-7-26.3.
- 20 SECTION 11. IC 3-7-14-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 21 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 10. If an
 22 individual is ~~registering to vote~~ **completes an application** after the
 23 twenty-ninth day before the date that a primary, general, municipal, or
 24 special election is scheduled in the precinct where the ~~voter individual~~
 25 resides, the employee of the bureau of motor vehicles commission who
 26 provides an individual with a ~~driver's license or an identification card~~
 27 application shall do the following:
- 28 (1) Inform the individual that license branch registration will not
 29 permit the individual to vote in the next election.
- 30 (2) Inform the individual of other procedures the individual may
 31 follow to vote in the next election.
- 32 SECTION 12. IC 3-7-14-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.164-2006,
 33 SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 34 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 11. **Unless the applicant declines to**
 35 **register under section 7.1 of this chapter**, whenever an applicant
 36 completes a ~~voter registration~~ **an** application under section 4 of this
 37 chapter, the bureau of motor vehicles commission shall provide the
 38 applicant with a written acknowledgment that the applicant has
 39 completed a voter registration application at a license branch. The
 40 acknowledgment:
- 41 (1) may be:
 42 (A) a detachable part; or



1 (B) an electronic version;
 2 of the ~~registration application~~ form ~~prescribed~~ **designed** under
 3 section ~~4~~ **5** of this chapter; and

4 (2) must set forth the name and residential address of the
 5 applicant and the date that the application was completed.

6 SECTION 13. IC 3-7-14-12, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
 7 SECTION 29, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 8 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 12. (a) An applicant who completes a ~~voter~~
 9 ~~registration~~ **an** application under section 4 of this chapter is not
 10 required to submit the application to a county voter registration office.

11 (b) The bureau of motor vehicles commission shall forward the
 12 voter registration ~~part of information on~~ the application ~~and or~~ any
 13 declination to register under this section to the election division for
 14 transmittal to the appropriate county voter registration office on an
 15 expedited basis in accordance with IC 3-7-26.3, IC 9-24-2.5, and 52
 16 U.S.C. 20504(c)(2)(E).

17 SECTION 14. IC 3-7-14-14, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2015,
 18 SECTION 40, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 19 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 14. Except as provided in section 15 of this
 20 chapter, an application under section 4 of this chapter authorizes a
 21 county voter registration office to update the voter registration record
 22 of the applicant:

23 (1) under 52 U.S.C. 20504(a)(2) unless the applicant ~~fails to sign~~
 24 ~~declines~~ the voter registration application **as provided under**
 25 **section 7.1 of this chapter**; or

26 (2) in a manner authorized under IC 3-7-26.3.

27 SECTION 15. IC 3-7-14-15, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2015,
 28 SECTION 41, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 29 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 15. As provided in 52 U.S.C. 20504(d), a
 30 circuit court clerk or board of registration may update the address in the
 31 voter registration of an applicant, unless the applicant indicates on an
 32 application to ~~obtain or renew a motor vehicle driver's license~~ (or any
 33 other change of address form submitted to the clerk or board by the
 34 bureau of motor vehicles commission) that the change of address of the
 35 applicant is not for voter registration purposes.

36 SECTION 16. IC 3-7-26.3-23, AS AMENDED BY P.L.278-2019,
 37 SECTION 12, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 38 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 23. (a) The computerized list must include
 39 absentee ballot management features that do the following:

40 (1) Manage absentee ballots based on the type ~~eligibility~~, and
 41 status of the absentee voter.

42 (2) Permit the printing of absentee labels by group or date, or by



- 1 individual for use by a voter voting in person at the county
 2 election board office.
- 3 (3) Permit the documentation of the date on which each absentee
 4 ballot is issued and returned.
- 5 (4) Permit the printing of absentee ballot applications with voter
 6 registration information for the absentee ballot applicant.
- 7 (b) The computerized list:
- 8 (1) must require that a report containing information concerning
 9 absentee applications and voting by specified individuals be
 10 generated in CSV format with dashes; and
- 11 (2) may provide for reports described in subdivision (1) to be
 12 generated in other formats.
- 13 SECTION 17. IC 3-7-33-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.128-2015,
 14 SECTION 112, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 15 [EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 3. (a) This section applies to
 16 a voter registration application that is:
- 17 (1) completed as part of a ~~driver's license~~ **an** application under
 18 IC 3-7-14; or
- 19 (2) submitted at a voter registration agency under this article.
- 20 (b) As provided in 52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(1), an eligible applicant
 21 whose application is accepted by the bureau of motor vehicles or a
 22 voter registration agency not later than twenty-nine (29) days before the
 23 election shall be registered to vote in the election.
- 24 SECTION 18. IC 3-11-4-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.193-2021,
 25 SECTION 36, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 26 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 1. (a) A voter who is otherwise qualified to
 27 vote in person is entitled to vote by absentee ballot: ~~Except~~
- 28 **(1) by mail;**
- 29 **(2) before an absentee voter board** as ~~otherwise~~ provided in this
 30 article; ~~a voter voting by absentee ballot must vote~~
- 31 **(3) in the office of the circuit court clerk (or board of elections**
 32 **and registration in a county subject to IC 3-6-5.2 or IC 3-6-5.6);**
- 33 or
- 34 **(4) at a satellite office established under IC 3-11-10-26.3.**
- 35 (b) A county election board, by unanimous vote of its entire
 36 membership, may authorize a person who is otherwise qualified to vote
 37 in person to vote by absentee ballot if the board determines that the
 38 person has been hospitalized or suffered an injury following the final
 39 date and hour for applying for an absentee ballot that would prevent the
 40 person from voting in person at the polls.
- 41 (c) A county election board or board of elections and registration,
 42 by unanimous vote of its entire membership, may authorize an



1 individual who is otherwise qualified to vote in person and wishes to
 2 vote by absentee ballot to file an application for an absentee ballot if
 3 the board determines that:

4 (1) during the last eleven (11) days before the election:

5 (A) the governor has declared a disaster emergency under
 6 IC 10-14-3-12; or

7 (B) the county has declared a local disaster emergency under
 8 IC 10-14-3-29;

9 (2) the disaster emergency prevents the individual from voting in
 10 person at a polling place; and

11 (3) an absentee voter board can receive the voter's absentee ballot
 12 not later than 6 p.m. on election day.

13 (d) The absentee ballots used in subsection (b) or (c) must be the
 14 same official absentee ballots as described in section 15 of this chapter.
 15 Taking into consideration the amount of time remaining before the
 16 election, the commission, the county election board, or the board of
 17 elections and registration shall determine whether the absentee ballots
 18 are transmitted to and from the voter by any of the following:

19 (1) Mail.

20 (2) Personal delivery.

21 An absentee ballot that is personally delivered shall comply with the
 22 requirements in sections 19, 20, and 21 of this chapter.

23 SECTION 19. IC 3-11-4-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.140-2023,
 24 SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 25 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 2. (a) A voter who wants to vote by absentee
 26 ballot must apply to the county election board for an absentee ballot.
 27 Except as provided in subsection (b), the voter must sign the absentee
 28 ballot application.

29 (b) If a voter with disabilities is unable to sign the absentee ballot
 30 application and the voter has not designated an individual to serve as
 31 attorney in fact for the voter, the voter may designate an individual
 32 eligible to assist the voter under IC 3-11-9-2(a) to sign the application
 33 on behalf of the voter and add the individual's name to the application.
 34 If an individual applies for an absentee ballot as the properly
 35 authorized attorney in fact for a voter, the attorney in fact must attach
 36 a copy of the power of attorney to the application and comply with
 37 subsection (d).

38 (c) A person may provide an individual with an application for an
 39 absentee ballot with the following information already printed or
 40 otherwise set forth on the application when provided to the individual:

41 (1) The name of the individual.

42 (2) The voter registration address of the individual.



- 1 (3) The mailing address of the individual.
- 2 (4) The date of birth of the individual.
- 3 (d) A person may not provide an individual with an application for
- 4 an absentee ballot with the following information already printed or
- 5 otherwise set forth on the application when provided to the individual:
- 6 (1) The address to which the absentee ballot would be mailed, if
- 7 different from the voter registration address of the individual.
- 8 (2) In a primary election, the major political party ballot requested
- 9 by the individual.
- 10 (3) In a primary or general election, the types of absentee ballots
- 11 requested by the individual.
- 12 ~~(4) The reason why the individual is entitled to vote an absentee~~
- 13 ~~ballot:~~
- 14 ~~(A) by mail; or~~
- 15 ~~(B) before an absentee voter board (other than an absentee~~
- 16 ~~voter board located in the office of the circuit court clerk or a~~
- 17 ~~satellite office);~~
- 18 ~~in accordance with section 18 of this chapter, IC 3-11-10-24, or~~
- 19 ~~IC 3-11-10-25.~~
- 20 ~~(5) (4) The voter identification number of the individual.~~
- 21 (e) If the county election board determines that an absentee ballot
- 22 application does not comply with subsection (d), the board shall
- 23 implement the procedures prescribed by section 17.6 of this chapter.
- 24 (f) The following statement must be printed in at least 16 point font
- 25 size, underlined, and clearly legible print on the envelope of an
- 26 absentee ballot application that a person sends to an individual:
- 27 "(Name of person sending the absentee ballot application) has
- 28 sent you the enclosed application. This is unsolicited and is not
- 29 sent by a state or local election official."
- 30 (g) This subsection:
- 31 (1) applies only to an application to be mailed to an individual;
- 32 and
- 33 (2) does not apply to an application provided to an individual
- 34 online.
- 35 An agency of the state or a political subdivision may not provide an
- 36 individual with an absentee ballot application unless requested by the
- 37 individual or a member of the individual's family listed in
- 38 IC 3-6-6-7(a)(4).
- 39 (h) An absentee ballot application must request that the individual
- 40 include:
- 41 (1) on the individual's ballot application:
- 42 (A) either:



- 1 (i) the individual's ten (10) digit Indiana driver's license
 2 number issued under IC 9-24-11;
 3 (ii) the individual's ten (10) digit Indiana identification card
 4 number for nondrivers issued under IC 9-24-16; or
 5 (iii) the unique identifying number assigned to the voter's
 6 registration record in the computerized list; and
 7 (B) the last four (4) digits of the voter's Social Security
 8 number; or
 9 (2) with the individual's ballot application, a photocopy of:
 10 (A) the individual's:
 11 (i) driver's license issued under IC 9-24; or
 12 (ii) Indiana identification card for nondrivers issued under
 13 IC 9-24-16; or
 14 (B) other proof of identification for the individual under
 15 IC 3-5-2-40.5.

16 Information and documentation described by this subsection that is
 17 included on or with an individual's ballot application is confidential. A
 18 county voter registration office is only required to redact the
 19 confidential information in responding to a public records request
 20 under IC 5-14-3. The application form must state that an applicant may
 21 include only one (1) of the numbers under subdivision (1) or one (1) of
 22 the documents under subdivision (2), but the application may be
 23 delayed if the county election board cannot match at least one (1) of the
 24 numbers described in this subsection with the voter's registration
 25 record.

26 (i) This subsection applies only to an absentee ballot application
 27 submitted in an electronic format using a module of the computerized
 28 list under IC 3-7-26.3. In order for an individual to access the absentee
 29 ballot application, the individual shall provide one (1) of the following:

- 30 (1) The individual's ten (10) digit Indiana driver's license number
 31 issued under IC 9-24-11.
 32 (2) The individual's ten (10) digit Indiana identification card
 33 number for nondrivers issued under IC 9-24-16.
 34 (3) The unique identifying number assigned to the voter's
 35 registration record in the computerized list.
 36 (4) The last four (4) digits of the individual's Social Security
 37 number.

38 Information described by subdivisions (1) through (4) that is provided
 39 by an individual under this subsection is confidential. A county voter
 40 registration office is only required to redact the confidential
 41 information in responding to a public records request under IC 5-14-3.

42 (j) The county election board shall implement the procedures



1 prescribed by section 17.6 of this chapter if the county election board
 2 cannot match at least one (1) of the numbers described in subsection
 3 (h) or (i) with the voter's registration record.

4 (k) A person who assists an individual in completing any
 5 information described in subsection (d) on an absentee ballot
 6 application shall state under the penalties for perjury the following
 7 information on the application:

8 (1) The full name, residence and mailing address, and daytime
 9 and evening telephone numbers (if any) of the person providing
 10 the assistance.

11 (2) The date this assistance was provided.

12 (3) That the person providing the assistance has complied with
 13 Indiana laws governing the submission of absentee ballot
 14 applications.

15 (4) That the person has no knowledge or reason to believe that the
 16 individual submitting the application:

17 (A) is ineligible to vote or to cast an absentee ballot; or

18 (B) did not properly complete and sign the application.

19 When providing assistance to an individual, the person must, in the
 20 individual's presence and with the individual's consent, provide the
 21 information listed in subsection (d) if the individual is unable to do so.

22 (l) This subsection does not apply to an employee of the United
 23 States Postal Service or a bonded courier company acting in the
 24 individual's capacity as an employee of the United States Postal Service
 25 or a bonded courier company. A person who receives a completed
 26 absentee ballot application from the individual who has applied for the
 27 absentee ballot shall indicate on the application the date the person
 28 received the application, and file the application with the appropriate
 29 county election board or election division not later than:

30 (1) noon ten (10) days after the person receives the application;
 31 or

32 (2) the deadline set by Indiana law for filing the application with
 33 the board;

34 whichever occurs first. The election division, a county election board,
 35 or a board of elections and registration shall forward an absentee ballot
 36 application to the county election board or board of elections and
 37 registration of the county where the individual resides.

38 (m) This subsection does not apply to an employee of the United
 39 States Postal Service or a bonded courier company acting in the
 40 individual's capacity as an employee of the United States Postal Service
 41 or a bonded courier company, or to the election division, a county
 42 election board, or a board of elections and registration. A person filing



1 an absentee ballot application, other than the person's own absentee
 2 ballot application, must include an affidavit with the application. The
 3 affidavit must be signed by the individual who received the completed
 4 application from the applicant. The affidavit must be in a form
 5 prescribed by the election division. The form must include the
 6 following:

7 (1) A statement of the full name, residence and mailing address,
 8 and daytime and evening telephone numbers (if any) of the person
 9 submitting the application.

10 (2) A statement that the person filing the affidavit has complied
 11 with Indiana laws governing the submission of absentee ballot
 12 applications.

13 (3) The date (or dates) that the absentee ballot applications
 14 attached to the affidavit were received.

15 (4) A statement that the person has no knowledge or reason to
 16 believe that the individual whose application is to be filed:

17 (A) is ineligible to vote or to cast an absentee ballot; or

18 (B) did not properly complete and sign the application.

19 (5) A statement that the person is executing the affidavit under the
 20 penalties of perjury.

21 (6) A statement setting forth the penalties for perjury.

22 (n) The county election board shall record the date and time of the
 23 filing of the affidavit.

24 SECTION 20. IC 3-11-4-18, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
 25 SECTION 79, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 26 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 18. (a) ~~If a voter satisfies any of the~~
 27 ~~qualifications described in IC 3-11-10-24 that entitle a voter to cast an~~
 28 ~~absentee ballot by mail;~~ The county election board shall, at the request
 29 of the voter, mail ~~the an~~ official ballot, postage fully prepaid, to the
 30 voter at the address stated in the application. Each ballot may be
 31 assigned a unique tracking number as prescribed by the election
 32 division using IMb Tracing or a similar automated tracking method to
 33 provide real-time tracking information for the envelope containing the
 34 ballot. As used in this subsection, "IMb Tracing" refers to a real-time
 35 mail tracking service offered through the United States Postal Service.

36 (b) If the county election board mails an absentee ballot to a voter
 37 required to file additional documentation with the county voter
 38 registration office before voting by absentee ballot under this chapter,
 39 the board shall include a notice to the voter in the envelope mailed to
 40 the voter under section 20 of this chapter. The notice must inform the
 41 voter that the voter must file the additional documentation required
 42 under IC 3-7-33-4.5 with the county voter registration office before 6



- 1 p.m. on election day.
- 2 (c) Except as provided in this subsection, section 18.5 of this
3 chapter, or IC 3-11-10-26.5, the ballot shall be transmitted:
- 4 (1) on the day of the receipt of the voter's application; or
5 (2) not more than five (5) days after the date of delivery of the
6 ballots under section 15 of this chapter;
- 7 whichever is later. If the election board determines that the county
8 voter registration office has received an application from the applicant
9 for registration at an address within the precinct indicated on the
10 application, and the election board determines that this application is
11 pending under IC 3-7-33, the ballot shall be mailed on the date the
12 county voter registration office indicates under IC 3-7-33-5(g) that the
13 applicant is a registered voter.
- 14 (d) As required by 52 U.S.C. 21081, an election board shall
15 establish a voter education program (specific to a paper ballot or
16 optical scan ballot card provided as an absentee ballot under this
17 chapter) to notify a voter of the effect of casting multiple votes for a
18 single office.
- 19 (e) As provided by 52 U.S.C. 21081, when an absentee ballot is
20 transmitted under this section, the mailing must include:
- 21 (1) information concerning the effect of casting multiple votes for
22 an office; and
23 (2) instructions on how to correct the ballot before the ballot is
24 cast and counted, including the issuance of replacement ballots.
- 25 SECTION 21. IC 3-11-4.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
26 AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27 JANUARY 1, 2025]:
- 28 **Chapter 4.3. Permanent Absentee Voter Status**
- 29 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "voter" refers only to the**
30 **following voters:**
- 31 (1) **An elderly voter.**
32 (2) **A voter with disabilities.**
- 33 **Sec. 2. A voter may apply for permanent absentee voter status**
34 **under this chapter.**
- 35 **Sec. 3. (a) To apply for permanent absentee voter status, a voter**
36 **must apply for an absentee ballot under this chapter.**
- 37 (b) **Except as provided in this chapter, the information required**
38 **and the procedures for applying for permanent absentee voter**
39 **status are the same as required for a voter applying for an absentee**
40 **ballot under IC 3-11-4.**
- 41 (c) **Notwithstanding IC 3-11-4-18, a voter qualified for**
42 **permanent absentee voter status is entitled to:**



1 (1) permanent absentee voter status; and

2 (2) cast an absentee ballot by mail.

3 (d) Except as provided in this chapter, the following apply:

4 (1) A voter with permanent absentee voter status has the same
5 rights and is subject to the same procedures and standards as
6 other absentee voters.

7 (2) The absentee ballots cast by a voter with permanent
8 absentee voter status shall be treated the same as other
9 absentee ballots.

10 Sec. 4. (a) Upon receiving an application for permanent absentee
11 voter status, the county election board (or the absentee voter board
12 in the office of the circuit court clerk) shall determine whether the
13 voter is entitled to permanent absentee voter status under this
14 chapter, using the procedures described in IC 3-11-4.

15 (b) If the voter qualifies for permanent absentee voter status
16 under this chapter and IC 3-11-4, the circuit court clerk shall do
17 the following:

18 (1) Place the voter's name on a list of all voters in the county
19 who have permanent absentee voter status under this chapter.

20 (2) Send absentee ballots to the voter each time there is an
21 election held in the precinct of the voter's residence.

22 (3) Include in all absentee ballot mailings to the voter an
23 explanation of the absentee voting procedure and an
24 explanation of section 7 of this chapter.

25 Sec. 5. Absentee ballots sent to and received from a voter who
26 has permanent absentee voter status:

27 (1) are subject to the same procedures and deadlines; and

28 (2) shall be processed and counted in the same manner;

29 as all other absentee ballots.

30 Sec. 6. (a) Before each primary election, the circuit court clerk
31 shall mail to every voter on the list of voters who have permanent
32 absentee voter status an absentee ballot for each political party
33 that has candidates on the primary election ballot.

34 (b) The circuit court clerk shall provide only one (1) envelope in
35 which the voter who has permanent absentee voter status can
36 return the voter's voted primary election ballot.

37 (c) The circuit court clerk shall provide a notice with the
38 primary ballots sent to a voter under this section that reads
39 substantially as follows:

40 "You have been sent a primary election ballot for each political
41 party that has candidates on the primary election ballot. You may
42 vote for candidates on only one (1) political party's primary ballot.



1 **You should return only the ballot of the political party that you**
 2 **cast votes on in the envelope provided. You should destroy all other**
 3 **primary election ballots sent to you. If more than one (1) primary**
 4 **election ballot sent to you is returned to the circuit court clerk,**
 5 **none of those ballots will be counted."**

6 (d) If more than one (1) primary election ballot sent to a voter
 7 is returned to the circuit court clerk, none of those ballots may be
 8 counted.

9 **Sec. 7. (a) If a voter on the permanent absentee voter list fails to**
 10 **return an executed absentee ballot for three (3) consecutive**
 11 **statewide general elections, the circuit court clerk shall delete the**
 12 **voter's name from the list of voters with permanent absentee voter**
 13 **status.**

14 (b) A voter who is deleted from the permanent absentee voter
 15 list may apply for reinstatement on the permanent absentee voter
 16 list by making a new application for permanent absentee voter
 17 status.

18 SECTION 22. IC 3-11-10-24, AS AMENDED BY P.L.227-2023,
 19 SECTION 83, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 20 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 24. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b);
 21 (d), a voter who satisfies any of the following is entitled to vote by
 22 mail.

23 (1) The voter has a specific, reasonable expectation of being
 24 absent from the county on election day during the entire twelve
 25 (12) hours that the polls are open:

26 (2) The voter will be absent from the precinct of the voter's
 27 residence on election day because of service as:

28 (A) a precinct election officer under IC 3-6-6;

29 (B) a watcher under IC 3-6-8, IC 3-6-9, or IC 3-6-10;

30 (C) a challenger or pollbook holder under IC 3-6-7; or

31 (D) a person employed by an election board to administer the
 32 election for which the absentee ballot is requested:

33 (3) The voter will be confined on election day to the voter's
 34 residence; to a health care facility; or to a hospital because of an
 35 illness or injury during the entire twelve (12) hours that the polls
 36 are open:

37 (4) The voter is a voter with disabilities:

38 (5) The voter is an elderly voter:

39 (6) The voter is prevented from voting due to the voter's care of
 40 an individual confined to a private residence because of illness or
 41 injury during the entire twelve (12) hours that the polls are open:

42 (7) The voter is scheduled to work at the person's regular place of



- 1 employment during the entire twelve (12) hours that the polls are
 2 open.
 3 (8) The voter is eligible to vote under IC 3-10-11 or IC 3-10-12.
 4 (9) The voter is prevented from voting due to observance of a
 5 religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire twelve
 6 (12) hours that the polls are open.
 7 (10) The voter is an address confidentiality program participant
 8 (as defined in IC 5-26.5-1-6).
 9 (11) The voter is a member of the Indiana National Guard
 10 deployed or on assignment inside Indiana or a public safety
 11 officer.
 12 (12) The voter is a serious sex offender (as defined in
 13 IC 35-42-4-14(a)).
 14 (13) The voter is prevented from voting due to the unavailability
 15 of transportation to the polls.
 16 (b) An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter is entitled
 17 to vote by mail using the combined absentee registration form and
 18 absentee ballot request approved under 52 U.S.C. 20301(b)(2).
 19 (c) A county shall mail an absentee ballot to a voter under this
 20 section by nonforwardable United States Postal Service mail.
 21 (d) Except as provided in subsection (l), a voter with disabilities
 22 who:
 23 (1) is unable to make a voting mark on the ballot or sign the
 24 absentee ballot secrecy envelope; and
 25 (2) requests that the absentee ballot be delivered to an address
 26 within Indiana;
 27 must vote before an absentee voter board under section 25(b) of this
 28 chapter.
 29 (e) If a voter receives an absentee ballot by mail, the voter shall
 30 personally mark the ballot in secret and seal the marked ballot inside
 31 the envelope provided by the county election board for that purpose.
 32 The voter shall do one (1) of the following:
 33 (1) Deliver the envelope to the county election board in person.
 34 (2) Deliver the sealed envelope to the county election board with
 35 not more than one (1) ballot per envelope, by United States mail
 36 or by a bonded courier company.
 37 (3) Authorize a member of the voter's household, family listed in
 38 IC 3-6-6-7(a)(4), or the individual designated as the voter's
 39 attorney in fact to do one (1) of the following:
 40 (A) Deposit the sealed envelope in the United States mail.
 41 (B) Deliver the sealed envelope in person to the county
 42 election board at:



- 1 (i) the office of the circuit court clerk or the office of the
2 board of elections and registration under section 26 of this
3 chapter;
4 (ii) a satellite office of the circuit court clerk designated
5 under section 26.3 of this chapter; or
6 (iii) a satellite office of a vote center under IC 3-11-18.1-11.
7 A voter who delivers the sealed envelope under this clause
8 may request a replacement absentee ballot under IC 3-11.5-4-2
9 and cast a replacement absentee ballot at an office or vote
10 center described in items (i) through (iii).
- 11 (f) A county election board shall reject an absentee ballot deposited
12 in a drop box or other container or location that is not under the
13 physical control and supervision of the county election board when the
14 ballot is deposited.
- 15 (g) If a drop box or other container is located in a building under the
16 control of a political subdivision in which a document may be
17 deposited for other purposes related to the office of the circuit court
18 clerk or an office of any other political subdivision, the political
19 subdivision in control of the drop box or container shall post a notice
20 on or in a prominent location adjacent to the drop box or container
21 saying substantially as follows: "Do not deposit a voted absentee ballot
22 into this box or container. The absentee ballot will not be counted."
- 23 (h) If an absentee ballot is deposited into a box or container in
24 violation of subsection (f) or (g), the county election board shall mark
25 the absentee ballot security envelope as rejected and, if possible,
26 promptly notify the individual whose name appears on the security
27 envelope containing the absentee ballot.
- 28 (i) If a member of the voter's household, family listed in
29 IC 3-6-6-7(a)(4), or the voter's attorney in fact delivers the sealed
30 envelope containing a voter's absentee ballot to the county election
31 board, the individual delivering the ballot shall complete an affidavit
32 in a form prescribed by the election division. The affidavit must
33 contain the following information:
- 34 (1) The name and residence address of the voter whose absentee
35 ballot is being delivered.
- 36 (2) A statement of the full name, residence and mailing address,
37 and daytime and evening telephone numbers (if any) of the
38 individual delivering the absentee ballot.
- 39 (3) A statement indicating whether the individual delivering the
40 absentee ballot is a member of the voter's household, family listed
41 in IC 3-6-6-7(a)(4), or is the attorney in fact for the voter. If the
42 individual is the attorney in fact for the voter, the individual must



- 1 attach a copy of the power of attorney for the voter, unless a copy
 2 of this document has already been filed with the county election
 3 board.
 4 (4) The date and location at which the absentee ballot was
 5 delivered by the voter to the individual delivering the ballot to the
 6 county election board.
 7 (5) A statement that the individual delivering the absentee ballot
 8 has complied with Indiana laws governing absentee ballots.
 9 (6) A statement that the individual delivering the absentee ballot
 10 is executing the affidavit under the penalties of perjury.
 11 (7) A statement setting forth the penalties for perjury.
 12 (j) The county election board shall record the date and time that the
 13 affidavit under subsection (i) was filed with the board.
 14 (k) After a voter has mailed or delivered an absentee ballot to the
 15 office of the county election board, the voter may not recast a ballot,
 16 except as provided in IC 3-11-4-17.7, IC 3-11.5-4-2, and
 17 IC 3-11.5-4-21.
 18 (l) A voter with print disabilities may vote by using the system
 19 developed by the secretary of state under IC 3-11-4-6(k).
 20 SECTION 23. IC 9-24-2.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.71-2019,
 21 SECTION 32, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
 22 JANUARY 1, 2025]: Sec. 4. (a) As required under 52 U.S.C.
 23 20504(e)(1), the manager or designated license branch employee shall
 24 transmit an electronic version of the ~~completed~~ voter registration
 25 ~~portion of information from~~ each application **or renewal** for a driver's
 26 license or an identification card for nondrivers issued under this article
 27 to the county voter registration office of the county in which the
 28 individual's residential address (as indicated on the application) is
 29 located.
 30 (b) The voter registration ~~application~~ **information** shall be
 31 transmitted to the county voter registration office in an electronic
 32 format and on an expedited basis (as defined by IC 3-5-2-23.2) using
 33 the computerized list established under IC 3-7-26.3.

