LC01750

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, and Lombardo

<u>Date Introduced:</u> February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1	SECTION 1. Sections 17-20-21 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-20 entitled "Mail					
2	Ballots" are hereby amended to read as follows:					
3	<u>17-20-21. Certifying envelopes</u> The secretary of state shall cause to be prepared and					
4	printed and shall furnish with each mail ballot an envelope for sealing up and certifying the ballot					
5	when returned. The envelope shall be printed in substantially the following form:					
6	"After marking ballot or ballots, fold and enclose in this envelope and seal it. Certify to					
7	statement hereon. Enclose in envelope addressed to board of elections, which must receive the					
8	envelope not later than nine o'clock (9:00) eight o'clock (8:00) p.m. the day of election."					
9	Date of Election: City/Town of:					
10	Certificate of Voter					
11	Print Name of Voter					
12	I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am:					
13	□ I am a United States citizen;					
14	$\hfill I$ am a resident and qualified voter of the State of Rhode Island;					
15	$\hfill I$ am eligible to cast a mail ballot under the provisions of section 17-20-2; and					
16	$\hfill I$ am not qualified to vote elsewhere.					
17	Voter must sign full name here:					
18	(If unable to sign name because of physical incapacity or otherwise, voter shall make his or her					
19	mark "(X)")					

1	I hereby attest under penalty of perjury that the enclosed voted ballot was cast, and the signature						
2	or mark on this certifyin	g envelope was made	by the voter w	whose name a	ppears on the label		
3	above.						
4	Before me the	day of	20	, at	(city		
5	or town), county of	, state o	of	, pers	onally appeared the		
6	above named voter, to m	ne known and known	by me to be th	e person who	affixed his or her		
7	signature to this ballot envelope.						
8							
9	Notary Public						
10	Notary must also print his or her name						
11	Witness:						
12							
13	(Signature) (Residence)						
14	Note: Mail ballots must either be sworn to before a notary public or before two (2						
15	witnesses who must sign their names and addresses.						
16	SECTION 2. This	s act shall take effect up	pon passage.				
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EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

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This act would require that envelopes containing mail ballots be marked with a statement noting, in part, that the board of elections must receive the mail ballot envelope "not later than eight o'clock (8:00) pm the day of the election." The present law is nine o'clock.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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