

Department of Planning and Budget 2020 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB203

House of Origin Introduced Substitute Engrossed
Second House In Committee Substitute Enrolled

2. Patron: Tran

3. Committee: Privileges and Elections

4. Title: Absentee voting; counting military and overseas absentee ballots received after close of polls.

5. Summary: Provides that absentee ballots cast by military and overseas absentee voters that are (i) received after the close of the polls on any election day but before 5:00 p.m. on the second business day before the State Board of Elections meets to ascertain the results of the election and (ii) postmarked on or before the date of such election are to be counted if the voter is found entitled to vote. The bill provides that a postmark includes any other official indicia of confirmation of mailing by the United States Postal Service or other postal or delivery service. Under current law, such ballots cast by military and overseas absentee voters would be counted in this manner regardless of the date of any postmark, but only if the absentee ballot had been requested on or before, but not sent by, the deadline for making absentee ballots available.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: No state fiscal impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed legislation is not expected to have a state fiscal impact.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: The Department of Elections and localities.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: This bill is similar or identical to HB191 and SB455.

Date: 1/13/2020