

AN ACT

ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions concerning the application for absentee voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. That § 12-19-2.1 be amended to read as follows:

12-19-2.1. At anytime prior to an election, a voter may apply in person at the office of and to the person in charge of the election for an absentee ballot during regular office hours up to 3:00 p.m. on the day of the election. If the voter applies in person, the voter shall complete a combined absentee ballot application/return envelope and show the person in charge of the election the voter's identification card as required in § 12-18-6.1 or complete the affidavit as provided in § 12-18-6.2.

In the event of confinement because of sickness or disability, a qualified voter may apply pursuant to the provisions of § 12-19-2 in writing and obtain an absentee ballot by authorized messenger so designated over the signature of the voter. The person in charge of the election may deliver to the authorized messenger a ballot to be delivered to the qualified voter. Any application for a ballot by authorized messenger must be received by the person in charge of the election before 3:00 p.m. the day of the election. If the application designating an authorized messenger also indicates a request for an absentee ballot for any future election, such absentee ballot shall be mailed to the address provided on the application. If no address is provided, the ballot shall be mailed to the person's voter registration address.

Section 2. That § 13-7-14 be amended to read as follows:

13-7-14. Absentee voting shall be permitted in school district elections, including school district bond elections and shall be conducted pursuant to chapter 12-19. The school board, with the approval of the county auditor and board of county commissioners, may permit absentee ballots to be voted at the county auditor's office in the county of jurisdiction.

Section 3. That § 9-13-21 be amended to read as follows:

9-13-21. The finance officer shall prepare and furnish, at the expense of the municipality, all official ballots. The quantity of ballots provided shall be at least ten percent more than the number of voters at the last comparable election. The ballots shall be white in color, of good quality of print paper, printed in black ink, and in the English language only.

The ballots for municipal elections shall be available for absentee voting no later than fifteen days prior to election day. If the ballots are for a secondary election, the ballots shall be available no later than seven days prior to the secondary election day. Absentee voting shall be conducted pursuant chapter 12-19.

The names of the candidates for each office to be voted for in the precinct shall be arranged without any other designation than that of the office for which they are candidates. If more than one member of the governing body is to be elected, the ballot shall contain instructions as to how many candidates for the governing body are to be voted for. The finance officer shall determine, by lot, each candidate's position on the ballot. Each candidate may be present or represented when the position on the ballot is being determined.

No candidate's name may be printed upon the official ballot unless the candidate has been nominated as provided in this chapter.

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I certify that the attached Act
originated in the
SENATE as Bill No. 137

Secretary of the Senate

President of the Senate

Attest:

Secretary of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Attest:

Chief Clerk

Senate Bill No. 137
File No.
Chapter No.

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Received at this Executive Office
this ___ day of ___,
20___ at ___ M.

By ___
for the Governor

The attached Act is hereby
approved this ___ day of
___, A.D., 20___

Governor

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
ss.
Office of the Secretary of State

Filed ___, 20___
at ___ o'clock ___ M.

Secretary of State

By ___
Asst. Secretary of State