

HOUSE BILL 779

By McCormick

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 6, relative to voting by members of the armed forces.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 6, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

2-6-504.

(a) The coordinator of elections in accordance with § 2-11-201(c), shall promulgate rules and regulations to allow a person to return an absentee ballot by facsimile transmission or similar electronic means if the person:

(1) Is a member of the United States armed forces who is on active duty overseas; and

(2) Is casting a ballot from an area:

(A) In which members of the armed forces are eligible to receive hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay; or

(B) That has been designated by the president of the United States as a combat zone.

(b) The rules shall:

(1) Provide for verification of the voter;

(2) Provide for the security of the transmission; and

(3) Require a record to be maintained of each ballot received under this section.

SECTION 2. For purposes of promulgating rules and regulations, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2010, the public welfare requiring it.