



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5903

January Session, 2009

* HB05903GAE 033009 *

AN ACT CONCERNING ABSENTEE VOTING FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES STATIONED OVERSEAS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-153f of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 9-140, any elector who
4 is living, or expects to be living or traveling before and on election day,
5 outside the territorial limits of the several states of the United States
6 and the District of Columbia and any member of the armed forces who
7 is an elector or an applicant for admission as an elector, or the
8 member's spouse or dependent if living where such member is
9 stationed, may apply for a blank absentee ballot to vote for all offices
10 being contested at an election or primary. Application shall be made
11 upon a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on the federal
12 postcard application form provided pursuant to the Uniformed and
13 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 100 Stat. 924, 42 USC 1973ff et
14 seq., as amended from time to time, or any other applicable law. The
15 municipal clerk receiving such an application shall, as soon as a
16 complete list of candidates and questions to be voted upon at such
17 election or primary becomes available, issue the ballot, which shall be
18 the blank ballot prescribed and printed by the Secretary of the State
19 under section 9-153e. The clerk shall include with the ballot a complete

20 list of the offices to be voted upon, the number of individuals for
21 which each elector may vote, the candidates, and, in the case of an
22 election, the party designation of each candidate and questions to be
23 voted upon. If application for an absentee ballot is made at the time of
24 availability of regular absentee ballots as provided in said section 9-
25 140, the provisions of said section 9-140 shall prevail. The procedures
26 governing the issuance of ballots under this section shall conform as
27 nearly as may be to the procedures provided in said section 9-140.

28 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
29 the Secretary of the State shall work in conjunction with the State
30 Elections Enforcement Commission and the United States Department
31 of Defense Federal Voting Assistance Program to ensure that any
32 absent uniformed services voter, as defined in 42 USC 1973ff-6, may
33 utilize a secure electronic means to receive and submit: (1) The federal
34 postcard application form provided for pursuant to the Uniformed and
35 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 100 Stat. 924, 42 USC 1973ff et
36 seq., as amended from time to time, and (2) any absentee ballot issued
37 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section or section 9-140.

38 (c) Not later than October 1, 2010, the Secretary of the State, in
39 consultation with the State Elections Enforcement Commission and the
40 Office of Military Affairs shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
41 the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of subsection
42 (b) of this section. Such regulations, at a minimum, shall provide that
43 such absent uniformed services voter shall not be required to submit a
44 paper absentee ballot in addition to the electronic submission of such a
45 ballot pursuant to subsection (b) of this section. For purposes of this
46 section, "electronic means" means any transmission made by facsimile
47 or by any other form of electronic transmission, including, but not
48 limited to, electronic mail that transports an authentic copy of a
49 document from one user to another.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-153f
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GAE *Joint Favorable Subst.*