



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Committee Bill No. 5978**

LCO No. 3141

\*03141HB05978GAE\*

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:  
(GAE)

***AN ACT CONCERNING PERMANENT ABSENTEE BALLOT STATUS FOR DISABLED VOTERS.***

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2012*) (a) Any elector who is  
2 permanently disabled and who files an application for an absentee  
3 ballot with a certification from a primary care provider, indicating that  
4 such elector is permanently disabled and unable to appear in person at  
5 such elector's designated polling location, shall be eligible for  
6 permanent absentee ballot status and shall receive an application for  
7 an absentee ballot for each election, primary or referendum conducted  
8 in such elector's municipality for which such elector is eligible to vote.  
9 Such elector's permanent absentee ballot status shall remain in effect  
10 until such elector: (1) Is removed from the official registry list of the  
11 municipality, (2) is removed from permanent absentee ballot status  
12 pursuant to the provisions of this section, or (3) requests that he or she  
13 no longer receive such permanent absentee ballot status.

14 (b) The registrars of voters shall send written notice to each such  
15 elector with permanent absentee ballot status in January of each year,

16 on a form prescribed by the Secretary of the State, for the purpose of  
 17 determining if such elector continues to reside at the address indicated  
 18 on the elector's permanent absentee ballot application. If such written  
 19 notice is not returned within thirty days or is returned as  
 20 undeliverable, the elector in question shall be removed from  
 21 permanent absentee ballot status. If such elector indicates on such  
 22 notice that the elector no longer resides at such address and the  
 23 elector's new address is within the same municipality, the registrars of  
 24 voters shall change the elector's address pursuant to section 9-35 of the  
 25 general statutes and such elector shall retain permanent absentee ballot  
 26 status. If the elector indicates on such notice that the elector no longer  
 27 resides in the municipality, the registrars of voters shall remove such  
 28 individual from the registry list of the municipality and send such  
 29 individual an application for voter registration. Failure to return such  
 30 written notice shall not result in the removal of an elector from the  
 31 official registry list of the municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2012	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To remove obstacles for voting for persons who are permanently disabled.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. NAFIS, 27th Dist.; SEN. DOYLE, 9th Dist.

H.B. 5978