



## State of Tennessee

### PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 176

HOUSE BILL NO. 1081

**By Representatives McCormick, Powers, Dean, Parkinson, Ryan Williams, Harry Brooks, Hurley, Eldridge, Hensley, Kevin Brooks, Lundberg, White, Halford, Matheny, Womick, Wirgau, Sparks, Sexton, Todd, Rich, Floyd, Alexander, Evans, Forgety, Don Miller, Curtis Johnson, Windle, Holt, Naifeh**

**Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 875**

**By Senators Gresham, Barnes, Beavers, Bell, Berke, Burks, Campfield, Crowe, Faulk, Finney, Ford, Harper, Haynes, Henry, Herron, Johnson, Kelsey, Ketron, Marrero, McNally, Norris, Overbey, Roberts, Southerland, Stewart, Summerville, Tate, Tracy, Watson, Woodson, Yager and Mr. Speaker Ramsey**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, relative to military and overseas voters.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-501, is amended by deleting the language in the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

For persons voting absentee by mail or registering by mail from outside the territorial limits of the United States and for all armed forces personnel, there shall be printed across the face of each envelope in which a ballot or any registration material is to be sent the words "Official Election Balloting Material-Via Air Mail", or similar language. Furthermore, there shall be printed the words "Free of United States Postage, Including Air Mail."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-502(b), is amended by deleting the language in the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) An application for an absentee ballot or temporary registration or both from any person authorized to vote absentee by mail under subsection (a) may be in any form but shall contain the applicant's name, social security number, date of birth, and residence in the county in which the applicant proposes to vote and shall contain the address to which the absentee ballot is to be mailed. If the election is a primary election, the applicant shall state such applicant's political party preference. The county election commission shall accept the federal postcard application or the application for the federal write-in absentee ballot, as provided for in the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, Public Law 99-410, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq. for temporary registration and for an absentee ballot for all elections for which the person is eligible to vote. An application or ballot affidavit shall be signed by the voter, under the penalty of perjury, thereby verifying all the information on the application or ballot affidavit is true and correct and that the voter is eligible to vote in the election. The social security number, date of birth, mailing address and electronic mailing address contained on such application shall be confidential and not subject to the open records law compiled in title 10, chapter 7.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-502, is amended by deleting subdivision (f), in its entirety, and substituting instead the following:

(f) Ballots received under this section shall be processed as other absentee ballots from persons voting absentee by mail. A federal write-in absentee ballot from any applicant under this section shall be counted for all elections for which the applicant is eligible to vote.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: APRIL 18, 2011

  
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BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

  
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RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2011

  
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BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR