

Substitute bill for SB 302

This substitute bill includes provisions in original **SB 302**, as intended to be amended by the sponsor, as well as some **NEW** provisions:

Section 1 - NEW: Late registration

- * Regular registration takes place until 30 days before an election.
- * Late registration allows people to register after that period; people who register late can only vote at the county courthouse for that election so that election administrators can confirm through the statewide voter file that a new registrant is not registered to vote elsewhere in the state.

Section 2 - NEW: Currently registered voters

- * Electors who were legally registered prior to January 1, 2004, when the new HAVA and state regulations took effect, do not have reregister.

Section 3 – Removes the reference to close of voter registration, since there is no longer a close of voter registration (tied to Section 1).

Note: * The language struck in Section 3, 13-2-110 (2) is restored in Section 5.

- * The change in Section 3, 13-2-110 (5)(a)(i) – removal of the words “a valid driver’s license” - is cleanup language. Subsection (5) states “If an applicant does not have a driver’s license or social security number:...” so a valid driver’s license is not a legitimate example of a photo ID in this case.

Section 4 – Clarifies regular and late registration periods (tied to Section 1).

Section 5 – Provides for corrections to voter registration (tied to Section 1).

Section 6 – Accommodates change in registration for moving to another county (tied to Section 1).

Section 7 – NEW: Absentee voting

- * Provisionally registered voters who vote absentee may enclose an ID and will be handled as specified in Section 13.

Section 8 - SB 302: Availability of paper ballots

- * Changes the current deadline for when ballots would be available for absentee voting from 30 days to 45 days prior to federal general elections.
- * Keeps the deadline at 30 days for primary elections and 20 days for municipal or local elections.

Section 9 - SB 302: Application for absentee ballot

- * Clarifies that an elector can request an absentee ballot by either making a written request, or using a form as provided by rule.

Section 10 - SB 302: Transmission of absentee ballot application to election administrator

* Restores the ability of third parties to deliver absentee ballot applications to election administrators.

* Requires that that all absentee ballot applications be addressed to the appropriate election administrator.

Section 11 - SB 302: Delivery of ballots to persons other than the elector

* Allows third parties to take delivery of more than four ballots for four other electors if the election administrator has been given at least two business days to prepare the ballots.

Section 12 – Provides consistency with changes in Section 15 regarding rejected ballots.

Section 13 – Cleanup language to provide a needed internal reference; 13-21-207 refers to overseas ballots.

Section 14 – NEW: Signature verification of absentee ballots

* Election administrators will handle ballots submitted by legally registered electors whose signature on the absentee ballot return envelope matches the signature on the absentee ballot request form (which has already been matched to the registration form) as a regular ballot.

* Provisionally registered voters must still provide sufficient identification or they will be treated as a provisional voter.

Section 15 – Cleanup language regarding the process for rejecting ballots.

Section 16 – NEW: Signature verification of ballots cast at the polling place

* Ballots of legally registered voters who cast a provisional ballot because of lack of sufficient identification but whose signature on the provisional affirmation envelope has been confirmed by the election administrator as matching the elector's voter registration card will be considered a regular ballot.

Section 17 – Cleanup language regarding handling of rejected ballots.

Sections 18 and 19 - SB 302: Voting systems

* Provides for a paper trail and auditing of new voting systems.

Section 20 – Repeals current language about close of registration (tied to Section 1) and marking of rejected ballots (tied to Section 15).

Section 21 – Codification

Section 22 – Effective dates