

Exhibit No. 3HB 251: Absentee ballots available 25 days instead of 30 Date 3-6-2013

Senate State Administration

Bill No. HB 251

March 6, 2013

Lisa Kimmet, SOS Deputy for Elections and Government Services

- The Secretary of State supports House Bill 251 as amended.
- The issues raised by the county election administrators with having regular voter registration cut off on the same day that absentee ballots must be mailed out presents a very real problem for both election administrators and voters.
- Voters who have faithfully updated their registration with a new address close to the 30-day cut off for regular registration will potentially already have a ballot in the process of being mailed before the county can update their record with the new address.
- Consequently, two ballots could be mailed. Even though the first ballot is voided in the statewide system before the second one can be mailed, it requires extra work and vigilance on the part of the election administrators, and can cause confusion for the voter.
- We support House Bill 251 as amended as it contributes to the general efficiency and accuracy of our elections.