

1 \_\_\_\_\_ BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

2 INTRODUCED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING THAT LATE REGISTRATION DOES NOT CLOSE  
5 THE DAY BEFORE THE ELECTION IN A MAIL BALLOT ELECTION; AND AMENDING SECTION 13-2-304,  
6 MCA."

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8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

9  
10 **Section 1.** Section 13-2-304, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"13-2-304. Late registration -- late changes.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2), the following  
12 provisions apply:

13 (a) An elector may register or change the elector's voter registration information after the close of  
14 regular registration as provided in 13-2-301 and vote in the election if the election administrator in the county  
15 where the elector resides receives and verifies the elector's voter registration information prior to the close of  
16 the polls on election day.

17 (b) Late registration is closed from noon to 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

18 (c) Except as provided in 13-2-514(2)(a) and subsection (1)(d) of this section, an elector who registers  
19 or changes the elector's voter information pursuant to this section may vote in the election if the elector obtains  
20 the ballot from the location designated by the county election administrator.

21 (d) With respect to an elector who registers late pursuant to this section for a school election  
22 conducted by a school clerk, the elector may vote in the election only if the elector obtains from the county  
23 election administrator a document, in a form prescribed by the secretary of state, verifying the elector's late  
24 registration. The elector shall provide the verification document to the school clerk, who shall issue the ballot to  
25 the elector and enter the verification document as part of the official register.

26 (e) An elector who registers late and obtains a ballot pursuant to this section may return the ballot as  
27 follows:

28 (i) before election day, to a location designated by the county election administrator or school clerk if

1 the election is administered by the school district; or

2 (ii) on election day, to the election office or to any polling place in the county where the elector is  
3 registered to vote or, if the ballot is for a school election, to any polling place in the school district where the  
4 election is being conducted.

5 (2) (a) If an elector has already been issued a ballot for the election, the elector may change the  
6 elector's voter registration information only if the original voted ballot has not been received at the county  
7 election office, or received by the school district if the district is administering the election, and if the original  
8 ballot that was issued is marked by the issuing county as void in the statewide voter registration system, or by  
9 the school district if the district is administering the election, prior to the change.

10 (b) In a mail ballot election, late registration does not close as provided in subsection (1)(b)."

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