

SHORT TITLE: Elections; absentee ballots; charter municipalities; adjustments in filing periods and election dates; absentee ballot mailing times; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 46th Legislature (1997)

HOUSE BILL NO. 596

By: Helton

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 1991, Section 14-101, which relates to absentee ballots; allowing adjustment of certain filing periods and election dates; establishing certain requirement for mailing and return of certain absentee ballots in certain elections; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 1991, Section 14-101, is amended to read as follows:

Section 14-101. A. Absentee ballots shall be provided for any election conducted by a county election board. ~~Provided, however, this section shall not apply to charter cities, except that such~~ Charter cities may by ordinance allow absentee ballots in their municipal elections if their charter does not specifically prohibit them. A charter city may adjust its filing period and election dates to allow sufficient time for the mailing and return of absentee ballots if the filing period or election dates provided in the city's charter do not provide sufficient time for the mailing and return of absentee ballots.

B. Any election called by a charter city simultaneously with any other entity's election held in any part of the city shall

provide no less time for the mailing and return of absentee ballots than the least time provided by the other entity.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 1997.

46-1-0546

WHT