

An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2001, Sections 1-108, 2-107, 2-117, 3-101, Section 5, Chapter 447, O.S.L. 2002, 4-119, 13A-103, 14-108, as amended by Section 15, Chapter 447, O.S.L. 2002, 14-113.2, as amended by Section 16, Chapter 447, O.S.L. 2002, 14-115, as amended by Section 18, Chapter 447, O.S.L. 2002, 14-115.4, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 341, O.S.L. 2002, 14-116, 14-117, 14-118, 14-120, 14-120.1, 14-121, as amended by Section 19, Chapter 447, O.S.L. 2002, 14-123, 16-102, and 20-102 (26 O.S. Supp. 2002, Sections 4-115.2, 14-108, 14-113.2, 14-115, 14-115.4, and 14-121), which relate to formation of political parties, duties of the Secretary, elections, confidentiality of residency, change of political affiliation, dates of special elections, return of ballots, requirements for marking ballots, procedures for voters confined to nursing homes, in-person absentee ballots, voters in armed services, application for voters in armed services, return of absentee ballots, write-in absentee ballots, authorizing discharged military personnel to vote, removal of outer envelopes, voting illegally, and filing for nomination for President of the United States; modifying certain dates for formation of certain political parties; authorizing the Secretary of the State Election Board to stand in for certain persons in the event of a vacancy or for employing necessary personnel; deleting statutory cite; stating minimum salary requirements of the assistant secretary of the county election board; prohibiting reduction of salary for certain persons; authorizing the county election board to compensate temporary personnel in certain circumstances; modifying dates for certain special elections; adding participants in the Address Confidentiality Program to list of registered voters who are members of certain classes; prohibiting release of certain information except under court order; providing process for change in political affiliation; modifying dates for change in political affiliation; providing exception for the year 2004 school board elections; providing for counting of absentee ballots; stating exception; prohibiting and restricting certain persons from witnessing any absentee ballot affidavit; modifying certain day for in-person absentee voting; providing exception for certification of signature on an application for in-person absentee ballot; authorizing certain persons who are not registered to vote to be entitled to vote in certain elections; authorizing certain persons to apply for absentee ballots; requiring the Secretary to transmit absentee ballots for certain persons by facsimile or by United States mail; authorizing the secretary to transmit a ballot to certain persons by facsimile in certain circumstances; authorizing certain persons to return ballots by private mail service; authorizing any person covered by the federal Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 1986 for absentee ballot; conforming and updating language; modifying day for removal of outer envelopes from absentee ballots; authorizing the secretary to promulgate rules for certain procedures; authorizing the Secretary of the State Election Board to prescribe special procedures to facilitate absentee voting for certain persons due to national or local emergency situations; establishing penalty for persons who vote more than once in any election; modifying dates for filing for certain office; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.