

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

4 HOUSE BILL 1559

 By: Hall

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6
7 AS INTRODUCED

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9 An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2011,
10 Section 14-105, as amended by Section 4, Chapter 200,
11 O.S.L. 2013 (26 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section 14-105),
12 which relates to absentee voting; authorizing certain
13 voters to apply for absentee ballots; providing for
14 cancelation of certain applications; and providing an
15 effective date.

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

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 14-105, as
18 amended by Section 4, Chapter 200, O.S.L. 2013 (26 O.S. Supp. 2014,
19 Section 14-105), is amended to read as follows:

20 Section 1-105. A. Any registered voter may apply for an
21 absentee ballot in person at the county election board, by United
22 States mail, by telegraph , by facsimile device as defined in
23 Section 1862 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or by a means of
24 electronic communication designated by the Secretary of the State
25 Election Board. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall

1 prescribe a form to be used for the application, although any
2 application setting forth substantially the same facts shall be
3 valid.

4 B. Absent voters, nursing home voters, physically incapacitated
5 voters, voters charged with the care of physically incapacitated
6 persons, veteran center voters and those wishing to become permanent
7 absentee voters may apply for absentee ballots for all elections in
8 which they are eligible to vote.

9 C. Applications for absentee ballots received from uniformed
10 services voters and overseas voters shall be considered applications
11 for all elections in which the voter is eligible to vote.

12 D. If absentee ballots mailed to the address provided by the
13 voter on an application for absentee ballots that requests ballots
14 for all elections are returned undelivered to the county election
15 board by the postal service, the secretary of the county election
16 board shall be authorized to cancel the application. The
17 application information may be deleted from the Modern Election
18 Support Application (MESA). The secretary shall indicate on the
19 outside of the returned absentee ballot mailing envelope that the
20 application is cancelled as a result of the returned, undelivered
21 ballots. The returned envelope shall be retained for twenty-four
22 (24) months.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND ETHICS, dated
02/05/2015 - DO PASS.