

1 ENGROSSED SENATE AMENDMENTS

TO

2 ENGROSSED HOUSE

BILL NO. 1711

By: Hill and Turner of the  
House

and

Rosino of the Senate

[ elections - allowing blind or visually impaired  
persons to request certain ballot electronically -  
providing for return of ballot - prohibiting return  
of ballot electronically - providing for processing  
of ballot - effective date ]

AMENDMENT NO. 1. Page 1, strike the stricken title, enacting clause  
and entire bill and insert

"An Act relating to absentee ballots; authorizing  
blind persons to request electronic delivery of  
accessible absentee ballot; requiring State Election  
Board Secretary to prescribe accessible absentee  
voting packet for blind persons; authorizing  
electronic delivery of certain packet; establishing  
procedures for marking and returning of certain  
absentee ballots; prohibiting electronic return of  
absentee ballots; allowing request for certain  
assistance; providing for processing of certain  
absentee ballots; creating felony offense for  
fraudulent application for certain absentee ballot;  
authorizing promulgation of certain rules and  
procedures by State Election Board Secretary;

1 providing for codification; and providing an  
2 effective date.

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

5 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
6 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-115.12 of Title 26, unless  
7 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

8 A. 1. A registered voter who swears or affirms that the voter  
9 is physically unable to vote in person at the voter's precinct on  
10 the day of the election because the voter is a blind person as  
11 defined by Section 72 of Title 7 of the Oklahoma Statutes may  
12 request that an accessible absentee ballot be delivered to the voter  
13 electronically in a manner prescribed by the Secretary of the State  
14 Election Board. A system for electronic delivery of absentee  
15 ballots to voters who are blind persons may include the same or  
16 similar requirements as the electronic delivery system authorized  
17 for uniformed services voters as set forth in Section 14-118 of  
18 Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

19 2. An accessible absentee voting packet for voters who are  
20 blind persons, which shall include all necessary materials except  
21 the absentee ballot, shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the  
22 State Election Board. The accessible absentee voting packet may be  
23 delivered to the voter by United States mail or electronically.

1       B. 1. The electronic delivery system may provide the voter the  
2 opportunity to use the voter's personal computer to mark an  
3 accessible absentee ballot privately and independently and then  
4 print the marked ballot.

5       2. The absentee ballot shall be accompanied by an absentee  
6 ballot affidavit, which shall be executed in the same manner as  
7 provided for affidavits in Section 14-113.2 of Title 26 of the  
8 Oklahoma Statutes.

9       3. The voter shall return the absentee ballot and executed  
10 affidavit to the secretary of the county election board in the same  
11 manner provided in Section 14-113.2 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma  
12 Statutes. Nothing in this section shall allow for an absentee  
13 ballot to be returned to the county election board electronically,  
14 and no absentee ballot returned electronically shall be eligible to  
15 be counted by a county election board.

16       C. A registered voter who is a blind person as defined by  
17 Section 72 of Title 7 of the Oklahoma Statutes may choose to request  
18 the assistance of another person to complete any requirements of  
19 this section, as provided in Section 7-123.3 of Title 26 of the  
20 Oklahoma Statutes.

21       D. Upon return of an absentee ballot described in this section,  
22 the secretary of the county election board shall cause it to be  
23 processed in the same manner as prescribed by law for other absentee  
24 ballots.

1 E. Any person who is not qualified for the electronic delivery  
2 of an absentee ballot as provided in this section, but who applies  
3 for an absentee ballot described in this section, shall be deemed  
4 guilty of a felony as provided in Section 16-102.2 of Title 26 of  
5 the Oklahoma Statutes.

6 F. The Secretary of the State Election Board may promulgate  
7 rules or procedures to implement the requirements of this section.

8 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2023."

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11 Passed the Senate the 28th day of April, 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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15 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
16 2022.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

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2 BILL NO. 1711

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8 providing for return of ballot - prohibiting return  
9 of ballot electronically - providing for processing  
10 of ballot - effective date ]  
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13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified  
15 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 14-115.12 of Title 26, unless  
16 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

17 A. 1. A registered voter who swears or affirms that the voter  
18 is physically unable to vote in person at the voter's precinct on  
19 the day of the election because the voter is blind or visually  
20 impaired may request that an accessible absentee ballot be delivered  
21 to the voter electronically in a manner prescribed by the Secretary  
22 of the State Election Board.

23 2. An accessible absentee voting packet for blind or visually  
24 impaired voters, which shall include all necessary materials except

1 the absentee ballot, shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the  
2 State Election Board. The accessible absentee voting packet may be  
3 delivered to the voter by United States mail or electronically.

4 B. 1. The electronic delivery system shall provide the voter  
5 the opportunity to use the voter's personal computer to mark an  
6 accessible absentee ballot privately and independently and then  
7 print the marked ballot.

8 2. The absentee ballot shall be accompanied by an absentee  
9 ballot affidavit, which shall be executed in the same manner as  
10 provided for affidavits in Section 14-113.2 of Title 26 of the  
11 Oklahoma Statutes.

12 3. The voter shall return the absentee ballot and executed  
13 affidavit to the secretary of the county election board in the same  
14 manner provided in Section 14-113.2 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma  
15 Statutes. Nothing in this section shall allow for an absentee  
16 ballot to be returned to the county election board electronically,  
17 and no absentee ballot returned electronically shall be eligible to  
18 be counted by a county election board.

19 C. A registered voter who is blind or visually impaired may  
20 choose to request the assistance of another person to complete any  
21 requirements of this section, as provided in Section 7-123.3 of  
22 Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

23 D. Upon return of an absentee ballot described in this section,  
24 the secretary of the county election board shall cause it to be

1 processed in the same manner as prescribed by law for other absentee  
2 ballots.

3 E. Any person who is not blind or visually impaired according  
4 to state law, but who applies for an absentee ballot described in  
5 this section, shall be deemed guilty of a felony as provided in  
6 Section 16-102.2 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

7 F. The Secretary of the State Election Board may promulgate  
8 rules or procedures to implement the requirements of this section.

9 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.

10 Passed the House of Representatives the 22nd day of February,  
11 2021.

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Presiding Officer of the House  
of Representatives

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16 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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