

## HOUSE BILL NO. HB0046

Permanent absentee voter status.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections & Political  
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; modifying provisions related  
2 to absentee ballot applications; authorizing an elector to  
3 apply for an absentee ballot electronically; authorizing an  
4 elector to apply for permanent absentee voter status and to  
5 receive an absentee ballot for all subsequent elections as  
6 specified; requiring distribution of absentee ballots to  
7 electors who qualify for permanent absentee voter status as  
8 specified; specifying termination of permanent absentee  
9 voter status; requiring rulemaking; and providing for an  
10 effective date.

11

12 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

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1           **Section 1.** W.S. 22-9-104(a)(intro), (i) and by  
2 creating a new paragraph (vi), 22-9-105 and 22-9-107 are  
3 amended to read:

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5           **22-9-104. How to apply; information required.**

6  
7           (a) A qualified elector may apply for an absentee  
8 ballot either in person, in writing, electronically or by  
9 telephone, by furnishing the following information:

10  
11           (i) Legal name in full, social security number  
12 (optional), date of birth, and current Wyoming residence  
13 address by street, city, county, and zip code or last  
14 Wyoming residence address and month and year of leaving  
15 Wyoming to live temporarily in another state or nation, if  
16 applicable;

17  
18           (vi) The request for permanent absentee voter  
19 status if desired.

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21           **22-9-105. Application; permanent absentee voter**  
22 **status.**

23

1       (a) A qualified elector may apply for an absentee  
2 ballot at ~~anytime~~any time during the calendar year in  
3 which the election is held, but not on the day of the  
4 election being held.

5  
6       (b) When applying for an absentee ballot pursuant to  
7 subsection (a) of this section, a qualified elector may  
8 request permanent absentee voter status to receive an  
9 absentee ballot for all subsequent elections conducted in  
10 the precinct in which the elector is eligible to vote. An  
11 elector's permanent absentee voter status terminates upon:

12  
13       (i) The elector's request;

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15       (ii) The elector's death;

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17       (iii) The elector's failure to satisfy the  
18 requirements to vote as provided in W.S. 22-3-102(a);

19

20       (iv) The return of an absentee ballot as  
21 undeliverable;

22

1           (v) The return of a permanent absentee ballot  
2 confirmation form sent in accordance with W.S. 22-9-107(c)  
3 as undeliverable.

4  
5           **22-9-107. Delivering ballots to qualified applicants;**  
6 **permanent absentee voter confirmation forms.**

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8           (a) If the clerk determines that the applicant is  
9 entitled to vote, he shall mark the application "Accepted"  
10 and shall, not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the  
11 election, distribute to the applicant, or the individual  
12 designated by the applicant, the absentee ballot or ballots  
13 requested, instructions for marking the ballot and the  
14 required envelopes for use in returning the ballot.

15  
16           (b) If the clerk determines that the applicant is  
17 qualified for permanent absentee voter status, the clerk  
18 shall place the applicant's name on a list. The clerk  
19 shall distribute an absentee ballot to each elector on the  
20 list for all elections conducted in the precinct for which  
21 the elector is eligible to vote. The clerk shall remove  
22 from the list any elector whose permanent absentee voter  
23 status is terminated and shall not distribute an absentee

1 ballot to the elector for any subsequent election unless  
2 the elector reapplies for an absentee ballot in accordance  
3 with W.S. 22-9-105.

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5 (c) In January of each even-numbered year, the clerk  
6 shall mail a nonforwarding address confirmation form to  
7 each elector on the list maintained pursuant to subsection  
8 (b) of this section. The form shall:

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10 (i) Be developed by rule of the secretary of  
11 state in conjunction with county clerks;

12

13 (ii) Apply to all elections to be held between  
14 February 1 following the mailing of the form through  
15 January of the next even-numbered year.

16

17 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2017.

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19

(END)