

Alaska State Legislature

House of Representatives

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House Bill 287¹: **An Act Relating to Absentee Voting** **Sponsor Statement**

Currently, most voters must request a ballot each time they vote absentee. Under AS 15.20.081(i) uniformed service members and qualified overseas voters receive a ballot for the following two general elections after they apply for an absentee ballot. This bill will extend the same right to all Alaskans. Under the bill, an absentee ballot application from a qualified voter will be valid through the next two general elections. Furthermore, each time the voter casts an absentee ballot, the application will continue to be valid through the next two general elections. However, if the absentee ballot is returned to the Division of Elections as “undeliverable,” the division will need no longer send a ballot to that voter at that address.

¹ On the recommendation of the Department of Revenue, Section 1 of the bill has been removed in a blank CS.