

**HOUSE BILL NO. 167**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY THE HOUSE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR**

**Introduced: 2/25/91**

**Referred: State Affairs, Judiciary, Finance**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

**1 "An Act relating to absentee voting."**

**2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**3 \* Section 1. AS 15.20.010 is amended to read:**

**4 Sec. 15.20.010. PERSONS WHO MAY VOTE ABSENTEE. At any election**  
**5 a qualified voter may vote an absentee ballot for the district in which the voter**  
**6 resides and is registered if the voter**

**7 (1) believes that the voter will be unavoidably absent from the proper**  
**8 voting precinct on election day, whether inside the state or not; or**

**9 (2) will be unable to be present at the polls because of physical**  
**10 disability or confinement in an institution.**

**11 \* Sec. 2. AS 15.20.071 is repealed and reenacted to read:**

**12 Sec. 15.20.071. ABSENTEE VOTING BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE. (a)**

**13 A qualified voter who is physically disabled or confined to an institution may vote**  
**14 an absentee ballot through a personal representative.**

1 (b) A personal representative may apply to the following election officials, at  
2 the times specified, for an absentee ballot on behalf of a voter who is eligible under  
3 (a) of this section:

4 (1) to an absentee voting official on or after the 15th day before an  
5 election up to and including the day of the election;

6 (2) to an election supervisor

7 (A) after a date announced by the director under AS 15.20.048(b);

8 and

9 (B) on or after the 15th day before an election up to and  
10 including the day of the election;

11 (3) to an absentee voting official at an absentee voting station designated  
12 under AS 15.20.045(b) at a time when the absentee voting station is operating;

13 (4) to a member of a precinct election board on election day except that  
14 the personal representative may not apply to a member of an election board in an  
15 area in which absentee voting officials have been designated.

16 (c) The application by the personal representative shall include the following:

17 (1) the full name of the personal representative;

18 (2) the full residence address of the personal representative;

19 (3) the name of the voter on whose behalf the personal representative  
20 is applying for an absentee ballot;

21 (4) a form of identification of the personal representative as required by  
22 regulation for a voter who requests an absentee ballot by mail; and

23 (5) a statement signed by the personal representative that the voter for  
24 whom the personal representative is applying for an absentee ballot will be unable to  
25 go to the polling place because of physical disability or confinement in an institution.

26 (d) Upon receipt of a written application and proof of identification from a  
27 personal representative, the election official shall issue the absentee ballot and other  
28 absentee voting material to the personal representative for use by a voter under (a)  
29 of this section.

30 (e) The personal representative shall deliver the absentee ballot and other  
31 absentee voting materials to the voter as soon as practicable. Upon receipt of the

1 voting materials, the voter shall complete the voter's application, stating the name of  
2 the personal representative who applied for the absentee ballot and stating that the  
3 voter will be unable to go to a polling place because of physical disability or  
4 confinement to an institution. The voter shall sign the application and provide a form  
5 of identification as required by regulation for a voter who requests an absentee ballot  
6 by mail. The voter shall then proceed to mark the ballot in secret, to place the  
7 ballot in the small secrecy envelope, to place the small envelope in the larger  
8 envelope, and to sign the voter's certificate on the envelope in the presence of the  
9 personal representative who shall witness and date the signature of the voter. The  
10 voter must mark the ballot and sign the voter's certification not later than election  
11 day. The voter shall then return the absentee ballot to the personal representative who  
12 shall deliver the ballot to the election official who provided the ballot. The absentee  
13 ballot must be returned to the election official not later than 8:00 p.m. on election  
14 day.

15 (f) Each election official shall keep a record of the name and signature of  
16 each personal representative requesting an absentee ballot, the name of the person on  
17 whose behalf the ballot is requested, and the date on which the ballot was issued.  
18 The election official shall record the date the absentee ballot is provided and the date  
19 the ballot is returned to the election official.

20 (g) The voter's employer, agent of the employer, or officer or agent of the  
21 voter's union may not act as a personal representative.