

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1117 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SIMS, DEAN, WARREN, BULLOCK, SCHLOSSBERG, SOLOMON,
KINSEY, O'BRIEN, FREEMAN, V. BROWN, McNEILL AND DERMODY,
APRIL 10, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 10, 2017

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in voting procedures, further providing for
3 application for absentee ballots.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Section 3302(a) of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania
7 Consolidated Statutes is amended and the section is amended by
8 adding subsections to read:

9 § 3302. Application for absentee ballots.

10 (a) General rule.--Notwithstanding the provisions of Part IV
11 (relating to voter registration) or the act of June 3, 1937
12 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code,
13 [the following persons] any qualified elector may make
14 application for an absentee ballot by sending a letter or other
15 signed document to or by appearing in person in accordance with
16 subsection (e) at the county board of elections in the county in
17 which the person's voting address is located[:].

18 [(1) A registered elector who is unable to attend the

polling place on the day of any primary or election because of illness or physical disability.

(2) A registered elector who expects to be absent from this Commonwealth or the municipality of residence because duties, occupation or business require the elector to be elsewhere the day of any primary or election.

(3) A county employee who cannot vote due to duties relating to the conduct of elections.

(4) A person who will not attend a polling place because of an observance of a religious holiday.]

* * *

(e) In-person appearance.--A qualified elector who appears during normal business hours at a county board of elections in the county in which the person's voting address is located shall be permitted to, at that time, apply for an absentee ballot, complete the application, submit the application, receive and complete the ballot and cast the ballot, subject to review and approval of the application in accordance with law.

(f) Reason for requesting absentee ballot.--No qualified elector who submits an application for an absentee ballot may be required to state the reason for the absentee ballot.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.