

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 846 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H4/3/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1925

By: Representative Beaty Jr.

By: Senator Gilmore

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING ABSENTEE BALLOTS;
TO AMEND THE ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTER STATEMENT; TO
REQUIRE A WITNESS FOR THE SIGNATURE OF AN ABSENTEE
VOTER STATEMENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING
ABSENTEE BALLOTS; TO AMEND THE ABSENTEE
BALLOT VOTER STATEMENT; AND TO REQUIRE A
WITNESS FOR THE SIGNATURE OF AN ABSENTEE
VOTER STATEMENT.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-5-409(b)(4)(A)(iii), concerning the materials furnished to qualified electors for absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

(iii) The voter statement shall include the following statement in bold capitalized letters at the bottom of the page: "I AM DULY QUALIFIED TO VOTE AT THIS ELECTION ACCORDING TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION, I HAVE NOT YET VOTED DURING THIS ELECTION, THE BALLOT OR BALLOTS CONTAINED IN THIS ENVELOPE IS MY BALLOT, AND I HAVE RECEIVED NO ASSISTANCE IN VOTING MY BALLOT THAT I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ENTITLED TO RECEIVE HAD I VOTED IN PERSON AT MY VOTING PRECINCT. THE INFORMATION I HAVE PROVIDED IS TRUE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY. IF I HAVE PROVIDED FALSE INFORMATION, I MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF UP TO TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000) OR IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO TEN (10) YEARS, OR BOTH, UNDER



FEDERAL OR STATE LAWS.”

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-5-409(b)(4)(C), concerning the materials furnished to qualified electors for absentee ballots, is amended to read as follows:

(C)(i) The voter statement shall include a sworn statement portion that may be completed by the voter stating that the voter is registered to vote and that he or she is the person who is registered.

(ii) The sworn statement portion of the voter statement is not required to be notarized, but the voter shall execute the sworn statement under penalty of perjury.

(iii)(a) The signing of the sworn statement shall be witnessed by at least one (1) individual who is eighteen (18) years of age or older.

(b) The witnessing requirement under subdivision (b)(4)(C)(iii)(a) of this section shall not apply to a voter who has applied for his or her absentee ballot due to one (1) of the following, as evidenced by his or her absentee voting application:

(1) The voter is unable to attend the polls on election day because of an illness or physical disability;

(2) The voter is a resident of a long-term care or residential facility licensed by the state;

(3) The voter is unable to attend the polls on election day due to an observance of a religious discipline or religious holiday; or

(4) The voter:

(a) Is in active service as a member of the armed services of the United States or the voter is a spouse or a dependent of a person who is in active service as a member of the armed services of the United States; and

(b) Resides outside the county.

(D) Blank fields shall be provided for the witness of the sworn statement's signature to provide his or her:

(i) Printed name;

(ii) Signature; and

(iii) Mailing address;

/s/Beaty Jr.

APPROVED: 4/17/25