

FILED FEB 6 '01

SENATE FILE
BY HANSEN

123

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to absentee voting at the commissioner's office
2 on election day in certain elections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 123
STATE GOVERNMENT

1 Section 1. Section 53.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 Any registered voter, under the circumstances specified in
4 section 53.1, may on any day, except election day, and not
5 more than seventy days prior to the date of the election,
6 apply in person for an absentee ballot at the commissioner's
7 office or at any location designated by the commissioner, or
8 make written application to the commissioner for an absentee
9 ballot. However, for those elections in which the
10 commissioner directs the polls be opened at noon pursuant to
11 section 49.73, a voter may apply in person for an absentee
12 ballot at the commissioner's office from eight a.m. until
13 eleven a.m. on election day. The state commissioner shall
14 prescribe a form for absentee ballot applications. However,
15 if a registered voter submits an application that includes all
16 of the information required in this section, the prescribed
17 form is not required. Absentee ballot applications may
18 include instructions to send the application directly to the
19 county commissioner of elections. However, no absentee ballot
20 application shall be preaddressed or printed with instructions
21 to send the applications to anyone other than the appropriate
22 commissioner.

23 EXPLANATION

24 This bill allows a voter to vote absentee at the
25 commissioner's office from eight a.m. until eleven a.m. on
26 election day if the election is one for which the commissioner
27 has directed that the polls not be opened until noon. The
28 county commissioner of elections may, by law, direct that the
29 polls be opened at noon for any school district election, city
30 elections in cities of 3,500 or less population, for cities
31 above 3,500 population if there is no contested election or
32 public measure on the ballot, and any benefited district
33 election.

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