



SPONSOR: Rep. Jaques & Rep. Kowalko & Rep. D.E. Williams &  
Sen. Henry  
Reps. Baumbach, Heffernan, J. Johnson, Mitchell,  
Osienski, Viola; Sens. Sokola, Townsend

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
147th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HOUSE BILL NO. 20

AN ACT PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE V OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF  
DELAWARE RELATING TO VOTING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE (Two-thirds of all members  
elected to each house thereof concurring therein):

1 Section 1. Amend Article V, §4A of the Constitution of the State of Delaware, by making insertions as shown by  
2 underlining and deletions as shown by strike through as follows:

3 § 4A. General laws for absentee voting.

4 Section 4A. ~~The General Assembly shall enact general laws providing that any qualified elector of this State, duly~~  
5 ~~registered, who shall be unable to appear to cast his or her ballot at any general election at the regular polling~~  
6 ~~place of the election district in which he or she is registered, either because of being in the public service of the~~  
7 ~~United States or of this State, or his or her spouse or dependents when residing with or accompanying him or her~~  
8 ~~because of the nature of his or her business or occupation, because of his or her sickness or physical disability,~~  
9 ~~because of his or her absence from the district while on vacation, or because of the tenets or teachings of his or~~  
10 ~~her religion, may cast a ballot at such general election to be counted in such election district.~~

11 The General Assembly shall enact general laws providing the circumstances, rules and procedures by which  
12 registered voters may vote by absentee ballot.

SYNOPSIS

This is the first leg of a constitutional amendment that would eliminate from the Delaware Constitution the  
requirements as to when a person may vote by absentee ballot. This amendment to the Delaware Constitution  
provides that the General Assembly shall enact general laws providing the circumstances, rules and procedures  
for absentee voting.