

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1739

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to prohibit States from refusing to accept balloting materials solely because the materials are generated through the use of a computer program, are not printed on a specific type of paper, or do not otherwise meet similar extraneous requirements which are not clearly necessary to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr. HONDA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. MCDERMOTT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to prohibit States from refusing to accept balloting materials solely because the materials are generated through the use of a computer program, are not printed on a specific type of paper, or do not otherwise meet similar extraneous requirements which are not clearly necessary to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Overseas Voting Prac-  
5 tical Amendments Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL FEDERAL FORM AS**  
7 **FEDERAL VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSEN-**  
8 **TEE BALLOT APPLICATION.**

9 (a) DESIGNATION AND DISTRIBUTION.—Section 101  
10 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting  
11 Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff) is amended—

12 (1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “an official  
13 post card form” and inserting “an official Federal  
14 Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applica-  
15 tion”; and

16 (2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “official  
17 post card forms” and inserting “official Federal  
18 Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applica-  
19 tions”.

20 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

21 (1) STATE RESPONSIBILITIES.—Section  
22 102(a)(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(a)(4)) is  
23 amended by striking “the official post card form”  
24 and inserting “the official Federal Voter Registra-  
25 tion and Absentee Ballot Application”.

1           (2) USE OF SINGLE APPLICATION FOR ALL SUB-  
2 SEQUENT ELECTIONS.—Section 104 of such Act (42  
3 U.S.C. 1973ff–3) is amended—

4           (A) in subsection (a), by striking “an offi-  
5 cial post card form” and inserting “an official  
6 Federal Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot  
7 Application”;

8           (B) in subsection (c)—

9           (i) in the heading, by striking “OFFI-  
10 CIAL POST CARD FORM” and inserting  
11 “OFFICIAL FEDERAL VOTER REGISTRA-  
12 TION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICA-  
13 TION”, and

14           (ii) in the matter preceding paragraph  
15 (1), by striking “official post card form”  
16 and inserting “official Federal Voter Reg-  
17 istration and Absentee Ballot Application”;  
18 and

19           (C) in subsection (e), by striking “the  
20 postcard form” and inserting “the official Fed-  
21 eral Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Ap-  
22 plication”.

23           (3) DEFINITION OF BALLOTING MATERIALS.—  
24 Section 107(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–6(2))  
25 is amended by striking “official post card forms”

1 and inserting “official Federal Voter Registration  
2 and Absentee Ballot Applications”.

3 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITING REFUSAL TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS,**  
4 **BALLOTS, AND OTHER MATERIALS FOR FAIL-**  
5 **URE TO MEET NONESSENTIAL REQUIRE-**  
6 **MENTS.**

7 (a) VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT  
8 APPLICATIONS.—Section 102 of the Uniformed and Over-  
9 seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1)  
10 is amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
11 section:

12 “(e) PROHIBITING REFUSAL TO ACCEPT APPLICA-  
13 TIONS FOR FAILURE TO MEET NONESSENTIAL REQUIRE-  
14 MENTS.—A State may not refuse to accept or process any  
15 otherwise valid voter registration application or absentee  
16 ballot application (including the official Federal Voter  
17 Registration and Absentee Ballot Application prescribed  
18 under section 101) submitted by an absent uniformed  
19 services voter or overseas voter on any of the following  
20 grounds:

21 “(1) The application is not on a post card, is  
22 printed or otherwise produced through the use of a  
23 computer program or an Internet site, or is other-  
24 wise a facsimile of an official application.

1           “(2) In the case of the official Federal Voter  
2           Registration and Absentee Ballot Application pre-  
3           scribed under section 101, the application does not  
4           include specific information included on applications  
5           produced by the State.

6           “(3) The application, the envelope in which the  
7           application is submitted, or any affidavit or other at-  
8           testation accompanying the application does not con-  
9           form to specific requirements under State law re-  
10          garding the size, shape, weight, or color of the paper  
11          on which it is produced.

12          “(4) The application is not notarized or wit-  
13          nessed by a Notary Public or other official author-  
14          ized to administer oaths.

15          “(5) The application is received by the State  
16          other than through delivery by the United States  
17          Postal Service.

18          “(6) The application is returned with insuffi-  
19          cient postage.

20          “(7) The application, the envelope in which the  
21          application is submitted, or any affidavit or other at-  
22          testation accompanying the application does not  
23          meet any other requirement which the Presidential  
24          designee determines (under regulations promulgated

1 by the Presidential designee) is not clearly necessary  
2 to prevent fraud in the conduct of elections.”.

3 (b) ABSENTEE BALLOTS.—Section 103 of such Act  
4 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–2) is amended—

5 (1) by redesignating subsection (f) as sub-  
6 section (g); and

7 (2) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-  
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(f) PROHIBITING REFUSAL TO ACCEPT BALLOT  
10 FOR FAILURE TO MEET NONESSENTIAL REQUIRE-  
11 MENTS.—A State may not refuse to accept or process any  
12 otherwise valid absentee ballot, including the Federal  
13 write-in absentee ballot, submitted by an absent uniformed  
14 services voter or overseas voter on any of the following  
15 grounds:

16 “(1) The ballot as submitted is printed or oth-  
17 erwise produced through the use of a computer pro-  
18 gram or an Internet site or is otherwise a facsimile  
19 of the original ballot.

20 “(2) The ballot, the envelope in which the ballot  
21 is submitted, or any affidavit or other attestation ac-  
22 companying the ballot as submitted does not con-  
23 form to specific requirements under State law re-  
24 garding the size, shape, weight, or color of the paper  
25 on which it is produced.

1           “(3) The ballot is not notarized or witnessed by  
2 a Notary Public or other official authorized to ad-  
3 minister oaths.

4           “(4) The ballot is received by the State other  
5 than through delivery by the United States Postal  
6 Service.

7           “(5) The ballot is returned with insufficient  
8 postage.

9           “(6) The envelope in which the ballot is sub-  
10 mitted bears a postmark from a location within the  
11 United States.

12           “(7) The envelope in which the ballot is sub-  
13 mitted does not bear a postmark, if the voter has  
14 signed and dated the ballot or the envelope in which  
15 the ballot is submitted.

16           “(8) The ballot, the envelope in which the ballot  
17 is submitted, or any affidavit or other attestation ac-  
18 companying the ballot as submitted does not meet  
19 any other requirement which the Presidential des-  
20 ignee determines (under regulations promulgated by  
21 the Presidential designee) is not clearly necessary to  
22 prevent fraud in the conduct of elections.”.

1 **SEC. 4. RESTRICTIONS ON FORM OF DOCUMENTATION RE-**  
2 **QUIRED FOR APPLICATIONS AND BALLOTS**  
3 **PRODUCED BY STATES.**

4 (a) DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR VOTER REG-  
5 ISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS.—  
6 Section 102 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Ab-  
7 sentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1), as amended by  
8 section 3(a), is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
9 lowing new subsection:

10 “(f) PROHIBITING REQUIREMENT OF DOCUMENTA-  
11 TION NOT AVAILABLE TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES  
12 OR OVERSEAS VOTERS.—A State may not require an ab-  
13 sent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who sub-  
14 mits a voter registration application or absentee ballot ap-  
15 plication produced by the State to include with the appli-  
16 cation any form of documentation which may be issued  
17 only to an individual who physically resides in the State  
18 (such as a current State motor vehicle operator’s license  
19 or a current utility bill).”.

20 (b) DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR ABSENTEE  
21 BALLOTS.—Section 103 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–  
22 2), as amended by section 3(b), is amended—

23 (1) by redesignating subsection (g) as sub-  
24 section (h); and

25 (2) by inserting after subsection (f) the fol-  
26 lowing new subsection:

1       “(g) PROHIBITING REQUIREMENT OF DOCUMENTA-  
2 TION NOT AVAILABLE TO ABSENT UNIFORMED SERVICES  
3 OR OVERSEAS VOTERS.—A State may not require an ab-  
4 sent uniformed services voter or overseas voter who sub-  
5 mits an absentee ballot produced by the State to include  
6 with the ballot any form of documentation which may be  
7 issued only to an individual who physically resides in the  
8 State (such as a current State motor vehicle operator’s  
9 license or a current utility bill).”.

10 **SEC. 5. REQUIRING CLARIFICATION OF POSTAGE MARK-**  
11 **INGS ON CERTAIN BALLOTING MATERIALS**  
12 **MAILED BY STATES.**

13       Section 3406 of title 39, United States Code, is  
14 amended—

15           (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-  
16 section (c); and

17           (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the fol-  
18 lowing new subsection:

19       “(b) In the case of balloting materials under the Uni-  
20 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act con-  
21 sisting of pre-printed return envelopes which are prepared  
22 by a State for the submission of materials by an absent  
23 uniformed services voter or overseas voter under such  
24 Act—

1           “(1) the State shall ensure that the address to  
2           which the materials are to be submitted includes the  
3           designation ‘United States of America’ or ‘USA’;

4           “(2) the State shall ensure that the materials  
5           state clearly the identity of the sender and the iden-  
6           tity of the intended recipient; and

7           “(3) if the materials are designated as postage  
8           paid, the State shall clarify whether the designation  
9           applies only to materials mailed within the United  
10          States or to materials mailed overseas through the  
11          Army Post Office or Fleet Post Office.”.

12 **SEC. 6. PROVISION OF BALLOTS IN SUBSEQUENT ELEC-**  
13 **TIONS.**

14          (a) **PERMITTING VOTERS TO REQUEST ABSENTEE**  
15 **BALLOTS IN ALL SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS.**—Section  
16 104(a) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee  
17 Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–3(a)) is amended by strik-  
18 ing “through the next 2 regularly scheduled general elec-  
19 tions” and all that follows through “such general elec-  
20 tions),” and inserting “(subject to subsections (b) and  
21 (d)),”

22          (b) **WAIVER OF REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE ABSEN-**  
23 **TEE BALLOTS IN SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS TO INDIVID-**  
24 **UALS WITH UNKNOWN ADDRESSES.**—Section 104(a) of  
25 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–3(a)) is amended by striking

1 the period at the end and inserting the following: “, other  
2 than any election occurring after any absentee ballot or  
3 other election material sent by the State to the voter is  
4 returned to the State as undeliverable or with no for-  
5 warding address within the State or after the voter notifies  
6 the State that the voter is no longer an absent uniformed  
7 services voter or absentee voter.”.

8 (c) PERMITTING EARLY SUBMISSION OF REQUEST  
9 BY OVERSEAS VOTERS; PERMITTING EARLY SUBMISSION  
10 DURING PREVIOUS YEAR.—Section 104(e) of such Act  
11 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–3(e)) is amended—

12 (1) by striking “during a year” and inserting  
13 “or an overseas voter”; and

14 (2) by striking “for that year”.

15 **SEC. 7. SPECIAL RULES FOR USE OF FEDERAL WRITE-IN**  
16 **ABSENTEE BALLOT IN CERTAIN STATES.**

17 (a) TREATMENT OF VOTERS USING BALLOT TO  
18 VOTE IN STATES WITH SAME-DAY VOTER REGISTRA-  
19 TION.—Section 103(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas  
20 Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–2(c)) is  
21 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
22 graph:

23 “(4) If the voter submits the ballot (including  
24 the Federal write-in absentee ballot) in an election  
25 in a State in which voters may register to vote at

1 the polling place at the time of voting in an election  
2 for Federal office, the voter shall be deemed to have  
3 met the requirements for registering to vote in the  
4 State if the voter has signed the ballot and has pro-  
5 vided the same information which is required on the  
6 official Federal Voter Registration and Absentee  
7 Ballot Application (prescribed under section 101) for  
8 simultaneous voter registration and absentee ballot  
9 application.”.

10 (b) USE OF BALLOT FOR STATE AND LOCAL ELEC-  
11 TIONS IN CERTAIN STATES.—Section 103(a) of such Act  
12 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–2(a)) is amended by adding at the end  
13 the following: “In the case of a State in which voters may  
14 use a State absentee write-in ballot in elections for State  
15 and local office, the State shall permit a voter who uses  
16 the Federal write-in absentee ballot under this section to  
17 use such ballot in elections for State and local office, and  
18 the Presidential designee shall ensure that the Federal  
19 write-in absentee ballot is designed to accommodate the  
20 use of the ballot for this purpose.”.

1 **SEC. 8. APPLICATION OF UOCAVA TO INDIVIDUALS NEVER**  
2 **RESIDING IN UNITED STATES WHOSE PAR-**  
3 **ENTS ARE OVERSEAS VOTERS.**

4 Section 107(5)(C) of the Uniformed and Overseas  
5 Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6(5)(C))  
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 “(C) a person who resides outside the  
8 United States and (but for such residence)  
9 would be qualified to vote—

10 “(i) in the last place in which the per-  
11 son was domiciled before leaving the  
12 United States, or

13 “(ii) in the case of an individual who  
14 has never resided in the United States, in  
15 the last place in which the person’s parent  
16 or guardian was domiciled before leaving  
17 the United States or (if the parent or  
18 guardian is domiciled in the United States)  
19 the place in which the parent or guardian  
20 is domiciled;”.

21 **SEC. 9. REQUIRING PROMPT NOTIFICATION OF REJECTION**  
22 **OF VOTER REGISTRATION OR ABSENTEE**  
23 **BALLOT REQUEST.**

24 Section 102(d) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi-  
25 zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1(d)) is

1 amended by striking “shall provide” and inserting “shall  
2 promptly provide”.

3 **SEC. 10. USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURNING**  
4 **COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS.**

5 Section 101(c) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi-  
6 zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff(c)) is amend-  
7 ed by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

8 “(3) USE OF DIPLOMATIC POUCH FOR RETURN-  
9 ING COMPLETED ABSENTEE BALLOTS.—If an over-  
10 seas voter delivers a completed absentee ballot to an  
11 overseas facility of the Department of State, the  
12 Secretary of State shall use the diplomatic pouch to  
13 transmit the ballot to the United States, but only  
14 if—

15 “(A) the ballot is delivered to the facility  
16 not earlier than 14 days prior to the date of the  
17 election involved; and

18 “(B) the Secretary of State determines  
19 that there is no effective alternative available at  
20 the location of the facility (including private  
21 courier services) for the overseas voter to use to  
22 ensure the timely receipt of the ballot.”.

1 **SEC. 11. GRANT PROGRAM FOR OUTREACH TO ABSENT UNI-**  
2 **FORMED SERVICES VOTERS AND OVERSEAS**  
3 **VOTERS.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—

5 (1) PROGRAM DESCRIBED.—The Election As-  
6 sistance Commission (hereafter referred to as the  
7 “Commission”) shall establish and operate a pro-  
8 gram for making grants to eligible organizations for  
9 carrying out activities to assist absent uniformed  
10 services voters and overseas voters in voting in elec-  
11 tions for Federal office and to increase turnout  
12 among such voters by providing them with informa-  
13 tion in advance of the date of an election on how to  
14 cast absentee ballots in such elections.

15 (2) PERIOD OF GRANT.—Each grant awarded  
16 under the program under this section shall cover a  
17 2-year period.

18 (b) ELIGIBILITY OF ORGANIZATIONS.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—An organization is eligible to  
20 receive a grant under the program under this section  
21 if the organization submits to the Commission, at  
22 such time and in such form as the Commission may  
23 require, an application containing information and  
24 assurances that the organization meets the specific  
25 requirements for eligibility described in paragraph

1 (2), together with such other information and assur-  
2 ances as the Commission considers appropriate.

3 (2) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGI-  
4 BILITY.—The specific requirements described in this  
5 paragraph are as follows:

6 (A) The organization is nonpartisan in na-  
7 ture and will carry out activities funded by the  
8 grant in a non partisan manner.

9 (B) The organization will use the funds  
10 provided under the grant to carry out projects  
11 designed to increase the meaningful participa-  
12 tion of absent uniformed services voters and  
13 overseas voters in elections for Federal office.

14 (C) The organization will carry out  
15 projects that include at least one of the fol-  
16 lowing activities:

17 (i) Outreach and education to identify  
18 absent uniformed services voters and over-  
19 seas voters and provide them with accurate  
20 information about voter registration and  
21 voting in elections for Federal office, and  
22 to provide the information well in advance  
23 of applicable State deadlines.

24 (ii) Providing assistance to absent  
25 uniformed services voters and overseas vot-

1           ers in registering to vote and casting bal-  
2           lots in elections for Federal office, and to  
3           provide the assistance well in advance of  
4           applicable State deadlines.

5           (iii) Protecting absentee ballots cast  
6           by absent uniformed services voters and  
7           overseas voters from incorrect disqualifica-  
8           tion or rejection so that all such ballots  
9           which are properly cast are counted, by  
10          carrying out accountability oversight of  
11          State and local election officials and edu-  
12          cating such officials of the requirements of  
13          Federal and State laws and regulations  
14          governing the treatment of these ballots,  
15          including the Uniformed and Overseas  
16          Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.  
17          1973ff et seq.) and any applicable State  
18          and local laws.

19          (D) The organization will file the reports  
20          required under subsection (d).

21          (E) The organization will not compile the  
22          names of the absent uniformed services voters  
23          and overseas voters who participate in the  
24          projects funded with the grant for purposes of

1 a membership list, fundraising, or any commer-  
2 cial purpose.

3 (3) JOINT ELIGIBILITY OF MULTIPLE ORGANI-  
4 ZATIONS.—Two or more organizations may be con-  
5 sidered a single eligible organization for purposes of  
6 receiving a grant under the program under this sec-  
7 tion, so long as each of them meet the specific re-  
8 quirements for eligibility described in paragraph (2).

9 (c) CRITERIA FOR SELECTION AMONG ELIGIBLE OR-  
10 GANIZATIONS.—In selecting among eligible organizations  
11 for making grants under the program under this section  
12 and in determining the amount of the grant awarded, the  
13 Commission shall take into consideration the following:

14 (1) The need to ensure an appropriate distribu-  
15 tion of participants among various geographic areas,  
16 based upon the most recent available data on the  
17 number and location of absent uniformed services  
18 voters and overseas voters.

19 (2) The extent to which the organizations enter  
20 into partnerships and other collaborative agreements  
21 to carry out the projects involved.

22 (3) The extent to which the organization's ap-  
23 proach to providing services under the projects re-  
24 flects innovation and creativity, including the use of  
25 innovative technologies.

1           (4) In the case of voter education projects, the  
2           clarity of presentation and ease of use of the infor-  
3           mation provided to voters.

4           (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

5           (1) REPORTS.—Each eligible organization that  
6           receives a grant under the program under this sec-  
7           tion shall submit to the Commission a report con-  
8           taining the following information with respect to  
9           each year covered by the grant:

10           (A) A description of the projects carried  
11           out with funds provided under the grant during  
12           the year (and arranged to be carried out during  
13           the succeeding year, in the case of a report with  
14           respect to an odd-numbered year).

15           (B) The number of absent uniformed serv-  
16           ices voters and overseas voters to whom out-  
17           reach was provided under the projects.

18           (C) The number of absent uniformed serv-  
19           ices voters and overseas voters registered during  
20           the year under the projects.

21           (D) In the case of a report filed with re-  
22           spect to an odd-numbered year, the organiza-  
23           tion's target for the number of absent uni-  
24           formed services voters and overseas voters to  
25           whom the organization will provide assistance

1 during the following year (including the target  
2 for the number of absentee ballots to be cast by  
3 such voters).

4 (E) In the case of a report filed with re-  
5 spect to an even-numbered year, the number of  
6 absent uniformed services voters and overseas  
7 voters to whom the organization provided as-  
8 sistance during the year and the number of ab-  
9 sentee ballots cast by such voters.

10 (F) The organization’s analysis of the op-  
11 portunities for replication of the projects.

12 (G) The number of absentee ballots sub-  
13 mitted by absent uniformed services voters and  
14 overseas voters which were not subject to un-  
15 reasonable rejection or disqualification as a re-  
16 sult of the projects.

17 (2) DEADLINE.—The organization shall submit  
18 the report required under this subsection with re-  
19 spect to a year not later than 90 days after the end  
20 of the year.

21 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

22 (1) the term “absent uniformed services voter”  
23 has the meaning given such term in section 107(1)  
24 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee  
25 Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–6(1)); and

1           (2) the term “overseas voter” has the meaning  
2           given such term in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of  
3           section 107(5) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–6(5)).

4           (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

5           (1) AMOUNT AUTHORIZED.—There are author-  
6           ized to be appropriated for grants under the pro-  
7           gram under this section an aggregate amount of  
8           \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010 and each of the  
9           first 4 succeeding 2-fiscal year periods.

10          (2) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pur-  
11          suant to the authorization under this subsection  
12          shall remain available until expended.

13 **SEC. 12. OTHER OUTREACH EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE**  
14                   **OVERSEAS CITIZENS TO CAST ABSENTEE**  
15                   **BALLOTS IN ELECTIONS.**

16          (a) REQUIRING OFFICES WITH OVERSEAS PER-  
17          SONNEL TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO  
18          CAST ABSENTEE BALLOTS.—

19          (1) IN GENERAL.—The head of each office of  
20          the Federal government that has employees whose  
21          designated post of duty is outside the United States  
22          shall provide such employees with notice of the  
23          rights provided to absent uniformed services voters  
24          and overseas voters under the Uniformed and Over-  
25          seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to submit voter

1 registration and absentee ballot requests and to sub-  
2 mit absentee ballots (including the Federal write-in  
3 absentee ballot described in such Act).

4 (2) TIMING OF NOTICE.—The head of an office  
5 shall provide the notice required under paragraph  
6 (1) not later than September 1 of each odd-num-  
7 bered year and June 1 of each even-numbered year.

8 (b) INCLUDING INFORMATION IN PASSPORTS.—The  
9 Secretary of State shall ensure that each passport issued  
10 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act includes  
11 a page describing the rights provided to overseas voters  
12 under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Vot-  
13 ing Act to submit voter registration and absentee ballot  
14 requests and to submit absentee ballots (including the  
15 Federal write-in absentee ballot described in such Act),  
16 and shall include on the page a list of resources through  
17 which individuals may obtain additional information re-  
18 garding such rights.

19 **SEC. 13. REGULATIONS.**

20 Not later than 30 days after the date of the enact-  
21 ment of this Act, the Presidential designee under the Uni-  
22 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act shall  
23 promulgate such regulations as may be necessary to carry  
24 out the amendments made to such Act by this Act, includ-  
25 ing regulations to redesign and rename the Federal Voter

1 Registration and Absentee Ballot Application under sec-  
2 tion 101 of such Act to reflect the amendments made by  
3 section 2 of this Act.

4 **SEC. 14. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION REGARDING INTERNET**  
5 **VOTING.**

6 Nothing in this Act or in any amendment made by  
7 this Act may be construed to authorize the Presidential  
8 designee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Ab-  
9 sentee Voting Act or any State or local election official  
10 to require or authorize any absent uniformed services  
11 voter or overseas voter under such Act or any other indi-  
12 vidual to use the Internet to cast a ballot in any election  
13 for public office.

14 **SEC. 15. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with  
16 respect to elections occurring on or after the expiration  
17 of the 120-day period which begins on the date of the en-  
18 actment of this Act.

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