

CHAPTER 93

HOUSE Substitute for SENATE BILL No. 166

(Amends Chapter 25)

AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter identification; relating to disabled voters; relating to proxy voting at district conventions; amending K.S.A. 25-1122d, 25-1123, 25-2710, 25-2909, 25-3902, 25-3902a, 25-3904 and 25-3904a and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-1122, 25-2309, 25-2908 and 25-3002 and repealing the existing sections; also repealing K.S.A. 25-1122d, as amended by section 5 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 25-1123, as amended by section 6 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479 and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-1122, as amended by section 4 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2309, as amended by section 9 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2908, as amended by section 13 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, and K.S.A. 25-3002, as amended by section 14 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-1122 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1122. (a) Any registered voter may file with the county election officer where such person is a resident, or where such person is authorized by law to vote as a former precinct resident, an application for an advance voting ballot. The signed application shall be transmitted only to the county election officer by personal delivery, mail, facsimile or as otherwise provided by law.

(b) *If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted in person, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter shall provide a form of valid identification such as a current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide identification if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in the county where registered.*

(c) *If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter shall provide on the application for an advance voting ballot the voter's current and valid Kansas driver's license number, nondriver's identification card number or the last four digits of the voter's social security number, or shall provide with the application a copy of the voter's current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide identification if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in the county where registered.*

(d) *If a first-time voter is unable or refuses to provide current and valid identification, or if the name and address do not match the voter's name and address on the registration book, the voter may vote a provisional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection (c) of this section to the county election officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers. At the meeting of the county board of canvassers the county election officer shall present copies of identification received from provisional voters and the corresponding provisional ballots. If the county board of canvassers determines that a voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted.*

(e) Applications for advance voting ballots to be transmitted to the voter by mail shall be filed only at the following times:

(1) For the primary election occurring on the first Tuesday in August in even-numbered years, between April 1 of such year and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.

(2) For the general election occurring on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in even-numbered years, between 90 days prior to such election and the last business day of the week preceding such general election.

(3) For the primary election held five weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April, between January 1 of the year of such election and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.

(4) For the general election occurring on the first Tuesday in April, between January 1 of the year of such election and the last business day

of the week preceding such general election.

(5) For question submitted elections occurring on the date of a primary or general election, the same as is provided for ballots for election of officers at such election.

(6) For question submitted elections not occurring on the date of a primary or general election, between the time of the first published notice thereof and the last business day of the week preceding such question submitted election, except that if the question submitted election is held on a day other than a Tuesday, the county election officer shall determine the final date for mailing of advance voting ballots, but such date shall not be more than three business days before such election.

(7) For any special election of officers, at such time as is specified by the secretary of state.

(8) For the presidential preference primary, between January 1 of the year in which such primary is held and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.

The county election officer of any county may receive applications prior to the time specified in this subsection ~~(b)~~ (e) and hold such applications until the beginning of the prescribed application period. Such applications shall be treated as filed on that date.

~~(e)~~ (f) Unless an earlier date is designated by the county election officer, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer shall be filed on the Tuesday next preceding the election and on each subsequent business day until no later than 12:00 noon on the day preceding such election. If the county election officer so provides, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer also may be filed on the Saturday preceding the election. Upon receipt of any such properly executed application, the county election officer shall deliver to the voter such ballots and instructions as are provided for in this act.

An application for an advance voting ballot filed by a ~~sick, physically disabled or illiterate~~ voter *who has a temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the English language* or by a person rendering assistance to such voter may be filed during the regular advance ballot application periods until the close of the polls on election day.

In any county having a population exceeding 250,000, the county election officer may designate places other than the central county election office as satellite advance voting sites. At any satellite advance voting site, a registered voter may obtain an application for advance voting ballots, such ballots and instructions shall be delivered to the voter in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as otherwise provided by this subsection.

~~(d)~~ (g) Any person having a permanent ~~physical~~ disability or an illness which has been diagnosed as a permanent illness is hereby authorized to make an application for permanent advance voting status. Applications for permanent advance voting status shall be in the form and contain such information as is required for application for advance voting ballots and also shall contain information which establishes the voter's right to permanent advance voting status.

~~(e)~~ (h) On receipt of any application filed under the provisions of this section, the county election officer shall prepare and maintain in such officer's office a list of the names of all persons who have filed such applications, together with their correct post office address and the precinct, ward, township or voting area in which such persons claim to be registered voters or to be authorized by law to vote as former precinct residents and the present resident address of each applicant. Such names and addresses shall remain so listed until the day of such election. The county election officer shall maintain a separate listing of the names and addresses of persons qualifying for permanent advance voting status. All such lists shall be available for inspection upon request in compliance with this subsection by any registered voter during regular business hours. The county election officer upon receipt of such applications shall enter upon a record kept by such officer the name and address of each applicant, which record shall conform to the list above required. Before inspection of any advance voting ballot application list, the person desiring to make such inspection shall provide to the county election officer identification in the form of driver's license or other reliable identification and shall sign a log book or application form maintained by such officer stating

such person's name and address and showing the date and time of inspection. All records made by the county election officer shall be subject to public inspection, except that *the voter identification information required by subsections (b) and (c) and the identifying number on ballots and ballot envelopes and records of such number numbers* shall not be made public.

(i) If a person on the permanent advance voting list fails to vote in two consecutive general elections held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year, the county election officer may mail a notice to such voter. Such notice shall inform the voter that the voter's name will be removed from the permanent advance voting list unless the voter renews the application for permanent advance voting status within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If the voter fails to renew such application, the county election officer shall remove the voter's name from the permanent advance voting list. Failure to renew the application for permanent advance voting status shall not result in removal of the voter's name from the voter registration list.

(j) For the purposes of this section, "first-time voter" means a registered voter who has not previously voted in any election in the county in which the voter desires to vote. First-time voter includes a person whose name was removed from the county registration list in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto, and who has re-registered.

(k) The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations defining valid forms of identification.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-1122d is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1122d. (a) The application for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail shall be accompanied by an affirmation in substance as follows:

Affirmation of an Elector of the County of _____ and State of Kansas Desiring to Vote an Advance Voting Ballot
State of _____, County of _____, ss:

I, _____,
(Please print name)

do solemnly affirm under penalty of perjury that I am a qualified elector of the _____ precinct of the _____ ward, residing at number _____ on _____ street, city of _____, or in the township of _____, county of _____, and state of Kansas. My date of birth is _____(month/day/year).

I understand that if I have not previously voted in any election in this county and I have not previously submitted valid identification, I must provide one of the following forms of identification with this application in order to receive a ballot:

- (1) A current and valid Kansas driver's license number or nondriver's identification card number; or
- (2) the last four digits of my social security number; or
- (3) a copy of a current and valid Kansas driver's license or nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document that shows my name and address.

I am entitled to vote an advance voting ballot and I have not voted and will not otherwise vote at the election to be held on _____ (date). My political party is _____ (to be filled in only when requesting primary election ballots). I desire my ballots to be sent to the following address

Signature of voter.

Note: False statement on this affirmation is a ~~class C misdemeanor~~ severity level 9, nonperson felony.

(b) The application for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted in person shall be accompanied by an affirmation in substance as follows:

Affirmation of an Elector of the County of _____ and State of Kansas Desiring to Vote an Advance Voting Ballot
State of _____, County of _____, ss:

I, _____,
(Please print name)

do solemnly affirm under penalty of perjury that I am a qualified elector of the _____ precinct of the _____ ward, residing at number _____ on _____ street, city of _____, or in the township of _____, county of _____, and state of Kansas. My date of birth is _____(month/day/year).

I understand that if I have not previously voted in any election in this county and I have not previously submitted valid identification, I must provide one of the following forms of identification with this application in order to receive a ballot: a current and valid Kansas driver's license or nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document that shows my name and address.

I am entitled to vote an advance voting ballot and I have not voted and will not otherwise vote at the election to be held on _____ (date). My political party is _____ (to be filled in only when requesting primary election ballots).

Signature of voter.

Note: False statement on this affirmation is a severity level 9, nonperson

felony.

(c) An application for permanent advance voting status shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state for this purpose. Such application shall contain an affirmation concerning substantially the same information required in subsection (a) and in addition thereto a statement regarding the permanent character of such illness or disability.

(d) Any application by a former precinct resident shall state both the former and present residence, address, precinct and county of such former precinct resident and the date of change of residence.

Sec. 3. K.S.A. 25-1123 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1123. (a) When an application for an advance voting ballot has been filed in accordance with K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto, the county election officer shall transmit to the voter applying therefor one each of the appropriate ballots. Except as provided by subsection (b), the county election officer shall transmit the advance voting ballots to the voter at one of the following addresses as specified by the voter on such application: (1) The voter's residential address or mailing address as indicated on the registration list; (2) the voter's temporary residential address; or (3) a medical care facility as defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto, psychiatric hospital, hospice or adult care home where the voter resides. No advance voting ballot shall be transmitted by the county election officer by any means prior to the 20th day before the election for which an application for an advance voting ballot has been received by such county election officer. If the advance voting ballot is transmitted by mail, such ballot shall be transmitted with printed instructions prescribed by the secretary of state and a ballot envelope bearing upon the outside a printed form as described in K.S.A. 25-1120, and amendments thereto, and the same number as the number of the ballot. If the advance voting ballot is transmitted to the applicant in person in the office of the county election officer or at a satellite advance voting site, such advance voting ballot and printed instructions shall be transmitted in an advance voting ballot envelope bearing upon the outside a printed form as described in K.S.A. 25-1120, and amendments thereto, and the same number as the number of the ballot unless the voter elects to deposit the advance voting ballot into a locked ballot box without an envelope. All ballots shall be transmitted to the advance voting voter not more than 20 days before the election but within two business days of the receipt of such voter's application by the election officer or the commencement of such 20-day period. In primary elections required to be conducted on a partisan basis, the election officer shall deliver to such voter the ballot of the political party of the applicant.

(b) The restrictions in subsection (a) relating to where a county election officer may transmit an advance voting ballot shall not apply to an advance voting ballot requested pursuant to an application for an advance voting ballot filed by a ~~sick, physically disabled or illiterate~~ voter *who has a temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the English language.*

(c) *The county election officer shall compare the driver's license number, nondriver's identification card number, social security number or copy of other valid identification provided by a first-time voter to the voter registration list verified by the division of motor vehicles in accordance with federal law. If no identification information was provided by the first-time voter, or if such information does not match the information on the voter registration list, the county election officer shall not transmit an advance voting ballot.*

Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2309 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2309. (a) Any person may apply in person, by mail, through a voter registration agency, or by other delivery to a county election officer to be registered. Such application shall be made on: (1) A form approved by the secretary of state, which shall be provided by a county election officer or chief state election official upon request in person, by telephone or in writing; or (2) the mail voter registration application prescribed by the federal election commission. Such application shall be signed by the applicant under penalty of perjury and shall contain the original signature of the applicant or the computerized, electronic or digitized transmitted signature of the applicant. *A signature may be made by mark, initials, typewriter, print, stamp, symbol or any other manner if by placing the signature on the document the person intends the signature to be binding. A signature may be made by another person at the voter's direction if the*

signature reflects such voter's intention.

(b) Applications made under this section shall give voter eligibility requirements and such information as is necessary to identify the applicant and to determine the qualifications of the applicant as an elector and the facts authorizing such person to be registered, including, but not limited to, the following data:

- (1) Name;
- (2) place of residence, including specific address or location, and mailing address if the residence address is not a permissible postal address;
- (3) date of birth;
- (4) sex;
- (5) the last four digits of the person's social security number *or the person's full driver's license or nondriver's identification card number*;
- (6) telephone number, if available;
- (7) naturalization data (if applicable);
- (8) if applicant has previously registered or voted elsewhere, residence at time of last registration or voting;
- (9) when present residence established;
- (10) name under which applicant last registered or voted, if different from present name;
- (11) an attestation that the applicant meets each eligibility requirement;
- (12) a statement that the penalty for submission of a false voter registration application is a maximum presumptive sentence of 17 months in prison;
- (13) a statement that, if an applicant declines to register to vote, the fact that the applicant has declined to register will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes;
- (14) a statement that if an applicant does register to vote, the office to which a voter registration application is submitted will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes; ~~and~~
- (15) *boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United States, together with the question "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?"*;
- (16) *boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant will be 18 years of age or older on election day, together with the question "Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day?"*;
- (17) *in reference to paragraphs (15) and (16) the statement "If you checked 'no' in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form."*;
- (18) *a statement that the applicant may be required to provide identification when voting; and*
- ~~(15)~~ (19) political party affiliation declaration, if any. An applicant's failure to make a declaration will result in the applicant being registered as an unaffiliated voter.

If the application discloses any previous registration in any other county or state, as indicated by paragraph (8) or (10), or otherwise, the county election officer shall upon the registration of the applicant, give notice to the election official of the place of former registration, notifying such official of applicant's present residence and registration, and authorizing cancellation of such former registration.

(c) Any person who applies for registration through a voter registration agency shall be provided with, in addition to the application under subsection (b), a form which includes:

- (1) The question "If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today?";
- (2) a statement that if the applicant declines to register to vote, this decision will remain confidential and be used only for voter registration purposes;
- (3) a statement that if the applicant does register to vote, information regarding the office to which the application was submitted will remain confidential and be used only for voter registration purposes; and
- (4) if the agency provides public assistance, (i) the statement "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.";
- (ii) boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or declines to register to vote, together with the statement "IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE

CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.”;

(iii) the statement “If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private.”; and

(iv) the statement “If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the Kansas Secretary of State.”

(d) If any person, in writing, declines to register to vote, the voter registration agency shall maintain the form prescribed by subsection (c).

(e) A voter registration agency shall transmit the completed registration application to the county election officer not later than five days after the date of acceptance. Upon receipt of an application for registration, the county election officer shall send, by nonforwardable mail, a notice of disposition of the application to the applicant at the postal delivery address shown on the application. If a notice of disposition is returned as undeliverable, a confirmation mailing prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto, shall occur.

(f) If an application is received while registration is closed, such application shall be considered to have been received on the next following day during which registration is open.

(g) A person who completes an application for voter registration shall be considered a registered voter when the county election officer adds the applicant’s name to the county voter registration list.

(h) Any registered voter whose residence address is not a permissible postal delivery address shall designate a postal address for registration records. When a county election officer has reason to believe that a voter’s registration residence is not a permissible postal delivery address, the county election officer shall attempt to determine a proper mailing address for the voter.

(i) Any registered voter may request that such person’s residence address be concealed from public inspection on the voter registration list and on the original voter registration application form. Such request shall be made in writing to the county election officer, and shall specify a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy or a threat to the voter’s safety. Upon receipt of such a request, the county election officer shall take appropriate steps to ensure that such person’s residence address is not publicly disclosed. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring or authorizing the secretary of state to include on the voter registration application form a space or other provision on the form that would allow the applicant to request that such applicant’s residence address be concealed from public inspection.

(j) No application for voter registration shall be made available for public inspection or copying unless the information required by paragraph (5) of subsection (b) has been removed or otherwise rendered unreadable.

(k) *If an applicant fails to answer the question prescribed in paragraph (15) of subsection (b), the county election officer shall send the application to the applicant at the postal delivery address given on the application, by nonforwardable mail, with a notice of incompleteness. The notice shall specify a period of time during which the applicant may complete the application in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2311, and amendments thereto, and be eligible to vote in the next election.*

Sec. 5. K.S.A. 25-2710 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2710. ~~(a) Except as hereinafter provided, each voting place provided by the county election officer, in which is to be held national, state, county, township, city and school primary and general elections and question submitted elections, shall be accessible to and usable by elderly persons and by physically handicapped persons by complying when necessary with the following standards of accessibility:~~

~~—(1) Doors, entrances and exits used to gain access to or egress from the voting place shall have a minimum width of thirty (30) inches;~~

~~—(2) any curb adjacent to the main entrance to the voting place shall have curb cuts or temporary ramps;~~

~~—(3) any stairs necessarily used to enter the voting place shall have a temporary handrail and ramp; and~~

~~—(4) at the voting place, no barrier shall impede the path of the physically handicapped to the voting booth.~~

~~—(b) The county election officer may select a voting place not meeting the standards of accessibility prescribed in subsection (a) if:~~

~~—(1) No acceptable and accessible voting place is available within the precinct or other designated voting area; or~~

~~—(2) it is anticipated that the voting place will be brought into compliance with such standards in the foreseeable future or the voting place will be temporarily made to comply with the standards for the time during which the polls are open.~~

~~—(c) Any county election officer who selects a voting place which does not meet the standards prescribed in subsection (a) shall report such selection to the board of county commissioners. *On any day upon which an election is held, all polling places shall be accessible by either permanent or temporary means to any voter having a disability.*~~

Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2908 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2908. (a) Each polling place shall use either: (1) A registration book and a poll book, as defined in K.S.A. 25-2507(a) and K.S.A. 25-2507(b)(1), and amendments thereto; or (2) a registration book, as defined in K.S.A. 25-2507(b)(2), and amendments thereto. The county election officer shall determine which books are used in each county, and which book voters shall sign.

(b) ~~Persons desiring to vote shall give their names, and if required their residence, to the judges of election, one of whom shall announce the name in a loud and distinct tone of voice, and if the name is in the registration books, the member of the election board having the registration record shall repeat the name. For the purpose of identifying voters at the polling place, the voter shall add the voter's signature, as listed in the registration book, to the registration book beside the voter's printed name or to the poll book and the voter shall be allowed to vote. An election board member shall provide the required signature at the request of and on behalf of any voter who is unable to personally affix a handwritten signature by reason of physical disability, visual handicap or lack of proficiency in reading the English language or any voter 65 or more years of age. The judges shall give the voter one and only one of each ballot to be cast at the election, on the upper right hand corner of each of which shall be written the number corresponding to the voter's number in the registration book or poll books, and the voter's name shall be marked in the registration books and the party affiliation list. If the voter refuses to sign the registration book or poll book, the election board judge shall challenge such person's vote pursuant to K.S.A. 25-414, and amendments thereto. A person desiring to vote shall provide to the election board: (1) the voter's name; (2) if required, the voter's address; and (3) the voter's signature on the registration or poll book. A signature may be made by mark, initials, typewriter, print, stamp, symbol or any other manner if by placing the signature on the document the person intends the signature to be binding. A signature may be made by another person at the voter's direction if the signature reflects such voter's intention.~~

(c) A member of the election board shall:

(1) ~~Announce the voter's name in a loud and distinct tone of voice, and, if the name is in the registration books, the member of the election board having the registration record shall repeat the name;~~

(2) ~~request the voter's signature on the registration or poll book;~~

(3) ~~provide the required signature at the request of and on behalf of any voter who is unable to personally affix a signature by reason of temporary illness or disability, or lack of proficiency in reading the English language;~~

(4) ~~if the voter is a first-time voter as described in subsection (h) of this section, request valid identification from the voter unless such voter has previously submitted current and valid identification in the county where registered;~~

(5) ~~give the voter one ballot, on the upper right-hand corner of which shall be written the number corresponding to the voter's number in the registration book or poll book; and~~

(6) ~~mark the voter's name in the registration book and party affiliation list.~~

(d) ~~A first-time voter shall provide to the election board a form of valid identification such as a current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, gov-~~

ernment check or other government document unless such voter has previously submitted current and valid identification in the county where registered. The document provided in accordance with this section shall contain the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book or poll book.

(e) If a first-time voter is unable or refuses to provide current and valid identification at the polling place, or if the name and address do not match the voter's name and address on the registration book or poll book, the voter may vote a provisional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection (d) of this section to the county election officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers. At the meeting of the county board of canvassers the county election officer shall present copies of identification received from provisional voters and the corresponding provisional ballots. If the county board of canvassers determines that a voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted.

(f) If the name of any person desiring to vote at an election is not in the registration books, an election board member shall print the name and address of the person appearing to vote in the registration book or poll book. The person appearing to vote shall add such person's signature to the registration book or poll book beside such person's printed name, as listed in the registration book or poll book, and the election board judge shall challenge such person's vote pursuant to K.S.A. 25-414, and amendments thereto. During the pendency of a challenge other voters shall be given ballots and be permitted to vote.

(g) A voter who has received an advance voting ballot may vote a provisional ballot on election day at the precinct polling place where the voter resides. If the voter returns the advance voting ballot to a judge or clerk at the precinct polling place, the judge or clerk shall void such advance voting ballot. Any such provisional ballot shall be counted only if the county board of canvassers determines that the provisional ballot was properly cast and the voter has not otherwise voted at such election.

(h) For the purposes of this section, "first-time voter" means a registered voter who has not previously voted in any election in the county in which the voter desires to vote. First-time voter includes a person whose name was removed from the county registration list in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto, and has re-registered.

(i) The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations defining valid forms of identification.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 25-2909 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2909. (a) Any voter unable to mark such person's ballot by reason of ~~physical~~ temporary illness, disability, ~~visual handicap~~ or lack of proficiency in reading the English language or any voter 65 or more years of age may request assistance in voting.

(b) Upon request as provided in subsection (a), the voter shall be accompanied to the voting booth by a person chosen by the voter or, if no person is chosen, by two members of the election board of different political parties, who shall mark the ballot as such voter directs.

~~If a voter requests assistance but is challenged, such voter~~ A voter with a disability shall be permitted to vote as provided by law for provisional voters.

~~If a voting place is inaccessible to a disabled voter by reason of stairs or steps, such voter~~ A voter with a disability may request that such person's ballot be brought to the entrance to such voting place, or outside the voting place at a location within a radius of 250 feet from the entrance thereof, for the purpose of allowing such voter to vote. Two members of the election board of different political parties shall take a ballot to the voter so requesting and shall remain with such voter while such person votes. In voting places where paper ballots are used, such board members shall deposit such voter's ballot in the ballot box. In voting places where voting machines are used, such voter shall vote on an *electronic voting machine* or advance voting ballot, ~~and, if the county election officer so directs, the two board members, upon returning to the voting place, shall cast the voter's votes, exactly in the manner shown on such voter's ballot, on a voting machine. If the voter's votes are cast on a voting machine, the advance voting ballots used in this subsection shall be marked "VOID" with a notation indicating that the votes thereon have been tab-~~

~~ulated on a voting machine.~~ Any such ballot, together with objected to and provisional ballots, shall be packaged in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3008, and amendments thereto.

(e) “Disability”, with respect to an individual, means:

- (1) A physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of such individual;
- (2) a record of such an impairment; or
- (3) being regarded as having such an impairment.

Intoxication shall not be regarded as a ~~physical~~ disability.

Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-3002 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3002. (a) The rules prescribed in this section shall apply to:

- (1) The original canvass by election boards.
- (2) Intermediate and final canvasses by county boards of canvassers.
- (3) Final canvass by the state board of canvassers.
- (4) All election contests.
- (5) All other officers canvassing or having a part in the canvass of any election.

(b) Rules for canvassers:

(1) No ballot, or any portion thereof, shall be invalidated by any technical error unless it is impossible to determine the voter’s intention. Determination of the voter’s intention shall rest in the discretion of the board canvassing in the case of a canvass and in the election court in the case of an election contest.

(2) The occurrences listed in this subpart (2) shall not invalidate the whole ballot but shall invalidate that portion, and that portion only, in which the occurrence appears. The votes on such portion of the ballot shall not be counted for any candidate listed or written in such portion, but the remainder of the votes in other portions of the ballot shall be counted. The occurrences to which this subpart (2) shall apply are:

(A) Whenever a voting mark shall be made in the square at the left of the name of more than one candidate for the same office, except when the ballot instructs that more than one candidate is to be voted.

(B) Whenever a voting mark is placed in the square at the left of a space where no candidate is listed.

(3) When a registered voter has cast a provisional ballot intended for a precinct other than the precinct in which the voter resides but located within the same county, the canvassers shall count the votes for those offices or issues which are identical in both precincts. The canvassers shall not count the votes for those offices or issues which differ from the offices or issues appearing on the ballot used in the precinct in which the voter resides.

~~(e)~~ (4) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:

~~(1)~~ (A) Both candidates’ names are written on the ballot; or

~~(2)~~ (B) only the name of the candidate for governor is written on the ballot.

~~(e)~~ (5) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of president and vice-president shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:

~~(1)~~ (A) Both candidates’ names are written on the ballot; or

~~(2)~~ (B) only the name of the candidate for president is written on the ballot.

~~(e)~~ (6) A write-in vote for candidates for state offices elected on a statewide basis other than offices subject to ~~subsection (c)~~ paragraph (4) shall not be counted unless the candidate has filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305, and amendments thereto.

~~(f)~~ (7) Any advance voting or mail ballot whose envelope containing the voter’s written declaration is unsigned, shall be wholly void and no vote thereon shall be counted.

(8) *No ballot cast by a first-time voter as defined by K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto, or K.S.A. 25-2908, and amendments thereto, shall be counted if the voter fails to provide valid identification.*

Sec. 9. K.S.A. 25-3902 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3902. (a) Except as provided in K.S.A. 25-312a and amendments thereto when a district convention is provided by law to be held to elect a person to be appointed to fill a vacancy in a district office, the county chairperson

designated in subsection (b) or (c), within 21 days of receipt of notice that a vacancy has occurred or will occur, shall call and convene a convention of all committeemen and committeewomen of the party of the precincts in such district for the purpose of electing a person to be appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy. If such county chairperson is absent or for any reason is unable to call, or refuses to call such convention, then the county vice-chairperson shall call the convention and perform the other duties under this section required of such chairperson.

(b) If the district lies within a single county, the county chairperson of such county shall call the convention by mailing a notice, at least seven days before the date of the convention, to each precinct committeeman and committeewoman who is entitled to vote at the convention pursuant to subsection (e).

(c) If all or part of more than one county lies within the district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call the convention by mailing a notice of the convention to each county chairperson of the party in each such county at least 10 days before the date of the convention. Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention. Such county chairperson, within three days after receipt of such notice, shall mail notice of the convention to the committeemen and committeewomen in their counties who are entitled to vote at the convention pursuant to subsection (e).

(d) The notice of such convention shall state: (1) The place where the convention is to be held; (2) the time when the convention will convene; and (3) the purpose for which the convention is to be held.

(e) At the time and place fixed for holding the convention, the county chairperson who called the convention shall act as temporary chairperson and shall call the convention to order. One-third of the eligible members of the convention shall constitute a quorum for such election. In the event a quorum is not present at the time and place that such convention is called, the members present shall adjourn the convention to a day and time certain, which shall be not later than 14 days after such adjournment of such convention, and provide for notification of the time and place of such adjourned convention to be given to the eligible members not present. The convention shall organize by electing a permanent chairperson and such other officers as necessary. After the convention is organized, it shall elect a person to be appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy. Such election shall be by secret ballot and the person elected shall be the one who receives the majority of all the votes cast. If no person receives a majority of all votes cast on any ballot, the balloting shall continue until some person receives a majority of all the votes cast. Each committeeman and committeewoman of the party of the precincts in such district shall be entitled to vote. *Except as provided in subsection (f)*, no precinct committeeman or committeewoman shall be represented or shall vote by proxy. The convention may adopt such rules necessary to govern its procedure in making nominations, voting, counting, and canvassing votes and for the conduct of any business which may properly be brought before the convention, but such rules shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this section.

(f) (1) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may vote by proxy at a convention called pursuant to this section whenever such precinct committeeman or committeewoman is unable to attend the convention and cast such precinct committeeman's or committeewoman's ballot.*

(2) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may designate another precinct committeeman or committeewoman to cast such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's ballot at such convention by proxy. Any proxy authorized by this subsection shall:*

(A) *Designate the precinct committeeman or committeewoman who shall cast the precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's vote by proxy;*

(B) *be signed by the precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman authorizing the proxy; and*

(C) *contain an acknowledgment of such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's signature which complies with K.S.A. 53-509 and amendments thereto.*

(g) After a person has been elected to be appointed to fill a vacancy in a district office, the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the convention shall execute a certificate, under oath, stating that such person has been

duly elected to be appointed to fill such vacancy and shall transmit such certificate either by hand delivery by a person designated by such chairperson or vice-chairperson or by registered mail, return receipt requested, to the governor and a copy thereof to the secretary of state. If transmitted by registered mail, such certificate and the copy thereof shall be mailed within 24 hours of such election, unless the day following such election is a Sunday or legal holiday, in which case it shall be mailed by the next regular business day. Thereupon, and not later than seven days after such certificate is received in the office of the governor, the governor, or in the governor's absence the lieutenant governor, shall fill such vacancy by appointing to such district office the person so elected. In the event the governor or lieutenant governor fails to appoint any person as required by this subsection after receiving a lawfully executed certificate hereunder, such person shall be deemed to have been so appointed notwithstanding such failure. The person so appointed may qualify and enter upon the duties of the district office immediately after appointment.

Sec. 10. K.S.A. 25-3902a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3902a. (a) When a vacancy occurs in the office of member of the state board of education, the county chairperson designated in subsection (b), (c) or (d), within 21 days of receipt of notice that a vacancy has occurred or will occur shall call and convene a district convention for the purpose of electing a person to be appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy. Such person shall be an elector of the same political party as that of the board member vacating such position and shall reside in the board member district corresponding to such board member position. If such county chairperson is absent or for any reason is unable to call or refuses to call such convention, then the county vice-chairperson shall call the convention and perform the other duties required of such chairperson under this section.

(b) If the board member district lies within a single county, the county chairperson of such county shall call a convention of all precinct committeemen and committeewomen of the party of the precincts in such district in the manner provided by subsections (b) and (d) of K.S.A. 25-3902 and amendments thereto, and such convention shall be conducted as provided in subsection (e).

(c) If all or part of more than one and less than five counties lie within the board member district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call a convention of all precinct committeemen and committeewomen of the party of the precincts in such district in the manner provided by subsections (c) and (d) of K.S.A. 25-3902 and amendments thereto, and such convention shall be conducted as provided in subsection (e). Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention.

(d) If all or part of five or more counties lie within the board member district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call a convention of all county chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of the party of the counties in such district. Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention. Such county chairperson shall call the convention by mailing a notice to each such county chairperson and vice-chairperson, at least seven days before the date of the convention. Such notice shall state: (1) The place where the convention is to be held; (2) the time when the convention will convene; and (3) the purpose for which the convention is to be held, and such convention shall be conducted as provided in subsection (e).

(e) At the time and place fixed for holding the convention, the county chairperson who called the convention shall act as temporary chairperson and shall call the convention to order. One-third of the eligible members of the convention shall constitute a quorum for such election. In the event a quorum is not present at the time and place that such convention is called, the members present shall adjourn the convention to a day and time certain, which shall be not later than 14 days after adjournment of such convention, and provide for notification of the time and place of such adjourned convention to be given to the eligible members not present. The convention shall proceed to organize by electing a permanent chairperson and such other officers as necessary. After the convention is organized, it shall proceed to elect a person to be appointed by the governor to fill the vacancy. Such election shall be by secret ballot and the

person elected shall be the one who shall receive the majority of all the votes cast. If no person receives a majority of all votes cast on any ballot, the balloting shall continue until some person receives a majority of all the votes cast. Each county chairperson and vice-chairperson of the party of the counties in such district shall be entitled to vote. *Except as provided in subsection (f)*, no county chairperson or vice-chairperson shall be represented or shall vote by proxy. The convention may adopt such rules as necessary to govern its procedure in making nominations, voting, counting and canvassing votes and for the conduct of any business which may properly be brought before the convention, but such rules shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this section.

(f) (1) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman who serves as county chairperson or vice-chairperson may vote by proxy at a convention called pursuant to this section whenever such precinct committeeman or committeewoman is unable to attend the convention and cast such precinct committeeman's or committeewoman's ballot.*

(2) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may designate another precinct committeeman or committeewoman to cast such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's ballot at such convention by proxy. Any proxy authorized by this subsection shall:*

(A) *Designate the precinct committeeman or committeewoman who shall cast the precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's vote by proxy;*

(B) *be signed by the precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman authorizing the proxy; and*

(C) *contain an acknowledgment of such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's signature which complies with K.S.A. 53-509 and amendments thereto.*

(g) After a person has been elected to be appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of member of the state board of education, the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the convention shall execute a certificate, under oath, stating that such person has been duly elected to be appointed to fill such vacancy and shall transmit such certificate to the governor. Thereupon, and not later than seven days after such certificate is received in the office of the governor, the governor, or in the governor's absence the lieutenant governor, shall fill such vacancy by appointing to the office of member of the state board of education the person so elected. In the event the governor or lieutenant governor fails to appoint any person as required by this subsection after receiving a lawfully executed certificate hereunder, such person shall be deemed to have been so appointed notwithstanding such failure. The person so appointed may qualify and enter upon the duties of office immediately after appointment.

(h) A person shall be elected to be appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of member of the state board of education within 35 days after such vacancy occurs. If no person is so elected within the 35-day period, the governor shall fill such vacancy by appointment of an elector of the same political party as that of the board member vacating such position and who resides in the board member district corresponding to such board member position. The person so appointed may qualify and enter upon the duties of office immediately after appointment.

Sec. 11. K.S.A. 25-3904 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3904. (a) When a district convention is provided by law to be held to elect a person to fill a vacancy in a party candidacy for a district office, the county chairperson designated in subsection (b) or (c), within 21 days of the receipt of the notice that the vacancy has occurred or will occur shall call and convene a convention of all committeemen and committeewomen of the political party from the precincts in such district. If such county chairperson is absent or for any reason is unable to call, or refuses to call such convention, then the corresponding county vice-chairperson shall call the convention and perform the other duties under this section required of such chairperson.

(b) If the district lies within a single county, the county chairperson of such county shall call the convention by mailing a notice at least seven days before the date of the convention to the committeemen and committeewomen in such county who are entitled to vote at such convention pursuant to subsection (e).

(c) If all or part of more than one county lies within the district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call the convention by mailing a

notice of such convention to each county chairperson of the party in each such county, at least 10 days before the date of the convention. Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention. Such county chairpersons shall, within three days after receipt of such notice, mail notice of such convention to the committeemen and committeewomen in their counties who are entitled to vote at such convention pursuant to subsection (e).

(d) The notice of such convention shall state: (1) The place where the convention is to be held; (2) the time when the convention will convene; and (3) the purpose for which the convention is to be held.

(e) At the time and place fixed for holding the convention, the county chairperson who called the convention shall act as temporary chairperson and shall call the convention to order. One-third of the eligible members of the convention shall constitute a quorum for such election. In the event a quorum is not present at the time and place that such convention is called, the members present shall adjourn the convention to a day and time certain, which shall not be later than 14 days after such adjournment of such convention, and provide for notification of the time and place of such adjourned convention to be given to the eligible members not present. The convention shall organize by electing a permanent chairperson and such other officers as necessary. After the convention is organized, it shall elect a person to fill such vacancy in the party candidacy. Such election shall be by secret ballot and the person elected shall be the one who receives the majority of all the votes cast. If no person receives a majority of all votes cast on any ballot, the balloting shall continue until some person receives a majority of all the votes cast. Each committeeman and committeewoman of the party of the precincts in such district shall be entitled to vote. *Except as provided in subsection (f)*, no precinct committeeman or committeewoman shall be represented or shall vote by proxy. The convention may adopt rules as necessary to govern its procedure in making nominations, voting, counting and canvassing votes and for the conduct of any business which may properly be brought before the convention, but such rules shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this section.

(f) (1) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may vote by proxy at a convention called pursuant to this section whenever such precinct committeeman or committeewoman is unable to attend the convention and cast such precinct committeeman's or committeewoman's ballot.*

(2) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may designate another precinct committeeman or committeewoman to cast such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's ballot at such convention by proxy. Any proxy authorized by this subsection shall:*

(A) *Designate the precinct committeeman or committeewoman who shall cast the precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's vote by proxy;*

(B) *be signed by the precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman authorizing the proxy; and*

(C) *contain an acknowledgment of such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's signature which complies with K.S.A. 53-509 and amendments thereto.*

(g) After a person has been elected to fill a vacancy in a party candidacy for a district office, the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the convention shall execute a certificate, under oath, stating that such person has been duly elected to fill such vacancy and shall transmit such certificate to the secretary of state or appropriate county election officer.

Sec. 12. K.S.A. 25-3904a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3904a. (a) When a vacancy occurs in a party candidacy for the office of member of the state board of education, the county chairperson designated in subsection (b), (c) or (d), within 21 days of receipt of notice that the vacancy has occurred or will occur, shall call and convene a district convention for the purpose of electing a person to fill such vacancy. If such county chairperson is absent or for any reason is unable to call or refuses to call such convention, then the county vice-chairperson shall call the convention and perform the other duties required of such chairperson under this section.

(b) If the board member district lies within a single county, the county chairperson of such county shall call a convention of all precinct committeemen and committeewomen of the party of the precincts in such district in the manner provided by subsections (b) and (d) of K.S.A. 25-

3904 and amendments thereto, and such convention shall be conducted in the manner provided in subsection (e) of K.S.A. 25-3904 and amendments thereto.

(c) If all or part of more than one and less than five counties lie within the board member district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call a convention of all precinct committeemen and committeewomen of the party of the precincts in such district in the manner provided by subsections (c) and (d) of K.S.A. 25-3904 and amendments thereto, and such convention shall be conducted as provided in subsection (e) of K.S.A. 25-3904 and amendments thereto. Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention.

(d) If all or part of five or more counties lie within the board member district, the county chairperson of the county in which the greatest number of qualified voters of the district reside shall call a convention of all county chairpersons and vice-chairpersons of the party of the counties in such district. Such convention shall be held at a location within the district selected by the chairperson calling the convention. Such county chairperson shall call the convention by mailing a notice to each such county chairperson and vice-chairperson at least seven days before the date of the convention. Such notice shall state: (1) The place where the convention is to be held; (2) the time when the convention will convene; and (3) the purpose for which the convention is to be held.

(e) At the time and place fixed for holding the convention, the county chairperson who called the convention shall act as temporary chairperson and shall call the convention to order. One-third of the eligible members of the convention shall constitute a quorum for such election. In the event a quorum is not present at the time and place that such convention is called, the members present shall adjourn the convention to a day and time certain, which shall be not later than 14 days after such adjournment of such convention and provide for notification of the time and place of such adjourned convention to be given to the eligible members not present. The convention shall proceed to organize by electing a permanent chairperson and such other officers as necessary. After the convention is organized, it shall proceed to elect a person to fill the vacancy in the party candidacy. Such election shall be by secret ballot and the person elected shall be the one who shall receive the majority of all the votes cast. If no person receives a majority of all votes cast on any ballot, the balloting shall continue until some person receives a majority of all the votes cast. Each county chairperson and vice-chairperson of the party of the counties in such district shall be entitled to vote. *Except as provided in subsection (f)*, no county chairperson or vice-chairperson shall be represented or shall vote by proxy. The convention may adopt rules necessary to govern its procedure in making nominations, voting, counting and canvassing votes and for the conduct of any business which may properly be brought before the convention, but such rules shall not be in conflict with the provisions of this section.

(f) (1) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman who serves as county chairperson or vice-chairperson may vote by proxy at a convention called pursuant to this section whenever such precinct committeeman or committeewoman is unable to attend the convention and cast such precinct committeeman's or committeewoman's ballot.*

(2) *A precinct committeeman or committeewoman may designate another precinct committeeman or committeewoman to cast such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's ballot at such convention by proxy. Any proxy authorized by this subsection shall:*

(A) *Designate the precinct committeeman or committeewoman who shall cast the precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's vote by proxy;*

(B) *be signed by the precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman authorizing the proxy; and*

(C) *contain an acknowledgment of such precinct committeeman's or precinct committeewoman's signature which complies with K.S.A. 53-509 and amendments thereto.*

(g) After a person has been elected to fill a vacancy in a party candidacy for the office of member of the state board of education, the chairperson or vice-chairperson of the convention shall execute a certificate, under oath, stating that such person has been duly elected to fill such vacancy and shall transmit such certificate to the secretary of state.

Sec. 13. K.S.A. 25-1122d, 25-1123, 25-2710, 25-2909, 25-3902, 25-3902a, 25-3904 and 25-3904a and K.S.A. 25-1122d, as amended by section 5 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 25-1123, as amended by section 6 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-1122, as amended by section 4 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2309, as amended by section 9 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-2908, as amended by section 13 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-3002, as amended by section 14 of 2004 Senate Bill No. 479, and K.S.A. 2003 Supp. 25-1122, 25-2309, 25-2908 and 25-3002 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 14. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.

Approved April 16, 2004.
