

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 59th Legislature (2023)

SENATE BILL 376

By: Howard

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to absentee voting; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-113.2, which relates to marking and return of ballot; clarifying signature requirement for certain affidavit; updating statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 14-113.2, is amended to read as follows:

Section 14-113.2. A. The voter shall be responsible for marking:

1. Marking the ballots or directing a person chosen by the voter to mark the ballots in accordance with the provisions of Section 7-123.3 of this title and as prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board; ~~seal~~

2. Sealing the ballots in the plain opaque envelope; ~~fill~~

3. Filling out completely and ~~sign~~ signing the affidavit or ~~direct~~ directing a person chosen by the voter to sign the voter's name on the affidavit; such signature ~~to~~ shall be witnessed by two

1 persons, who did not sign the affidavit, whose signature and address
2 shall appear on the affidavit; ~~seal~~ and

3 4. Sealing the plain opaque envelope inside the envelope
4 bearing the affidavit and ~~return~~ returning both envelopes, sealed
5 inside the return envelope, by United States mail or by a private
6 mail service, provided such service has delivery documentation, to
7 the county election board.

8 B. No person, except members of absentee voting boards, shall
9 witness the signature of more than five affidavits of persons who
10 swear they are physically incapacitated and unable to vote in person
11 at their precinct on election day. No person who is a candidate for
12 an office on the ballot or who is related within the third degree of
13 consanguinity or affinity to a candidate on the ballot may witness
14 any absentee ballot affidavit.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

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