BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.: HB 1515
Version: POLPCS1
Request Number: 12606
Author: Rep. Jenkins
Date: 2/24/2025
Impact: \$0

Research Analysis

The proposed policy committee substitute to HB 1515 requires registered voters to provide a statement explaining why they cannot vote early in-person or on election day due to certain reasons as outlined in the measure and directs the State Election Board to provide a standardized form for this statement.

Reasons to request an absentee ballot as outlined in the measure include:

- Absent from the jurisdiction;
- Illness or disability;
- Employment-related;
- Education-related;
- Military service;
- Religion;
- Serving as an election official;
- Being 75 years of age or older; and
- Serving on jury duty.

Failure to submit the statement will result in denial of the absentee ballot application. The measure further requires that absentee ballot applications specify the election date for which the ballots are requested and establishes that applications are valid only for the elections on that specified date.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

Fiscal Analysis

The proposed policy committee substitute to HB 1515 requires absentee ballot applicants to provide a statement declaring why they are unable to vote either early in-person or on election day due to a reason listed by the measure. The measure does not materially alter the prior fiscal impact statement. Any administrative costs associated with implementation of the measure are expected to be minimal and absorbed by existing budgetary resources at applicable state agencies. Therefore, the measure is not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact on the state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Zach Lein, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.

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