

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2142

To amend title 39, United States Code, to allow absentee ballots in Federal elections to be mailed by voters free of postage.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 3, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To amend title 39, United States Code, to allow absentee ballots in Federal elections to be mailed by voters free of postage.

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. MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS IN FEDERAL**
4 **ELECTIONS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 34 of title 39, United
6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
7 lowing:

1 **“§ 3407. Mailing of absentee ballots in Federal elec-**
2 **tions**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
4 (b), any individual casting an absentee ballot in any Fed-
5 eral election may mail such ballot free of postage to the
6 appropriate election authority. Any envelope or other cover
7 containing such ballot shall bear the words ‘Absentee Bal-
8 lot—No Postage Necessary’, or words or other marking
9 to that effect specified by the Postal Service, in the upper
10 right-hand corner.

11 “(b) EXCEPTION.—This section shall not apply in the
12 case of any mail matter transmitted under the provisions
13 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting
14 Act.

15 “(c) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the
16 term ‘Federal election’ means a general, special, primary,
17 or runoff election held solely or in part for the purpose
18 of electing any candidate for the office of President, Vice
19 President, Presidential elector, or Senator or Representa-
20 tive in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
21 gress.”.

22 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
23 for chapter 34 of title 39, United States Code, is amended
24 by adding at the following:

“3407. Mailing of absentee ballots in Federal elections.”.

1 **SEC. 2. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**

2 (a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 39.—Sections 2401(c)
3 and 3627 of title 39, United States Code, are amended
4 by striking “3406” and inserting “3407”.

5 (b) ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT.—Section 505(c) of
6 the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public
7 Law 109–435; 39 U.S.C. 1217 note) is amended by strik-
8 ing “3406” and inserting “3407”.

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