

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. If and only if Senate Bill 1863 of the 101st
5 General Assembly becomes law in the form in which it passed the
6 House of Representatives on May 21, 2020, then the Election
7 Code is amended by changing Section 2B-20 as follows:

8 (10 ILCS 5/2B-20)

9 Sec. 2B-20. Changes for vote by mail official ballot
10 mailing and processing.

11 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
12 contrary, an election authority shall mail official ballots to
13 any elector requesting an official ballot no earlier than
14 September 24, 2020. Except for electors applying under Article
15 20, any elector submitting an application for a vote by mail
16 ballot on or before October 1, 2020 shall receive a ballot no
17 later than October 6, 2020. An election authority shall mail
18 official ballots to any elector requesting an official ballot
19 after October 1, 2020 no later than 2 business days after
20 receipt of the application.

21 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
22 contrary, any vote by mail ballot received by an election
23 authority shall be presumed to meet the requirements of

1 Articles 17, 18, and 19 and the voter shall be deemed otherwise
2 qualified to cast a vote by mail ballot unless deemed invalid
3 as provided in this Section.

4 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the
5 contrary, within 2 days after a vote by mail ballot is
6 received, but in all cases before the close of the period for
7 counting provisional ballots, the election authority shall
8 appoint a panel or panels ~~as needed~~ of 3 election judges, of
9 which no more than 2 shall be from the same political party,
10 from the list of election judges submitted by the county
11 parties for this specific purpose to compare the voter's
12 signature on the certification envelope of the vote by mail
13 ballot with the signature of the voter on file in the office of
14 the election authority. The signature shall be presumed to
15 match unless 3 out of 3 election judges determine that the 2
16 signatures do not match. By a vote of 3 of 3 election judges, a
17 vote by mail ballot may only be rejected because the signature
18 on the certification envelope and the signature used by the
19 election authority for verification purposes do not match or
20 the certification envelope contains a signature but not in the
21 proper location. A vote by mail ballot may only be rejected by
22 a majority vote of the 3 of 3 election judges and only for the
23 following reasons: (1) ~~the signature on the certification~~
24 ~~envelope and the signature used by the election authority for~~
25 ~~verification purposes do not match or~~ the certification
26 envelope contains no signature; (2) the ballot envelope was

1 delivered opened; (3) the voter has already cast a ballot; (4)
2 if the voter voted in person on election day; or (5) the voter
3 is not a duly registered voter in the precinct. If ~~3 of 3~~
4 election judges determine the ballot should be rejected for any
5 reasons stated in this subsection (c), the judges shall mark
6 across the face of the certification envelope the word
7 "rejected" and the date and names of the judges voting to
8 reject the ballot.

9 (d) If a vote by mail ballot is rejected, the election
10 authority shall notify the voter within 2 days after the
11 rejection or within one day if the rejection occurs after
12 election day and in all cases before the close of the period
13 for counting provisional ballots. The voter shall be notified
14 through mail or email, or both, and the notice shall inform the
15 voter of the reason or reasons the ballot was rejected. If the
16 ballot was rejected based on the signature or lack of a
17 signature, the voter shall be permitted to submit a statement
18 the voter cast the ballot, and upon receipt the ballot shall be
19 determined valid and counted before the close of the period for
20 counting provisional ballots. If the ballot was rejected
21 because the envelope was delivered opened, the voter shall be
22 permitted to vote in person or request to receive another vote
23 by mail ballot, provided the voter submits an application and
24 casts a new ballot prior to the close of polls on election day.

25 (e) Election authorities shall accept any vote by mail
26 ballot returned, including ballots returned with insufficient

1 or no postage, and may establish secure collection sites for
2 the postage-free return of vote by mail ballots. Any election
3 authority establishing such a collection site pursuant to this
4 subsection (c) shall collect all ballots submitted each day at
5 close of business and process them as required by this Code,
6 including noting the day on which the ballot was submitted.
7 Ballots submitted to such collection sites after close of
8 business shall be dated as delivered the next day, with the
9 exception of ballots delivered on election day, which shall be
10 dated as received on election day. Election authorities shall
11 permit electors to return vote by mail ballots on election day
12 up until the close of the polls. All collection sites shall be
13 secured by locks that may be opened only by election authority
14 personnel. The State Board of Elections shall establish
15 additional guidelines for the security of collection sites.

16 (f) In accordance with Section 19-7, within one day after
17 receipt of a vote by mail ballot, the election authority shall
18 transmit notification of receipt to the State Board of
19 Elections. If a vote by mail ballot is rejected, the election
20 authority must notify the State Board of Elections within one
21 day. Upon request by a state or local political committee,
22 within 2 days an election authority must electronically provide
23 the names and addresses of any vote by mail ballots received
24 and any vote by mail ballots marked rejected.

25 (Source: 10100SB1863ham005; 10100SB1863ham006.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

1 becoming law or on the date Senate Bill 1863 of the 101st
2 General Assembly takes effect, whichever is later.