AN ACT concerning elections.


#### Abstract

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


Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Section 17-9 as follows:
(10 ILCS 5/17-9) (from Ch. 46, par. 17-9)
Sec. 17-9. Any person desiring to vote shall give his name and, if required to do so, his residence to the judges of election, one of whom shall thereupon announce the same in a loud and distinct tone of voice, clear, and audible; the judges of elections shall check each application for ballot against the list of voters registered in that precinct to whom absentee ballots have been issued for that election, which shall be provided by the election authority and which list shall be available for inspection by pollwatchers. A voter applying to vote in the precinct on election day whose name appears on the list as having been issued an absentee ballot shall not be permitted to vote in the precinct unless that voter submits to the judges of election, for cancellation or revocation, his absentee ballot. In the case that the voter's absentee ballot is not present in the polling place, it shall be sufficient for any such voter to submit to the judges of election in lieu of his absentee ballot, either a portion of such ballot if torn or mutilated, an affidavit executed before the judges of election specifying that the voter never received an absentee ballot, or an affidavit executed before the judges of election specifying that the voter desires to cancel or revoke any absentee ballot that may have been cast in the voter's name. All applicable provisions of Articles 4, 5 or 6 shall be complied with and if such name is found on the register of
voters by the officer having charge thereof, he shall likewise repeat said name, and the voter shall be allowed to enter within the proximity of the voting booths, as above provided. One of the judges shall give the voter one, and only one of each ballot to be voted at the election, on the back of which ballots such judge shall indorse his initials in such manner that they may be seen when each such ballot is properly folded, and the voter's name shall be immediately checked on the register list. One of the judges shall also advise voters in a voice clearly audible to the other judges of election that if a voter by accident or mistake spoils the ballot, the voter has the legal right to receive another in its place as provided in Section 17-11. In those election jurisdictions where perforated ballot cards are utilized of the type on which write-in votes can be cast above the perforation, the election authority shall provide a space both above and below the perforation for the judge's initials, and the judge shall endorse his or her initials in both spaces. Whenever a proposal for a constitutional amendment or for the calling of a constitutional convention is to be voted upon at the election, the separate blue ballot or ballots pertaining thereto shall, when being handed to the voter, be placed on top of the other ballots to be voted at the election in such manner that the legend appearing on the back thereof, as prescribed in Section 16-6 of this Act, shall be plainly visible to the voter. At all elections, when a registry may be required, if the name of any person so desiring to vote at such election is not found on the register of voters, he or she shall not receive a ballot until he or she shall have complied with the law prescribing the manner and conditions of voting by unregistered voters. If any person desiring to vote at any election shall be challenged, he or she shall not receive a ballot until he or she shall have established his right to vote in the manner
provided hereinafter; and if he or she shall be challenged after he has received his ballot, he shall not be permitted to vote until he or she has fully complied with such requirements of the law upon being challenged. Besides the election officer, not more than 2 voters in excess of the whole number of voting booths provided shall be allowed within the proximity of the voting booths at one time. The provisions of this Act, so far as they require the registration of voters as a condition to their being allowed to vote shall not apply to persons otherwise entitled to vote, who are, at the time of the election, or at any time within 60 days prior to such election have been engaged in the military or naval service of the United States, and who appear personally at the polling place on election day and produce to the judges of election satisfactory evidence thereof, but such persons, if otherwise qualified to vote, shall be permitted to vote at such election without previous registration.

All such persons shall also make an affidavit which shall be in substantially the following form:

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State of Illinois,)
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    ) ss .
    County of ........)
............... Precinct .......... Ward

I, ...., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that $I$ am a citizen of the United States, of the age of 18 years or over, and that within the past 60 days prior to the date of this election at which I am applying to vote, I have been engaged in the .... (military or naval) service of the United States; and I am qualified to vote under and by virtue of the Constitution and laws of the State of Illinois, and that I am a legally qualified voter of this precinct and ward except that I have, because of such service, been unable to register as a voter; that $I$ now reside at .... (insert street and
number, if any) in this precinct and ward; that $I$ have maintained a legal residence in this precinct and ward for 30 days and in this State 30 days next preceding this election.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).

Judge of Election.

The affidavit of any such person shall be supported by the affidavit of a resident and qualified voter of any such precinct and ward, which affidavit shall be in substantially the following form:

State of Illinois,) ) ss .

County of .........)
........... Precinct ........... Ward
I, ...., do solemnly swear (or affirm), that $I$ am a resident of this precinct and ward and entitled to vote at this election; that I am acquainted with .... (name of the applicant); that $I$ verily believe him to be an actual bona fide resident of this precinct and ward and that $I$ verily believe that he or she has maintained a legal residence therein 30 days and in this State 30 days next preceding this election.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).

Judge of Election.

All affidavits made under the provisions of this Section shall be enclosed in a separate envelope securely sealed, and shall be transmitted with the returns of the elections to the county clerk or to the board of election commissioners, who shall preserve the said affidavits for the period of 6 months, during which period such affidavits shall be deemed
public records and shall be freely open to examination as such.
(Source: P.A. 91-357, eff. 7-29-99.)

