

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, § 581(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2326, provided that: “The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section] shall take effect on December 31, 2010, and apply with respect to elections for Federal office held on or after such date.”

Amendment by section 582(b) of Pub. L. 111-84 applicable with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2010 and each succeeding election for Federal office, see section 582(c) of Pub. L. 111-84, set out as a note under section 20302 of this title.

§ 20304. Procedures for collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters

(a) Establishment of procedures

The Presidential designee shall establish procedures for collecting marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters in regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office, including absentee ballots prepared by States and the Federal write-in absentee ballot prescribed under section 20303 of this title, and for delivering such marked absentee ballots to the appropriate election officials.

(b) Delivery to appropriate election officials

(1) In general

Under the procedures established under this section, the Presidential designee shall implement procedures that facilitate the delivery of marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters for regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office to the appropriate election officials, in accordance with this section, not later than the date by which an absentee ballot must be received in order to be counted in the election.

(2) Cooperation and coordination with the United States Postal Service

The Presidential designee shall carry out this section in cooperation and coordination with the United States Postal Service, and shall provide expedited mail delivery service for all such marked absentee ballots of absent uniformed services voters that are collected on or before the deadline described in paragraph (3) and then transferred to the United States Postal Service.

(3) Deadline described

(A) In general

Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the deadline described in this paragraph is noon (in the location in which the ballot is collected) on the seventh day preceding the date of the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.

(B) Authority to establish alternative deadline for certain locations

If the Presidential designee determines that the deadline described in subparagraph (A) is not sufficient to ensure timely delivery of the ballot under paragraph (1) with respect to a particular location because of remoteness or other factors, the Presidential designee may establish as an alternative deadline for that location the latest date occurring prior to the deadline described in

subparagraph (A) which is sufficient to provide timely delivery of the ballot under paragraph (1).

(4) No postage requirement

In accordance with section 3406 of title 39, such marked absentee ballots and other balloting materials shall be carried free of postage.

(5) Date of mailing

Such marked absentee ballots shall be postmarked with a record of the date on which the ballot is mailed.

(c) Outreach for absent overseas uniformed services voters on procedures

The Presidential designee shall take appropriate actions to inform individuals who are anticipated to be absent overseas uniformed services voters in a regularly scheduled general election for Federal office to which this section applies of the procedures for the collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots established pursuant to this section, including the manner in which such voters may utilize such procedures for the submittal of marked absentee ballots pursuant to this section.

(d) Absent overseas uniformed services voter defined

In this section, the term “absent overseas uniformed services voter” means an overseas voter described in section 20310(5)(A) of this title.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Presidential designee such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 99-410, title I, § 103A, as added Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, § 580(a), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2324.)

CODIFICATION

Section was formerly classified to section 1973ff-2a of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering as this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section applicable with respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2010 and each succeeding election for Federal office, see section 580(f) of Pub. L. 111-84, set out as an Effective Date of 2009 Amendment note under section 20301 of this title.

§ 20305. Federal Voting Assistance Program Improvements

(a) Duties

The Presidential designee shall carry out the following duties:

(1) Develop online portals of information to inform absent uniformed services voters regarding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot procedures to be used by such voters with respect to elections for Federal office.

(2) Establish a program to notify absent uniformed services voters of voter registration information and resources, the availability of the Federal postcard application, and the availability of the Federal write-in absentee ballot on the military Global Network, and