

FEB 7 2001  
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE 209  
BY WARNSTADT

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to absentee voting at the commissioner's office  
2 on election day in certain elections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 209

1 Section 1. Section 53.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
2 2001, is amended to read as follows:

3 Any registered voter, under the circumstances specified in  
4 section 53.1, may on any day, except election day, and not  
5 more than seventy days prior to the date of the election,  
6 apply in person for an absentee ballot at the commissioner's  
7 office or at any location designated by the commissioner, or  
8 make written application to the commissioner for an absentee  
9 ballot. However, for those elections in which the  
10 commissioner directs the polls be opened at noon pursuant to  
11 section 49.73, a voter may apply in person for an absentee  
12 ballot at the commissioner's office from eight a.m. until  
13 eleven a.m. on election day. The state commissioner shall  
14 prescribe a form for absentee ballot applications. However,  
15 if a registered voter submits an application that includes all  
16 of the information required in this section, the prescribed  
17 form is not required. Absentee ballot applications may  
18 include instructions to send the application directly to the  
19 county commissioner of elections. However, no absentee ballot  
20 application shall be preaddressed or printed with instructions  
21 to send the applications to anyone other than the appropriate  
22 commissioner.

23 EXPLANATION

24 This bill allows a voter to vote absentee at the  
25 commissioner's office from eight a.m. until eleven a.m. on  
26 election day if the election is one for which the commissioner  
27 has directed that the polls not be opened until noon. The  
28 county commissioner of elections may, by law, direct that the  
29 polls be opened at noon for any school district election, city  
30 elections in cities of 3,500 or less population, for cities  
31 above 3,500 population if there is no contested election or  
32 public measure on the ballot, and any benefited district  
33 election.

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