

FEB 4 2003
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE FILE
BY JOCHUM

117

Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to absentee ballot applications.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 117

1 Section 1. Section 53.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2003, 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. The state commissioner shall prescribe a form for
10 absentee ballot applications. However, if a registered voter
11 submits an application that includes all of the information
12 required in this section, the prescribed form is not required.
13 The form prescribed by the commissioner shall be prepared in
14 triplicate with instructions printed on the form directing the
15 applicant to deliver the original to the county commissioner
16 and to retain the duplicate. If the application was supplied
17 to the applicant by someone other than the county commissioner
18 or the commissioner's designee, the triplicate shall be
19 retained by the individual or organization who supplied the
20 ballot application to the applicant. Absentee ballot
21 applications may include instructions to send the application
22 directly to the county commissioner of elections. However, no
23 absentee ballot application shall be preaddressed or printed
24 with instructions to send the applications to anyone other
25 than the appropriate commissioner.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill provides that the absentee ballot application
28 form prescribed by the state commissioner of elections be
29 prepared in triplicate and contain instructions directing the
30 applicant to deliver the original to the county commissioner
31 of elections and to retain the duplicate. The bill provides
32 that if the application was supplied to the applicant by
33 someone other than the county commissioner or the
34 commissioner's designee, the triplicate shall be retained by
35 the individual or organization who supplied the ballot

1 application to the applicant.

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