

FILED JAN 14 '03

SENATE FILE 12

BY BOLKCOM

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

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to ongoing absentee voter status for general  
2 elections.

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

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SF 12 STATE GOVERNMENT

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 53.3 ONGOING ABSENTEE VOTER.

2 A registered voter applying for an absentee ballot under  
3 section 53.2 using the state commissioner's prescribed form  
4 for absentee ballot applications may request to receive an  
5 absentee ballot for each subsequent general election in which  
6 that person is eligible to vote, and qualifies under section  
7 53.1. The state commissioner shall provide on the prescribed  
8 form a check box for this purpose. For each subsequent  
9 general election, the commissioner shall automatically mail an  
10 absentee ballot to the requesting voter, or automatically  
11 deliver an absentee ballot to a confined person pursuant to  
12 section 53.22. A voter's status as an ongoing absentee voter  
13 shall be terminated upon the request of the voter, by the  
14 commissioner if the voter fails to qualify under section 53.1,  
15 or if the voter fails to vote in a subsequent general  
16 election.

17 EXPLANATION

18 This bill allows an absentee voter to receive absentee  
19 ballots for all subsequent general elections without having to  
20 reapply before each election. A person's status as an ongoing  
21 absentee voter can be terminated by that person, by the county  
22 commissioner of elections if the person fails to qualify as an  
23 absentee voter, or if the voter fails to vote in a subsequent  
24 general election.

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