

Senate File 2246 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2246

BY SENG

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring that absentee ballot return envelopes be
2 marked with county commissioner of elections receipt and
3 postmark requirements.

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

1 Section 1. Section 53.17, subsection 2, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. a. In order for the ballot to be counted, the return
4 envelope must be received in the commissioner's office before
5 the polls close on election day or be clearly postmarked by an
6 officially authorized postal service not later than the day
7 before the election and received by the commissioner not later
8 than noon on the Monday following the election.

9 b. Return envelopes shall be conspicuously marked to provide
10 voters with notice of the requirements of this subsection.
11 This notice shall include information related to mailing and
12 postmark requirements to provide voters with notice of federal
13 requirements regarding the proper postmarking of such return
14 envelopes. The state commissioner of elections shall adopt
15 rules to implement this paragraph.

16 EXPLANATION

17 This bill requires that all absentee ballot return envelopes
18 be marked conspicuously to give notice to voters that in
19 order for the absentee ballot to be counted the ballot must
20 be received before the polls close on election day or be
21 postmarked by the day before the election and received by the
22 county commissioner of elections not later than noon on the
23 Monday following the election. The bill requires that such
24 notice include information to provide voters with notice of
25 federal requirements regarding the proper postmarking of such
26 return envelopes. The state commissioner of elections shall
27 adopt rules to implement this requirement.