

**Senate Study Bill 3020 - Introduced**

SENATE/HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED SECRETARY OF  
STATE BILL)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring that absentee ballot return envelopes be  
2 conspicuously marked with county commissioner of elections  
3 receipt and 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. The  
11 state commissioner of elections shall adopt rules to implement  
12 this paragraph.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill requires that all absentee ballot return envelopes  
15 be marked conspicuously to give notice to voters that in  
16 order for the absentee ballot to be counted the ballot must  
17 be received before the polls close on election day or be  
18 postmarked by the day before the election and received by the  
19 county commissioner of elections not later than noon on the  
20 Monday following the election. The state commissioner of  
21 elections shall adopt rules to implement this requirement.