Senate File 328 - Introduced

A BILL FOR

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

1 Section 1. Section 53.17, subsection 2, Code 2015, is
2 amended to read as follows:
3 2. 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 must be clearly postmarked
6 by an officially authorized postal service not later than the
7 day before the election and received by the commissioner not
8 later than noon on the Monday following the election or must
9 be clearly postmarked by received by the commissioner through
10 an officially authorized postal service not later than 5:00
11 p.m. on the day before after the election and received by the
12 commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following the
13 election.

14   EXPLANATION

15   The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
16   the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

17 This bill relates to absentee ballot deadlines. Under
18 current law, an absentee ballot received by a county
19 commissioner of elections is valid if it is received by the
20 commissioner before the polls close on election day or if it is
21 clearly postmarked by an officially authorized postal service
22 not later than the day before the election and is received by
23 the commissioner not later than noon on the Monday following
24 the election. Under the bill, for an absentee ballot to be
25 counted it must be received in the commissioner's office
26 before the polls close on election day or it must be clearly
27 postmarked not later than the day before the election and be
28 received by the commissioner by noon on the Monday following
29 the election or it must be received by the commissioner through
30 an officially authorized postal service not later than 5:00
31 p.m. on the day after the election.