

**Senate File 80 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 80

BY HOGG

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to voting procedures for participants in the  
2 Iowa address confidentiality program.

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

1 Section 1. Section 9E.3, subsection 3, Code 2019, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 3. *Certification.* Upon the filing of a complete  
4 application, the secretary shall certify the eligible person  
5 as a program participant. A program participant shall be  
6 certified for four years following the date the application  
7 is certified by the secretary unless the certification is  
8 canceled, withdrawn, or invalidated. The secretary shall send  
9 to the program participant certification, in a form prescribed  
10 by rule, that confirms the program participant's participation  
11 in the program. The secretary shall establish by rule a  
12 renewal procedure for recertification.

13 Sec. 2. Section 9E.6, subsection 1, Code 2019, is amended by  
14 adding the following new paragraph:

15 NEW PARAGRAPH. c. The state commissioner of elections shall  
16 adopt rules for the addition of the program participant's name  
17 and designated address to the election register of the precinct  
18 where the program participant may vote at the request of the  
19 program participant.

20 Sec. 3. Section 9E.6, Code 2019, is amended by adding the  
21 following new subsection:

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. In lieu of subsections 2 and 3, a  
23 program participant may vote in person pursuant to chapter 49  
24 or 53, subject to the following requirements:

25 a. A program participant voting pursuant to chapter 49  
26 shall provide the program participant's designated address when  
27 the program participant is required to provide the program  
28 participant's address. The certification document issued  
29 pursuant to section 9E.3, subsection 3, shall serve as proof of  
30 the program participant's residence.

31 b. A program participant voting at the office of the  
32 county commissioner of elections pursuant to section 53.10  
33 shall provide the program participant's designated address  
34 on the program participant's application for a ballot. The  
35 program participant shall provide to the county commissioner of

1 elections the certification document issued pursuant to section  
2 9E.3, subsection 3, prior to receiving a ballot. The county  
3 commissioner of elections shall furnish a ballot to a program  
4 participant who has completed an application for a ballot and  
5 produced such a certification document.

6 Sec. 4. Section 49.77, subsection 1, Code 2019, is amended  
7 by adding the following new paragraph:

8 NEW PARAGRAPH. *d.* A participant in the address  
9 confidentiality program established pursuant to chapter 9E  
10 shall provide the participant's designated address, as defined  
11 in section 9E.2, on the voter's declaration of eligibility  
12 in lieu of the participant's residential address. The board  
13 member shall approve such a declaration if the participant  
14 furnishes the certification document issued pursuant to section  
15 9E.3, subsection 3. The state commissioner of elections shall  
16 prescribe by rule an alternate method for those counties where  
17 the declaration of eligibility is printed in the election  
18 register.

19 Sec. 5. Section 49.81, subsection 5, paragraph a, Code 2019,  
20 is amended by adding the following new subparagraph:

21 NEW SUBPARAGRAPH. (3) A participant in the address  
22 confidentiality program established pursuant to chapter 9E  
23 shall provide the participant's designated address, as defined  
24 in section 9E.2, on the envelope in lieu of the participant's  
25 address.

26 Sec. 6. Section 53.10, subsection 2, Code 2019, is amended  
27 by adding the following new paragraph:

28 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* A participant in the address  
29 confidentiality program established pursuant to chapter 9E  
30 shall provide on the application for an absentee ballot the  
31 participant's designated address, as defined in section 9E.2,  
32 in lieu of the program participant's residential address and  
33 furnish the certification document issued pursuant to section  
34 9E.3, subsection 3, to the commissioner prior to receiving a  
35 ballot.

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EXPLANATION

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

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4 This bill relates to voting by persons participating in the  
5 Iowa address confidentiality program, also known as the safe  
6 at home program. Under current law, a person participating in  
7 the address confidentiality program who wishes to vote must  
8 vote absentee by mail. The bill allows such a person to vote  
9 in-person absentee at the office of the county commissioner  
10 of elections or on election day by furnishing proof of the  
11 participant's participation in the program, which shall be  
12 provided by the state commissioner of elections, and providing  
13 the designated address assigned by the secretary of state in  
14 lieu of the participant's residential address. The bill also  
15 allows a participant to furnish the designated address on an  
16 application for an absentee ballot at the office of the county  
17 commissioner of elections and on an envelope containing a  
18 provisional ballot. The bill instructs the state commissioner  
19 of elections to adopt rules for the addition of program  
20 participants to the appropriate election registers at the  
21 request of the program participants.