

SENATE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 812
AN ACT

To repeal sections 115.277, 115.283, 115.285, 115.291, 115.302, 115.652, and 116.160, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof six new sections relating to elections.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 115.277, 115.283, 115.285, 115.291, 2 115.302, 115.652, and 116.160, RSMo, are repealed and six new 3 sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 4 115.277, 115.283, 115.285, 115.291, 115.652, and 116.160, to 5 read as follows:

115.277. 1. Except as provided in subsections 2, 3, 2 4, and 5 of this section, any registered voter of this state 3 may vote by absentee ballot for all candidates and issues 4 for which such voter would be eligible to vote at the 5 polling place if such voter expects to be prevented from 6 going to the polls to vote on election day due to:

7 (1) Absence on election day from the jurisdiction of 8 the election authority in which such voter is registered to 9 vote;

10 (2) Incapacity or confinement due to illness or 11 physical disability, including a person who is primarily 12 responsible for the physical care of a person who is 13 incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;

14 (3) Religious belief or practice;

15 (4) Employment as an election authority, as a member 16 of an election authority, or by an election authority at a 17 location other than such voter's polling place;

18 (5) Incarceration, provided all qualifications for 19 voting are retained; or

20 (6) Certified participation in the address
21 confidentiality program established under sections 589.660
22 to 589.681 because of safety concerns[; or

23 (7) For an election that occurs during the year 2020,
24 the voter has contracted or is in an at-risk category for
25 contracting or transmitting severe acute respiratory
26 syndrome coronavirus 2. This subdivision shall expire on
27 December 31, 2020].

28 2. Any covered voter who is eligible to register and
29 vote in this state may vote in any election for federal
30 office, statewide office, state legislative office, or
31 statewide ballot initiatives by submitting a federal
32 postcard application to apply to vote by absentee ballot or
33 by submitting a federal postcard application at the polling
34 place even though the person is not registered. A federal
35 postcard application submitted by a covered voter pursuant
36 to this subsection shall also serve as a voter registration
37 application under section 115.908 and the election authority
38 shall, if satisfied that the applicant is entitled to
39 register, place the voter's name on the voter registration
40 file. Each covered voter may vote by absentee ballot or,
41 upon submitting an affidavit that the person is qualified to
42 vote in the election, may vote at the person's polling place.

43 3. Any interstate former resident may vote by absentee
44 ballot for presidential and vice presidential electors.

45 4. Any intrastate new resident may vote by absentee
46 ballot at the election for presidential and vice
47 presidential electors, United States senator, representative
48 in Congress, statewide elected officials and statewide
49 questions, propositions and amendments from such resident's
50 new jurisdiction of residence after registering to vote in
51 such resident's new jurisdiction of residence.

52 5. Any new resident may vote by absentee ballot for
53 presidential and vice presidential electors after
54 registering to vote in such resident's new jurisdiction of
55 residence.

56 [6. For purposes of this section, the voters who are
57 in an at-risk category for contracting or transmitting
58 severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 are voters
59 who:

60 (1) Are sixty-five years of age or older;

61 (2) Live in a long-term care facility licensed under
62 chapter 198;

63 (3) Have chronic lung disease or moderate to severe
64 asthma;

65 (4) Have serious heart conditions;

66 (5) Are immunocompromised;

67 (6) Have diabetes;

68 (7) Have chronic kidney disease and are undergoing
69 dialysis; or

70 (8) Have liver disease.]

115.283. 1. Each ballot envelope shall bear a
2 statement on which the voter shall state the voter's name,
3 the voter's voting address, the voter's mailing address and
4 the voter's reason for voting an absentee ballot. If the
5 reason for the voter voting absentee is due to the reasons
6 established under subdivision (6) of subsection 1 of section
7 115.277, the voter shall state the voter's identification
8 information provided by the address confidentiality program
9 in lieu of the applicant's name, voting address, and mailing
10 address. On the form, the voter shall also state under
11 penalties of perjury that the voter is qualified to vote in
12 the election, that the voter has not previously voted and
13 will not vote again in the election, that the voter has
14 personally marked the voter's ballot in secret or supervised

15 the marking of the voter's ballot if the voter is unable to
16 mark it, that the ballot has been placed in the ballot
17 envelope and sealed by the voter or under the voter's
18 supervision if the voter is unable to seal it, and that all
19 information contained in the statement is true. In
20 addition, any person providing assistance to the absentee
21 voter shall include a statement on the envelope identifying
22 the person providing assistance under penalties of perjury.
23 Persons authorized to vote only for federal and statewide
24 officers shall also state their former Missouri residence.

25 2. The statement for persons voting absentee ballots
26 who are registered voters shall be in substantially the
27 following form:

28 State of Missouri

29 County (City) of _____

30 I, _____ (print name), a registered voter of
31 _____ County (City of St. Louis, Kansas City),
32 declare under the penalties of perjury that I
33 expect to be prevented from going to the polls on
34 election day due to (check one):

35 _____ absence on election day from the
36 jurisdiction of the election authority in
37 which I am registered;

38 _____ incapacity or confinement due to illness
39 or physical disability, including caring
40 for a person who is incapacitated or
41 confined due to illness or disability;

42 _____ religious belief or practice;

43 _____ employment as an election authority or by
44 an election authority at a location other
45 than my polling place;

46 _____ incarceration, although I have retained
47 all the necessary qualifications for
48 voting;

49 _____ certified participation in the address
50 confidentiality program established under

51 sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of
52 safety concerns.

53 I hereby state under penalties of perjury that I am
54 qualified to vote at this election; I have not
55 voted and will not vote other than by this ballot
56 at this election. I further state that I marked the
57 enclosed ballot in secret or that I am blind,
58 unable to read or write English, or physically
59 incapable of marking the ballot, and the person of
60 my choosing indicated below marked the ballot at my
61 direction; all of the information on this statement
62 is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true.

63
64

65	_____	_____
	Signature of Voter	Signature of Person
66		Assisting Voter
67		(if applicable)
68	Signed _____	Subscribed and sworn
69	Signed _____	to before me this
70	Address of Voter	_____ day of _____,
71		_____
72	_____	_____
73	_____	_____
74	Mailing addresses	Signature of notary or
75	(if different)	other officer
76		authorized to
77		administer oaths

78 3. The statement for persons voting absentee ballots
79 pursuant to the provisions of subsection 2, 3, 4, or 5 of
80 section 115.277 without being registered shall be in
81 substantially the following form:

82 State of Missouri
83 County (City) of _____

84 I, _____ (print name), declare under the penalties
85 of perjury that I am a citizen of the United States
86 and eighteen years of age or older. I am not
87 adjudged incapacitated by any court of law, and if
88 I have been convicted of a felony or of a
89 misdemeanor connected with the right of suffrage, I
90 have had the voting disabilities resulting from
91 such conviction removed pursuant to law. I hereby
92 state under penalties of perjury that I am
93 qualified to vote at this election.

94 I am (check one):

95 _____ a resident of the state of Missouri and a
96 registered voter in _____ County and
97 moved from that county to _____ County,
98 Missouri, after the last day to register
99 to vote in this election.

100 _____ an interstate former resident of Missouri
101 and authorized to vote for presidential
102 and vice presidential electors.

103 I further state under penalties of perjury that I
104 have not voted and will not vote other than by this
105 ballot at this election; I marked the enclosed
106 ballot in secret or am blind, unable to read or
107 write English, or physically incapable of marking
108 the ballot, and the person of my choosing indicated
109 below marked the ballot at my direction; all of the
110 information on this statement is, to the best of my
111 knowledge and belief, true.

112 _____	Subscribed to and
113 Signature of Voter	sworn before me this
114 _____	_____ day of
115 _____	_____, _____
116 _____	_____
117 _____	_____
118 Address of Voter	Signature of notary or
119 _____	other officer
120 _____	authorized to
121 _____	administer oaths

122 _____

123 Mailing Address (if _____

124 different) _____

125 _____

126 _____

127 Signature of Person Address of Last

128 Assisting Voter Missouri Residence

129 (if applicable)

130 4. The statement for persons voting absentee ballots

131 who are entitled to vote at the election pursuant to the

132 provisions of subsection 2 of section 115.137 shall be in

133 substantially the following form:

134 State of Missouri

135 County (City) of _____

136 I, _____ (print name), declare under the penalties

137 of perjury that I expect to be prevented from going

138 to the polls on election day due to (check one):

139 _____

140 absence on election day from the

141 jurisdiction of the election authority in

142 which I am directed to vote;

143 _____

144 incapacity or confinement due to illness

145 or physical disability, including caring

146 for a person who is incapacitated or

confined due to illness or disability;

147 _____

religious belief or practice;

148 _____

149 employment as an election authority or by

150 an election authority at a location other

than my polling place;

151 _____

152 incarceration, although I have retained

153 all the necessary qualifications of

voting;

154 _____

155 certified participation in the address

confidentiality program established under

156 sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of
157 safety concerns.

158 I hereby state under penalties of perjury that I
159 own property in the _____ district and am
160 qualified to vote at this election; I have not
161 voted and will not vote other than by this ballot
162 at this election. I further state that I marked the
163 enclosed ballot in secret or that I am blind,
164 unable to read and write English, or physically
165 incapable of marking the ballot, and the person of
166 my choosing indicated below marked the ballot at my
167 direction; all of the information on this statement
168 is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true.

169 _____
170 Signature of Voter Subscribed and sworn
171 to before me this
172 _____ day of
173 _____, _____

174 _____
175 _____
176 Address Signature of notary or
177 other officer
178 authorized to
179 administer oaths

180 _____
181 Signature of Person
182 Assisting Voter
183 (if applicable)

184 5. The statement for persons providing assistance to
185 absentee voters shall be in substantially the following form:

186 The voter needed assistance in marking the ballot
187 and signing above, because of blindness, other
188 physical disability, or inability to read or to
189 read English. I marked the ballot enclosed in this
190 envelope at the voter's direction, when I was

191 alone with the voter, and I had no other
192 communication with the voter as to how he or she
193 was to vote. The voter swore or affirmed the voter
194 affidavit above and I then signed the voter's name
195 and completed the other voter information above.
196 Signed under the penalties of perjury.

197 Reason why voter needed assistance: _____

198 ASSISTING PERSON SIGN HERE

- 199 1. _____ (signature of assisting person)
- 200 2. _____ (assisting person's name printed)
- 201 3. _____ (assisting person's residence)
- 202 4. _____ (assisting person's home city or town).

203 6. [The election authority shall, for an election held
204 during 2020, adjust the forms described in this section to
205 account for voters voting absentee due to the reason
206 established pursuant to subdivision (7) of subsection 1 of
207 section 115.277.

208 [7.] Notwithstanding any other provision of this
209 section, any covered voter as defined in section 115.902 or
210 persons who have declared themselves to be permanently
211 disabled pursuant to section 115.284, otherwise entitled to
212 vote, shall not be required to obtain a notary seal or
213 signature on his or her absentee ballot.

214 [8.] 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of this
215 section or section 115.291 to the contrary, the
216 subscription, signature and seal of a notary or other
217 officer authorized to administer oaths shall not be required
218 on any ballot, ballot envelope, or statement required by
219 this section if the reason for the voter voting absentee is
220 due to the reasons established pursuant to subdivision (2)
221 [or (7)] of subsection 1 of section 115.277.

222 [9.] 8. No notary shall charge or collect a fee for
223 notarizing the signature on any absentee ballot or absentee
224 voter registration.

225 [10.] 9. A notary public who charges more than the
226 maximum fee specified or who charges or collects a fee for
227 notarizing the signature on any absentee ballot or absentee
228 voter registration is guilty of official misconduct.

115.285. The secretary of state may prescribe uniform
2 regulations with respect to the printing of ballot envelopes
3 and mailing envelopes, which shall comply with standards
4 established by federal law or postal regulations. Mailing
5 envelopes for use in returning ballots shall be printed with
6 business reply permits so that any ballot returned by mail
7 does not require postage. All fees and costs for
8 establishing and maintaining the business reply and postage-
9 free mail for all ballots cast shall be paid by the
10 secretary of state through state appropriations.

11 [Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a
12 ballot envelope used under section 115.302 shall be the same
13 ballot envelope used for absentee ballots, provided an
14 option shall be listed on the envelope to clearly indicate
15 whether the voter is casting an absentee ballot or a mail-in
16 ballot.]

115.291. 1. Upon receiving an absentee ballot by
2 mail, the voter shall mark the ballot in secret, place the
3 ballot in the ballot envelope, seal the envelope and fill
4 out the statement on the ballot envelope. The affidavit of
5 each person voting an absentee ballot shall be subscribed
6 and sworn to before the election official receiving the
7 ballot, a notary public or other officer authorized by law
8 to administer oaths, unless the voter is voting absentee due
9 to incapacity or confinement due to the provisions of
10 section 115.284, illness or physical disability, [for an

11 election that occurs during the year 2020, the voter has
12 contracted or is in an at-risk category for contracting or
13 transmitting severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus
14 2, as defined in section 115.277,] or the voter is a covered
15 voter as defined in section 115.902. If the voter is blind,
16 unable to read or write the English language, or physically
17 incapable of voting the ballot, the voter may be assisted by
18 a person of the voter's own choosing. Any person assisting
19 a voter who is not entitled to such assistance, and any
20 person who assists a voter and in any manner coerces or
21 initiates a request or a suggestion that the voter vote for
22 or against or refrain from voting on any question, ticket or
23 candidate, shall be guilty of a class one election offense.
24 If, upon counting, challenge or election contest, it is
25 ascertained that any absentee ballot was voted with unlawful
26 assistance, the ballot shall be rejected. [For purposes of
27 this subsection, the voters who are in an at-risk category
28 for contracting or transmitting severe acute respiratory
29 syndrome coronavirus 2 are voters who:

- 30 (1) Sixty-five years of age or older;
- 31 (2) Live in a long-term care facility licensed under
32 chapter 198;
- 33 (3) Have chronic lung disease or moderate to severe
34 asthma;
- 35 (4) Have serious heart conditions;
- 36 (5) Are immunocompromised;
- 37 (6) Have diabetes;
- 38 (7) Have chronic kidney disease and are undergoing
39 dialysis; or
- 40 (8) Have liver disease.]

41 2. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section,
42 each absentee ballot that is not cast by the voter in person
43 in the office of the election authority shall be returned to

44 the election authority in the ballot envelope and shall only
45 be returned by the voter in person, or in person by a
46 relative of the voter who is within the second degree of
47 consanguinity or affinity, by mail or registered carrier or
48 by a team of deputy election authorities; except that
49 covered voters, when sent from a location determined by the
50 secretary of state to be inaccessible on election day, shall
51 be allowed to return their absentee ballots cast by use of
52 facsimile transmission or under a program approved by the
53 Department of Defense for electronic transmission of
54 election materials.

55 3. In cases of an emergency declared by the President
56 of the United States or the governor of this state where the
57 conduct of an election may be affected, the secretary of
58 state may provide for the delivery and return of absentee
59 ballots by use of a facsimile transmission device or
60 system. Any rule promulgated pursuant to this subsection
61 shall apply to a class or classes of voters as provided for
62 by the secretary of state.

63 4. No election authority shall refuse to accept and
64 process any otherwise valid marked absentee ballot submitted
65 in any manner by a covered voter solely on the basis of
66 restrictions on envelope type.

115.652. **[1.]** An election shall not be conducted
2 under sections 115.650 to 115.660 unless:

3 (1) The officer or agency calling the election submits
4 a written request that the election be conducted by mail.
5 Such request shall be submitted not later than the date
6 specified in section 115.125 for submission of the notice of
7 election and sample ballot;

8 (2) The election authority responsible for conducting
9 the election authorizes the use of mailed ballots for the
10 election;

- 11 (3) The election is nonpartisan;
- 12 (4) The election is not one at which any candidate is
13 elected, retained or recalled; and
- 14 (5) The election is an issue election at which all of
15 the qualified voters of any one political subdivision are
16 the only voters eligible to vote.

17 [2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 1 of
18 this section or any other provision of law to the contrary,
19 an election may be conducted by mail as authorized under
20 section 115.302, during the year 2020, to avoid the risk of
21 contracting or transmitting severe acute respiratory
22 syndrome coronavirus 2. This subsection shall expire
23 December 31, 2020.]

116.160. 1. If the general assembly adopts a joint
2 resolution proposing a constitutional amendment or a bill
3 without a fiscal note summary, which is to be referred to a
4 vote of the people, after receipt of such resolution or bill
5 the secretary of state shall promptly forward the resolution
6 or bill to the state auditor. If the general assembly
7 adopts a joint resolution proposing a constitutional
8 amendment or a bill without an official summary statement,
9 which is to be referred to a vote of the people, within
10 twenty days after receipt of the resolution or bill, the
11 secretary of state shall prepare and transmit to the
12 attorney general a summary statement of the measure as the
13 proposed summary statement. The secretary of state may seek
14 the advice of the legislator who introduced the
15 constitutional amendment or bill and the speaker of the
16 house or the president pro tem of the legislative chamber
17 that originated the measure. The summary statement may be
18 distinct from the legislative title of the proposed
19 constitutional amendment or bill. The attorney general
20 shall within ten days approve the legal content and form of

21 the proposed statement. If the general assembly adopts a
22 joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment or
23 statutory measure that includes an official summary
24 statement, the statement shall appear on the ballot, and no
25 court shall have the authority to rewrite or edit the
26 summary statement or ballot language.

27 2. The official summary statement shall contain no
28 more than fifty words, excluding articles. The title shall
29 be a true and impartial statement of the purposes of the
30 proposed measure in language neither intentionally
31 argumentative nor likely to create prejudice either for or
32 against the proposed measure.

2 [115.302. 1. Any registered voter of this
3 state may cast a mail-in ballot as provided in
4 this section. Nothing in this section shall
5 prevent a voter from casting an absentee ballot,
6 provided such person has not cast a ballot
7 pursuant to this section. Application for a
8 mail-in ballot may be made by the applicant in
9 person, or by United States mail, or on behalf
10 of the applicant by his or her guardian or
11 relative within the second degree of
12 consanguinity or affinity.

13 2. Each application for a mail-in ballot
14 shall be made to the election authority of the
15 jurisdiction in which the person is registered.
16 Each application shall be in writing and shall
17 state the applicant's name, address at which he
18 or she is registered, the address to which the
19 ballot is to be mailed.

20 3. All applications for mail-in ballots
21 received prior to the sixth Tuesday before an
22 election shall be stored at the office of the
23 election authority until such time as the
24 applications are processed under section
25 115.281. No application for a mail-in ballot
26 received in the office of the election authority
27 after 5:00 p.m. on the second Wednesday
28 immediately prior to the election shall be
29 accepted by any election authority.

30 4. Each application for a mail-in ballot
31 shall be signed by the applicant or, if the
32 application is made by a guardian or relative
33 under this section, the application shall be
34 signed by the guardian or relative, who shall
35 note on the application his or her relationship
36 to the applicant. If an applicant, guardian, or
37 relative is blind, unable to read or write the
38 English language, or physically incapable of
signing the application, he or she shall sign by

39 mark that is witnessed by the signature of an
40 election official or person of his or her
41 choice. Knowingly making, delivering, or
42 mailing a fraudulent mail-in-ballot application
43 is a class one election offense.

44 5. Not later than the sixth Tuesday prior
45 to each election, or within fourteen days after
46 candidate names or questions are certified under
47 section 115.125, the election authority shall
48 cause to have printed and made available a
49 sufficient quantity of ballots, ballot
50 envelopes, and mailing envelopes. As soon as
51 possible after a proper official calls a special
52 state or county election, the election authority
53 shall cause to have printed and made available a
54 sufficient quantity of mail-in ballots, ballot
55 envelopes, and mailing envelopes.

56 6. Each ballot envelope shall bear a
57 statement in substantially the same form
58 described in subsection 9 of this section. In
59 addition, any person providing assistance to the
60 mail-in voter shall include a signature on the
61 envelope identifying the person providing such
62 assistance under penalties of perjury. Persons
63 authorized to vote only for federal and
64 statewide offices shall also state their former
65 Missouri residence.

66 7. The statement for persons voting mail-
67 in ballots who are registered voters shall be in
68 substantially the following form:

69 State of Missouri

70 County (City) of _____

71 I, _____ (print name), a registered
72 voter of _____ County (City of St.
73 Louis, Kansas City), declare under the
74 penalties of perjury that: I am qualified
75 to vote at this election; I have not voted
76 and will not vote other than by this ballot
77 at this election. I further state that I
78 marked the enclosed ballot in secret or that
79 I am blind, unable to read or write English,
80 or physically incapable of marking the
81 ballot, and the person of my choosing
82 indicated below marked the ballot at my
83 direction; all of the information on this
84 statement is, to the best of my knowledge
and belief, true.

85 _____
86 Signature of Voter Signature of Person
87 Assisting Voter
88 (if applicable)

89 Subscribed and sworn to before me this
90 _____ day of _____, _____.

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Signature of notary or other officer
authorized to administer oaths.

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Mailing addresses

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(if different)

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8. Upon receipt of a signed application for a mail-in ballot and if satisfied that the applicant is entitled to vote by mail-in ballot, the election authority shall, within three working days after receiving the application, or, if mail-in ballots are not available at the time the application is received, within five working days after such ballots become available, deliver to the voter a mail-in ballot, ballot envelope and such instructions as are necessary for the applicant to vote. If the election authority is not satisfied that any applicant is entitled to vote by mail-in ballot, the authority shall not deliver a mail-in ballot to the applicant. Within three working days of receiving such an application, the election authority shall notify the applicant and state the reason he or she is not entitled to vote by mail-in ballot. The applicant may file a complaint with the elections division of the secretary of state's office under section 115.219.

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9. On the mailing and ballot envelopes for each covered voter, the election authority shall stamp the words "ELECTION BALLOT, STATE OF MISSOURI" and "U.S. Postage Paid, 39 U.S.C. Section 3406".

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10. No information which encourages a vote for or against a candidate or issue shall be provided to any voter with a mail-in ballot.

11. Upon receiving a mail-in ballot by mail, the voter shall mark the ballot in secret, place the ballot in the ballot envelope, seal the envelope and fill out the statement on the ballot envelope. The statement required under subsection 7 of this section shall be subscribed and sworn to before a notary public or other officer authorized by law to administer oaths. If the voter is blind, unable to read or write the English language, or physically incapable of voting the ballot, the voter may be assisted by a person of the voter's own choosing. Any person who assists a voter and in any manner coerces or initiates a request or suggestion that the voter vote for or against, or refrain from voting on, any question or candidate, shall

144 be guilty of a class one election offense. If,
145 upon counting, challenge, or election contest,
146 it is ascertained that any mail-in ballot was
147 voted with unlawful assistance, the ballot shall
148 be rejected.

149 12. Each mail-in ballot shall be returned
150 to the election authority in the ballot envelope
151 and shall only be returned by the voter by
152 United States mail.

153 13. The secretary of state may prescribe
154 uniform regulations with respect to the printing
155 of ballot envelopes and mailing envelopes, which
156 shall comply with standards established by
157 federal law or postal regulations. Mailing
158 envelopes for use in returning ballots shall be
159 printed with business reply permits so that any
160 ballot returned by mail does not require
161 postage. All fees and costs for establishing
162 and maintaining the business reply and postage-
163 free mail for all ballots cast shall be paid by
164 the secretary of state through state
165 appropriations.

166 14. All votes on each mail-in ballot
167 received by an election authority at or before
168 the time fixed by law for the closing of the
169 polls on election day shall be counted. No
170 votes on any mail-in ballot received by an
171 election authority after the time fixed by law
172 for the closing of the polls on election day
173 shall be counted.

174 15. If sufficient evidence is shown to an
175 election authority that any mail-in voter has
176 died prior to the opening of the polls on
177 election day, the ballot of the deceased voter
178 shall be rejected if it is still sealed in the
179 ballot envelope. Any such rejected ballot,
180 still sealed in its ballot envelope, shall be
181 sealed with the application and any other papers
182 connected therewith in an envelope marked
183 "Rejected ballot of _____, a mail-in voter
184 of _____ voting district". The reason for
185 rejection shall be noted on the envelope, which
186 shall be kept by the election authority with the
187 other ballots from the election until the
188 ballots are destroyed according to law.

189 16. As each mail-in ballot is received by
190 the election authority, the election authority
191 shall indicate its receipt on the list.

192 17. All mail-in ballot envelopes received
193 by the election authority shall be kept together
194 in a safe place and shall not be opened except
195 as provided under this chapter.

196 18. Mail-in ballots shall be counted using
197 the procedures set out in sections 115.297,
198 115.299, 115.300, and 115.303.

199 19. The false execution of a mail-in
200 ballot is a class one election offense. The
201 attorney general or any prosecuting or circuit
202 attorney shall have the authority to prosecute

203 such offense either in the county of residence
204 of the person or in the circuit court of Cole
205 County.
206 20. The provisions of this section shall
207 apply only to an election that occurs during the
208 year 2020, to avoid the risk of contracting or
209 transmitting severe acute respiratory syndrome
210 coronavirus 2.
211 21. The provisions of this section
212 terminate and shall be repealed on December 31,
213 2020, and shall not apply to any election
214 conducted after that date.]