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**HOUSE BILL NO. 1947**

Offered January 11, 2023

Prefiled January 10, 2023

A *BILL to amend and reenact § 24.2-703.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to absentee voting; annual absentee voter list.*

Patron—Bloxom

Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 24.2-703.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

**§ 24.2-703.1. Annual absentee voter list.**

A. Any registered voter shall be eligible to file a special *annual* application to receive absentee ballots for all elections in which he is eligible to vote *in a calendar year*. Such application shall be on a form approved by the State Board *and shall require, at a minimum, the voter's printed name and date of birth and the last four digits of his social security number*. The absentee ballots sent to a voter on the ~~permanent~~ *annual* absentee voter list shall be sent to the address in the voter's registration record, except as provided in subdivision C 1.

B. In accordance with procedures established by the State Board, the general registrar shall retain the application, enroll the applicant on a ~~permanent~~ *the annual* absentee voter list, and process the applicant's request for an absentee ballot for each succeeding election *in the calendar year*. The applicant shall specify by party designation the primary ballots he is requesting.

*The general registrar shall send to each voter enrolled on the annual absentee voter list a blank application by December 15 for each ensuing calendar year, and, upon the filing and acceptance thereof, the applicant shall be eligible to receive ballots for all elections in which he is eligible to vote in that calendar year.*

C. The State Board shall prescribe the process by which a voter on the ~~permanent~~ *annual* absentee voter list may:

1. Request that his absentee ballot for (i) a single election or (ii) a primary election and the following general election be sent to an address other than the address on his voter registration record.

2. Request a primary ballot for a political party other than the one he specified on his application for ~~permanent~~ *annual* absentee voter status for a single primary election.

3. Change his political party selection for all succeeding primary elections.

D. A voter shall be removed from the ~~permanent~~ *annual* absentee voter list if (i) the voter requests in writing to be removed from the list, (ii) the voter's registration is canceled pursuant to § 24.2-427, (iii) the voter's registration is placed on inactive status pursuant to § 24.2-428 or 24.2-428.1, or (iv) the voter moves to a different address not in the same county or city of his registration, *and no ballot for any subsequent election shall be sent to the voter until a new application is filed and accepted.*

INTRODUCED

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