2011 SESSION

ENROLLED

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY - CHAPTER

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 24.2-442, 24.2-443.3, 24.2-612, 24.2-643, 24.2-701, 24.2-702.1, 2 3 24.2-703, and 24.2-706 of the Code of Virginia, relating to elections; absentee voting by members of 4 uniformed services and overseas citizens; identification for certain first-time voters.

5 6

7

1

Approved

[S 886]

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 24.2-442, 24.2-443.3, 24.2-612, 24.2-643, 24.2-701, 24.2-702.1, 24.2-703, and 24.2-706 of 8 9 the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows: 10

§ 24.2-442. When registration permitted; lapse of registration.

11 Registration under this article shall be permitted until the registration records are closed pursuant to 12 § 24.2-416 and shall be valid for all elections for which the voter is eligible through the end of the 13 federal election cycle in which the voter submits his application or for 365 days either the next November general election or federal general election, whichever is longer later. After such period, 14 15 registration under this article shall no longer be valid. If an official reply to the application or an absentee ballot sent to the applicant is returned as undeliverable, no other ballots for subsequent 16 17 elections shall be sent under that application. No ballot shall be sent to the applicant, and no voted ballot received from the applicant shall be valid, (i) for any election held after the voter has notified the 18 19 registrar that the voter no longer wishes to be registered or (ii) after the registrar has received 20 notification that the voter has registered to vote in another state. 21

§ 24.2-443.3. When registration permitted.

22 Registration under this article shall be permitted until the registration records are closed pursuant to 23 § 24.2-416 and shall be valid for all elections for which the voter is eligible through the end of the 24 federal election cycle in which the voter submits his application or for 365 days either the next 25 November general election or federal general election, whichever is longer later. If an official reply to 26 the application or an absentee ballot sent to the applicant is returned as undeliverable, no other ballots 27 for subsequent elections shall be sent under that application. No ballot shall be sent to the applicant, and 28 no voted ballot received from the applicant shall be valid, (i) for any election held after the voter has 29 notified the registrar that the voter no longer wishes to be registered or (ii) after the registrar has 30 received notification that the voter has registered to vote in another state.

31 § 24.2-612. List of offices and candidates filed with State Board and checked for accuracy; when 32 ballots printed; number required.

33 Immediately after the expiration of the time provided by law for a candidate for any office to qualify 34 to have his name printed on the official ballot and prior to printing the ballots for an election, each 35 electoral board shall forward to the State Board a list of the county, city, or town offices to be filled at the election and the names of all candidates who have filed for each office. In addition, each electoral 36 37 board shall forward the name of any candidate who failed to qualify with the reason for his 38 disqualification. The State Board shall promptly advise the electoral board of the accuracy of the list. 39 The failure of any electoral board to send the list to the State Board for verification shall not invalidate 40 any election.

41 Each electoral board shall have printed the number of ballots it determines will be sufficient to 42 conduct the election.

43 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this title, the State Board may print or otherwise provide (i) one statewide paper ballot style for each paper ballot style in use for presidential and vice-presidential 44 45 electors for use only by persons eligible to vote for those offices only under § 24.2-402 or clause (iii) or (v) of subsection B of § 24.2-416.1, (ii) one statewide paper ballot style for each paper ballot style in 46 use for Governor, Lieutenant Governor or Attorney General only for use as the early absentee ballot 47 specified in § 24.2-702, and (iii) single paper ballot styles for each ballot style in use for each 48 congressional district for federal offices for use only by overseas voters eligible to vote in federal 49 50 elections only pursuant to Article 7 (§ 24.2-440 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of this title. The State Board may apportion or authorize the printer or vendor to apportion the costs for these ballots among the localities 51 based on the number of ballots ordered. Any printer employed by the State Board shall execute the 52 53 statement required by § 24.2-616. The State Board shall designate a representative to be present at the 54 printing of such ballots and deliver them to the appropriate electoral boards pursuant to § 24.2-617. 55 Upon receipt of such paper ballots, the electoral board shall affix its seal. Thereafter, such ballots shall 56 be handled and accounted for, and the votes counted as the State Board shall specifically direct.

ENROLLED

SB886ER

57 The electoral board shall make printed ballots available for absentee voting not later than 45 days 58 prior to any election or within three business days of the receipt of a properly completed absentee ballot 59 application, whichever is later. In the case of a special election, excluding for federal offices, if time is 60 insufficient to meet the applicable deadline established herein, then the electoral board shall make printed ballots available as soon after the deadline as possible. For the purposes of this chapter, making 61 62 printed ballots available includes mailing of such ballots or electronic transmission of such ballots pursuant to § 24.2-706 to a qualified absentee voter who is eligible for an absentee ballot under 63 64 subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700. Not later than five days after absentee ballots are made available, each 65 electoral board shall report to the State Board, in writing on a form approved by the State Board, 66 whether it has complied with the applicable deadline.

67 Only the names of candidates for offices to be voted on in a particular election district shall be 68 printed on the ballots for that election district.

69 The electoral boards shall send to the State Board a statement of the number of paper ballots ordered 70 to be printed, proofs of each paper and voting equipment ballot for verification, and copies of each final 71 ballot. If the State Board finds that, in its opinion, the number of ballots ordered to be printed by any 72 local electoral board is not sufficient, it may direct the local board to order the printing of a reasonable 73 number of additional ballots. 74

§ 24.2-643. Qualified voter permitted to vote; procedures at polling place; voter identification.

75 A. After the polls are open, each qualified voter at a precinct shall be permitted to vote. The officers 76 of election shall ascertain that a person offering to vote is a qualified voter before admitting him to the 77 voting booth and furnishing an official ballot to him.

78 B. An officer of election shall ask the voter for his full name and current residence address and 79 repeat, in a voice audible to party and candidate representatives present, the full name and address stated 80 by the voter. The officer shall ask the voter to present any one of the following forms of identification: his Commonwealth of Virginia voter registration card, his social security card, his valid Virginia driver's 81 license, or any other identification card issued by a government agency of the Commonwealth, one of its 82 political subdivisions, or the United States; or any valid employee identification card containing a 83 84 photograph of the voter and issued by an employer of the voter in the ordinary course of the employer's 85 business.

86 If the voter's name is found on the pollbook, if he presents one of the forms of identification listed 87 above, if he is qualified to vote in the election, and if no objection is made, an officer shall enter, 88 opposite the voter's name on the pollbook, the first or next consecutive number from the voter count 89 form provided by the State Board, or shall enter that the voter has voted if the pollbook is in electronic 90 form; an officer shall provide the voter with the official ballot; and another officer shall admit him to 91 the voting booth. Each voter whose name has been marked on the pollbooks as present to vote and 92 entitled to a ballot shall remain in the presence of the officers of election in the polling place until he 93 has voted. If a line of voters who have been marked on the pollbooks as present to vote forms to await 94 entry to the voting booths, the line shall not be permitted to extend outside of the room containing the 95 voting booths and shall remain under observation by the officers of election.

96 Except as provided in subsection E of this section, if a voter is entitled to vote except that he is 97 unable to present one of the forms of identification listed above, he shall be allowed to vote after 98 signing a statement, subject to felony penalties for false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, that he is 99 the named registered voter who he claims to be. A voter who requires assistance in voting by reason of 100 physical disability or inability to read or write, and who requests assistance pursuant to § 24.2-649, may 101 be assisted in preparation of this statement in accordance with that section. The provisions of § 24.2-649 102 regarding voters who are unable to sign shall be followed when assisting a voter in completing this 103 statement. 104

A voter may be accompanied into the voting booth by his child age 15 or younger.

105 C. If the current residence address stated by the voter is different from the address shown on the 106 pollbook, the officer of election shall furnish the voter with a change of address form prescribed by the 107 State Board. Upon its completion, the voter shall sign the prescribed form, subject to felony penalties 108 for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, which the officer of election shall then place in an 109 envelope provided for such forms for transmission to the general registrar who shall then transfer or 110 cancel the registration of such voter pursuant to Chapter 4 (§ 24.2-400 et seq.) of this title.

D. At the time the voter is asked his full name and current residence address, the officer of election 111 112 shall ask any voter for whom the pollbook indicates that an identification number other than a social 113 security number is recorded on the Virginia voter registration system if he presently has a social security 114 number. If the voter is able to provide his social security number, he shall be furnished with a voter registration form prescribed by the State Board to update his registration information. Upon its 115 completion, the form shall be placed by the officer of election in an envelope provided for such forms 116 for transmission to the general registrar. Any social security numbers so provided shall be entered by the 117

118 general registrar in the voter's record on the voter registration system.

119 E. For federal elections held after January 1, 2004, this subsection shall apply in the case of any 120 voter who is required by subparagraph (b) of 42 U.S.C.S. § 15483 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to show identification the first time the voter votes in a federal election in the state. At such 121 122 election, such voter shall present: (i) a current and valid photo identification; or (ii) a copy of a current 123 utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the 124 name and address of the voter. Such individual who desires to vote in person but who does not show 125 one of the forms of identification specified in this paragraph shall be offered a provisional ballot under 126 the provisions of § 24.2-653. Neither the identification requirements of subsection B of this section, nor the identification requirements of subsection A of § 24.2-653, shall apply to such voter at that election. 127 128 The State Board of Elections shall provide instructions to the electoral boards for the handling and 129 counting of such provisional ballots pursuant to subsection B of § 24.2-653 and this section.

130

§ 24.2-701. Application for absentee ballot. 131 A. The State Board shall furnish each general registrar with a sufficient number of applications for 132 official absentee ballots. The registrars shall furnish applications to persons requesting them.

133 The State Board shall implement a system that enables eligible persons to request and receive an 134 absentee ballot application electronically through the Internet. Electronic absentee ballot applications 135 shall be in a form approved by the State Board.

136 Except as provided in § 24.2-703, a separate application shall be completed for each election in 137 which the applicant offers to vote. An application for an absentee ballot may be accepted the later of (i) 138 12 months before an election, or (ii) the day following any election held in the twelfth month prior to 139 the election in which the applicant is applying to vote.

140 Any application received before the ballots are printed shall be held and processed as soon as the 141 printed ballots for the election are available.

142 For the purposes of this chapter, the general registrar's office shall be open a minimum of eight 143 hours between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the first and second Saturday immediately 144 preceding all general elections, except May general elections held in towns, and on the Saturday 145 immediately preceding any primary election, May general election held in a town, or special election.

146 Unless the applicant is disabled, all applications for absentee ballots shall be signed by the applicant 147 who shall state, subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, that to 148 the best of his knowledge and belief the facts contained in the application are true and correct and that 149 he has not and will not vote in the election at any other place in Virginia or in any other state. If the 150 applicant is unable to sign the application, a person assisting the applicant will note this fact on the 151 applicant signature line and provide his signature, name, and address. 152

B. Applications for absentee ballots shall be completed in the following manner:

153 1. An application completed in person shall be made not less than three days prior to the election in 154 which the applicant offers to vote and completed only in the office of the general registrar. The 155 applicant shall sign the application in the presence of a registrar or a member of the electoral board. The 156 applicant shall provide one of the forms of identification specified in subsection B of § 24.2-643, or if 157 he is unable to present one of the forms of identification listed in that section, he shall sign a statement, 158 subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, that he is the named 159 registered voter who he claims to be. An applicant who requires assistance in voting by reason of 160 disability or inability to read or write may request assistance pursuant to § 24.2-649 and be assisted in preparation of this statement in accordance with that section. The provisions of § 24.2-649 regarding 161 162 persons who are unable to sign shall be followed when assisting an applicant in completing this 163 statement.

164 For federal elections held after January 1, 2004, this paragraph shall apply in the case of any voter who is required by subparagraph (b) of 42 U.S.C.S. § 15483 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to 165 166 show identification the first time that voter votes in a federal election in the state. After completing an application for an absentee ballot in person, such voter shall present: (i) a current and valid photo 167 168 identification; or (ii) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or 169 other government document that shows the name and address of the voter. Such individual who desires 170 to vote in person but who does not show one of the forms of identification specified in this paragraph 171 shall be offered a provisional ballot under the provisions of § 24.2-653. Neither the identification 172 requirements of subsection B of § 24.2-643, nor the identification requirements of subsection A of 173 § 24.2-653, shall apply to such voter at that election. The State Board of Elections shall provide 174 instructions to the electoral boards for the handling and counting of such provisional ballots pursuant to 175 subsection B of § 24.2-653 and this section.

176 2. Any other application may be made by mail, electronic or telephonic transmission to a facsimile device if one is available to the office of the general registrar or the office of the State Board if a 177 device is not available locally, or other means. The application shall be on a form furnished by the 178

4 of 7

179 registrar or, if made under subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700, may be on a Federal Post Card Application 180 prescribed pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff (b) (2). The Federal Post Card Application may be accepted the later of (i) 12 months before an election, or (ii) the day following any election held in the twelfth 181 182 month prior to the election in which the applicant is applying to vote. The application shall be made to 183 the appropriate registrar no later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh day prior to the election in which the 184 applicant offers to vote.

C. Applications for absentee ballots shall contain the following information:

185

186 1. The applicant's printed name, the last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and the 187 reason the applicant will be absent or cannot vote at his polling place on the day of the election;

188 2. A statement that he is registered in the county or city in which he offers to vote and his residence 189 address in such county or city. Any person temporarily residing outside the United States shall provide 190 the last date of residency at his Virginia residence address, if that residence is no longer available to him. Any person who makes application under subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700 who is not a registered voter 191 192 may file the applications to register and for a ballot simultaneously;

3. The complete address to which the ballot is to be sent directly to the applicant, unless the 193 194 application is made in person at a time when the printed ballots for the election are available and the 195 applicant chooses to vote in person at the time of completing his application. The address given shall be 196 (i) the address of the applicant on file in the registration records; (ii) the address at which he will be 197 located while absent from his county or city; or (iii) the address at which he will be located while 198 temporarily confined due to a disability or illness. No ballot shall be sent to, or in care of, any other 199 person; and

200 4. In the case of a person, or the spouse or dependent of a person, who is on active service as a 201 member of the armed forces of the United States or a member of the merchant marine of the United 202 States, the branch of service to which he or the spouse belongs, and his or the spouse's rank, grade, or 203 rate, and service identification number; or

204 5. In the case of a student, or the spouse of a student, who is attending a school or institution of learning, the name and address of the school or institution of learning; or 205

6. In the case of any duly registered person with a disability, as defined in § 24.2-101, who is unable 206 207 to go in person to the polls on the day of the election because of his disability, illness, or pregnancy, 208 the nature of the disability, illness, or pregnancy; or

7. In the case of a person who is confined awaiting trial or for having been convicted of a 209 210 misdemeanor, the name and address of the institution of confinement; or

211 8. In the case of a person who will be absent on election day for business reasons, the name of his 212 employer or business; or

213 9. In the case of a person who will be absent on election day for personal business or vacation 214 reasons, the name of the county or city in Virginia or the state or country to which he is traveling; or

215 10. In the case of a person who is unable to go to the polls on the day of election because he is primarily and personally responsible for the care of an ill or disabled family member who is confined at 216 217 home, the name of the family member and the nature of his illness or disability; or

218 11. In the case of a person who is unable to go to the polls on the day of election because of an 219 obligation occasioned by his religion, his religion and the nature of the obligation; or

220 12. In the case of a person who, in the regular and orderly course of his business, profession, or 221 occupation, will be at his place of work and commuting to and from his home to his place of work for 222 11 or more hours of the 13 hours that the polls are open pursuant to § 24.2-603, the name of his 223 business or employer, address of his place of work, and hours he will be at the workplace and 224 commuting on election day; or

225 13. In the case of a law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 18.2-51.1; firefighter, as defined in 226 65.2-102; volunteer firefighter, as defined in § 27-42; search and rescue personnel, as defined in 227 § 18.2-51.1; or emergency medical services personnel, as defined in § 32.1-111.1, that he is a first 228 responder; or

229 14. In the case of a person who has been designated by a political party, independent candidate, or 230 candidate in a primary election to be a representative of the party or candidate inside a polling place on 231 the day of the election pursuant to subsection C of § 24.2-604 and § 24.2-639, the fact that he is so 232 designated and the name of the party chairman or candidate who designated him. 233

§ 24.2-702.1. Write-in absentee ballots.

234 A. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a qualified absentee voter who is eligible for an 235 absentee ballot under subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700 may use a write-in absentee ballot in any election. 236 Such ballot shall be submitted and processed in the manner provided by the Uniformed and Overseas 237 Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq.) and this article.

238 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, a write-in absentee ballot submitted pursuant to subsection A shall be considered valid for purposes of simultaneously satisfying both an absentee ballot 239

SB886ER

application and a completed absentee ballot, provided that the ballot is received no later than the 240 241 deadline for the return of absentee ballots as provided in § 24.2-709 for the election in which the voter 242 offers to vote, and the application on the envelope contains the following information: (i) the voter's 243 signature; however, if the voter is unable to sign, the person assisting the voter will note this fact in the 244 voter signature box; (ii) the voter's printed name; (iii) the county or city in which he is registered and 245 offers to vote; (iv) the residence address at which he is registered to vote; (v) his current military or 246 overseas address; and (vi) the signature of a witness who shall sign the same envelope application. If 247 the voter is not currently registered in Virginia and is eligible to be, such write-in absentee ballot shall 248 also be considered valid for the purpose of serving as a voter registration application, but such 249 registration shall be valid only for the election for which the write-in ballot was sent.

C. This section shall not be construed to require that an absentee ballot be sent to the absentee voter
on receipt of a write-in absentee ballot unless the voter has also submitted an absentee ballot
application pursuant to § 24.2-701, 24.2-702, or 24.2-703.

253 § 24.2-703. Application for absentee ballots for multiple elections for uniformed and overseas voters. 254 Any person who is eligible for an absentee ballot under subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700, or for 255 temporary registration under Articles Article 7 (§ 24.2-440 et seq.) or 7.1 (§ 24.2-443.1 et seq.) of 256 Chapter 4, may file a single application to receive ballots for all elections in which he is eligible to vote 257 absentee. The application shall be on a Federal Post Card Application. The application from any person 258 who is eligible for an absentee ballot under subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700 that is received by the general 259 registrar no later than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh day prior to the election shall be valid through the end 260 of the federal election evcle in which the voter submits the application or for 365 days either the next 261 November general election or federal general election, whichever is longer later. The application from 262 any person applying for temporary registration under Articles Article 7 or 7.1 of Chapter 4 shall be accepted at any time until the registration records are closed pursuant to § 24.2-416 and shall be valid 263 264 through the end of the federal election cycle in which the voter submits the application or for 365 days 265 either the next November general election or federal general election, whichever is longer later. In the 266 event that a second or subsequent Federal Post Card Application is received from a voter, any previous applications shall be superseded and the duration of the most recently received application shall apply. 267

268 The general registrar shall retain the application and process the applicant's request for an absentee
 269 ballot for each election in accordance with procedures established by the State Board. The applicant
 270 shall specify by party designation the primary ballots he is requesting.

If an official reply to the application or an absentee ballot sent to the applicant is returned as undeliverable, no *other* ballots for subsequent elections shall be sent. No ballot shall be sent to the applicant, and no voted ballot received from the applicant shall be valid, (i) for any election held after the voter has notified the registrar that the voter no longer wishes to be registered or (ii) after the registrar has received notification that the voter has registered to vote in another state.

276 § 24.2-706. Duty of general registrar and electoral board on receipt of application; statement of voter. 277 On receipt of an application for an absentee ballot, the general registrar shall enroll the name and 278 address of each registered applicant on an absentee voter applicant list that shall be maintained in the 279 office of the general registrar with a file of the applications of the listed applicants. The list shall be 280 available for inspection and copying and the applications shall be available for inspection only by any 281 registered voter during regular office hours. Upon request and for a reasonable fee, the State Board of 282 Elections shall provide an electronic copy of the absentee voter applicant list to any political party or 283 candidate. Such list shall be used only for campaign and political purposes. Any list made available for 284 inspection and copying under this section shall contain the post office box address in lieu of the 285 residence street address for any individual who has furnished at the time of registration or subsequently, 286 in addition to his street address, a post office box address pursuant to subsection B of § 24.2-418.

287 No list or application containing an individual's social security number, or any part thereof, or the individual's day and month of birth, shall be made available for inspection or copying by anyone. The State Board of Elections shall prescribe procedures for local electoral boards and general registrars to make the information in the lists and applications available in a manner that does not reveal social security numbers or parts thereof, or an individual's day and month of birth.

The completion and timely delivery of an application for an absentee ballot shall be construed to be an offer by the applicant to vote in the election.

The general registrar shall note on each application received whether the applicant is or is not a registered voter and notify the secretary of the electoral board. In reviewing the application for an absentee ballot, the general registrar and electoral board shall not reject the application of any individual because of an error or omission on any record or paper relating to the application, if such error or omission is not material in determining whether such individual is qualified to vote absentee.

299 If the application has been properly completed and signed and the applicant is a registered voter of 300 the precinct in which he offers to vote, the electoral board shall, at the time when the printed ballots for

6 of 7

301 the election are available, send within three business days of receiving a properly completed application for an absentee ballot to the applicant by mail by the deadline set out in § 24.2-612, obtaining a 302 303 certificate of mailing, or deliver to him in person in the office of the secretary or registrar, the following 304 items and nothing else:

305 1. An envelope containing the folded ballot, sealed and marked "Ballot within. Do not open except 306 in presence of a witness."

307 2. An envelope, with printing only on the flap side, for resealing the marked ballot, on which 308 envelope is printed the following: 309

"Statement of Voter."

310 "I do hereby state, subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, 311 that my FULL NAME is (last, first, middle); that I am now or have been at some time since 312 last November's general election a legal resident of (STATE YOUR LEGAL RESIDENCE IN VIRGINIA including the house number, street name or rural route address, city, zip code); that I 313 314 received the enclosed ballot(s) upon application to the registrar of such county or city; that I opened the envelope marked 'ballot within' and marked the ballot(s) in the presence of the witness, without 315 316 assistance or knowledge on the part of anyone as to the manner in which I marked it (or I am returning 317 the form required to report how I was assisted); that I then sealed the ballot(s) in this envelope; and that 318 I have not voted and will not vote in this election at any other time or place.

- 319 Signature of Voter
- 320 Date

321 Signature of witness "

322 For elections held after January 1, 2004, instead of the envelope containing the above oath, an 323 envelope containing the standard oath prescribed by the presidential designee under \$ 101(b)(7) of the 324 Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq.) shall be sent to 325 voters who are qualified to vote absentee under that Act.

3. A properly addressed envelope for the return of the ballot to the electoral board by mail or by the 326 327 applicant in person.

328 4. Printed instructions for completing the ballot and statement on the envelope and returning the 329 ballot.

330 For federal elections held after January 1, 2004, for any voter who is required by subparagraph (b) of 331 42 U.S.C.S. § 15483 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to show identification the first time the 332 voter votes in a federal election in the state, the printed instructions shall direct the voter to submit with his ballot: (i) a copy of a current and valid photo identification; or (ii) a copy of a current utility bill, 333 334 bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document that shows the name and 335 address of the voter. Such individual who desires to vote by mail but who does not submit one of the 336 forms of identification specified in this paragraph may cast such ballot by mail and the ballot shall be counted as a provisional ballot under the provisions of § 24.2-653. The State Board of Elections shall 337 provide instructions to the electoral boards for the handling and counting of such provisional ballots 338 339 pursuant to subsection B of § 24.2-653 and this section.

5. For any voter entitled to vote absentee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 340 341 Voting Act (42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq.), information provided by the State Board specific to the voting 342 rights and responsibilities for such citizens, or information provided by the registrar specific to the status 343 of the voter registration and absentee ballot application of such voter, may be included. 344

The envelopes and instructions shall be in the form prescribed by the State Board.

If the applicant makes his application to vote in person under § 24.2-701 at a time when the printed 345 346 ballots for the election are available, the general registrar or the secretary of the electoral board, on the 347 determination of the qualifications of the applicant to vote, shall provide to the applicant the items set 348 forth in subdivisions 1 through 4, and no item shall be removed by the applicant from the office of the 349 general registrar or the secretary of the electoral board. On the request of the applicant, made no later 350 than 5:00 p.m. on the seventh day prior to the election in which the applicant offers to vote, the general 351 registrar or the secretary may send the items set forth in subdivisions 1 through 4 to the applicant by 352 mail, obtaining a certificate of mailing.

353 If the applicant states as the reason for his absence on election day any of the reasons set forth in 354 subdivision 2 of § 24.2-700, the electoral board, at the time when the printed ballots for the election are 355 available, shall mail within three business days by the deadline set forth in § 24.2-612 or deliver in 356 person to the applicant in the office of the secretary or general registrar the items as set forth in subdivisions 1 through 4 and, if necessary, an application for registration. A certificate of mailing shall 357 358 not be required. The electoral board, at the time when the printed ballots for the election are available, shall send within three business days by the deadline set forth in § 24.2-612 the blank ballot, the form 359 for the envelope for returning the marked ballot, and instructions to the voter by electronic transmission 360 if the voter so requests. The voted ballot shall be returned to the electoral board as otherwise required 361

362 by this chapter.

363 When the statement prescribed in subdivision 2 has been properly completed and signed by the 364 registered voter and witnessed, his ballot shall not be subject to challenge pursuant to § 24.2-651.

The circuit courts shall have jurisdiction to issue an injunction to enforce the provisions of this section upon the application of (i) any aggrieved voter, (ii) any candidate in an election district in whole or in part in the court's jurisdiction where a violation of this section has occurred, or is likely to occur, or (iii) the campaign committee or the appropriate district political party chairman of such candidate. Any person who fails to discharge his duty as provided in this section through willful neglect of duty and with malicious intent shall be guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor as provided in subsection A of § 24.2-1001.