

## VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

*An Act to amend and reenact § 24.2-419 of the Code of Virginia; to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 24.2-420.1; and to repeal § 24.2-420 of the Code of Virginia, relating to voter registration procedures; absentee registration; and extended time for certain persons to register.*

[H 1635]

Approved

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

**1. That § 24.2-419 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 24.2-420.1, as follows:**

§ 24.2-419. Absentee application for registration.

The following persons are entitled to register by absentee application if they are eligible to be registered and if, by reason of active ~~service~~ *duty* or employment, they are normally absent from the city or county in which they reside:

1. Any member of ~~the armed forces~~ *a uniformed service* of the United States, as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff-6 (7), who is on active ~~service~~ *duty*.

2. Any member of the merchant marine of the United States.

3. Any person who resides temporarily outside of the United States by virtue of his employment.

4. Any spouse or dependent residing with a person listed in subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 of this section.

Notwithstanding the provisions of § 24.2-416, the registration application from a ~~member of the armed forces or merchant marine of the United States, his spouse or dependent person listed in subdivision 1 or 2 of the preceding paragraph, or his spouse or dependent~~ may accompany an application for an absentee ballot and shall be on a form prescribed by the State Board.

§ 24.2-420.1. *Extended time for certain persons to register.*

A. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 24.2-416, the following persons shall be entitled to register in person up to and including the day of the election:

1. Any member of a uniformed service of the United States, as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff-6 (7), who is on active duty;

2. Any member of the merchant marine of the United States;

3. Any person who resides temporarily outside of the United States by virtue of his employment; and

4. Any spouse or dependent residing with a person listed in subdivision 1, 2, or 3 of this subsection.

The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to those persons who are otherwise qualified to register and who, by reason of such active duty or employment, either (i) are normally absent from the city or county in which they reside or (ii) have been absent from such city or county and returned to reside there during the twenty-eight days immediately preceding the election.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 24.2-416, any person who was on active duty as a member of a uniformed service of the United States and discharged from the uniformed service during the sixty days immediately preceding the election, and his spouse or dependent, shall be entitled to register, if otherwise qualified, in person up to and including the day of the election.

C. The State Board shall prescribe procedures for the addition of persons registered under this section to the lists of registered voters.

**2. That § 24.2-420 of the Code of Virginia is repealed.**

ENROLLED

HB1635ER