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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Introduced By: Senators McCaffrey, and Lombardo

Date Introduced: February 28, 2013

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Board of Elections)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 17-20-21 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-20 entitled "Mail
2 Ballots" are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-20-21. Certifying envelopes. --** The secretary of state shall cause to be prepared and
4 printed and shall furnish with each mail ballot an envelope for sealing up and certifying the ballot
5 when returned. The envelope shall be printed in substantially the following form:

6 "After marking ballot or ballots, fold and enclose in this envelope and seal it. Certify to
7 statement hereon. Enclose in envelope addressed to board of elections, which must receive the
8 envelope not later than ~~nine o'clock (9:00)~~ eight o'clock (8:00) p.m. the day of election."

9 Date of Election: _____ City/Town of: _____

10 Certificate of Voter

11 Print Name of Voter

12 I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that I am:

13 I am a United States citizen;

14 I am a resident and qualified voter of the State of Rhode Island;

15 I am eligible to cast a mail ballot under the provisions of section 17-20-2; and

16 I am not qualified to vote elsewhere.

17 Voter must sign full name here:

18 (If unable to sign name because of physical incapacity or otherwise, voter shall make his or her
19 mark "(X)").

1 I hereby attest under penalty of perjury that the enclosed voted ballot was cast, and the signature
2 or mark on this certifying envelope was made by the voter whose name appears on the label
3 above.

4 Before me the _____ day of _____ 20_____, at _____ (city
5 or town), county of _____, state of _____, personally appeared the
6 above named voter, to me known and known by me to be the person who affixed his or her
7 signature to this ballot envelope.

8 _____

9 Notary Public

10 Notary must also print his or her name

11 Witness:

12 _____

13 (Signature) (Residence)

14 Note: Mail ballots must either be sworn to before a notary public or before two (2)
15 witnesses who must sign their names and addresses.

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require that envelopes containing mail ballots be marked with a statement
2 noting, in part, that the board of elections must receive the mail ballot envelope "not later than
3 eight o'clock (8:00) pm the day of the election." The present law is nine o'clock.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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