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HOUSE BILL 290

53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017

INTRODUCED BY

Nathan P. Small and Dennis J. Roch and Sarah Maestas Barnes

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; ESTABLISHING AN ONLINE APPLICATION
PROCESS FOR VOTERS TO REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 1-6-4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969,
Chapter 240, Section 130, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-6-4. ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION.--

A. Application by a voter for an absentee ballot
shall be made only on a paper form or its electronic equivalent
as prescribed by the secretary of state. The form shall
identify the applicant and contain information to establish the
applicant's qualification for issuance of an absentee ballot
under the Absent Voter Act; provided that on the application
form for a general election ballot there shall be no box, space
or place provided for designation of the voter's political

.206079.3SA

underscoring material = new
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1 party affiliation.

2 B. Each application for an absentee ballot shall be
3 signed by the applicant and shall require the applicant's
4 printed name, registration address and year of birth to be
5 supplied by the applicant, which shall constitute the required
6 form of identification, except for new registrants who have
7 registered by mail and at that time did not provide acceptable
8 identification. The secretary of state shall issue rules to
9 exempt voters from submitting identification only as required
10 by federal law and shall review and, if necessary, update these
11 rules no later than March 15 of even-numbered years.

12 C. A person who willfully and with knowledge and
13 intent to deceive or mislead any voter, precinct board,
14 canvassing board, county clerk or other election official and
15 who falsifies any information on an absentee ballot request
16 form or who affixes a signature or mark other than the person's
17 own on an absentee ballot request form is guilty of a fourth
18 degree felony."