HOUSE BILL 444

44TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 1999

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Helen Garcia

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; CHANGING THE NUMBER OF CERTAIN

ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS FOR ABSENTEE-EARLY VOTING.

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

Section 1. Section 1-6A-5 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,

Chapter 37, Section 5, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-6A-5. PROCESSING APPLICATION.--

A. The county clerk shall mark each completed

absentee-early application with the date and time of receipt

in the clerk's office and enter the required information in

the absentee ballot register.

B. If the applicant has no valid affidavit of

registration on file in the county and he is not a federal

qualified elector, he shall not be allowed to vote. The

county clerk shall mark the application "rejected" and file

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1   the application in a separate file from those accepted.

2   C.   If the applicant presents proof of

3   identification and is determined to be a voter or a federal

4   qualified elector, the county clerk shall mark the application

5   "accepted" and deliver a marksense ballot or allow the voter

6   to vote on the direct-recording electronic machine.   Upon

7   acceptance of the application, an appropriate designation

8   shall be made on the absentee register.

9   D.   Absentee-early voting may be done in person

10   during the regular hours of business at the county clerk's

11   office or other locations specified by the county clerk;

12   provided that in class A counties, the county clerk shall

13   establish not less than [four] six alternative locations as

14   satellite polling places, and in class B counties, the county

15   clerk shall establish no less than two alternative locations

16   as satellite polling places.   Absentee-early voting may be

17   done from 8:00 a.m. on the twentieth day preceding the

18   election up until 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior

19   to the date of the election.   In voting absentee-early, the

20   voter may be assisted by one person of the voter's own choice.

21   E.   The secretary of state and county clerk shall

22   make reasonable efforts to publicize and inform voters of the

23   times and locations for absentee-early voting."

- 2 -

.126235.2

FORTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION, 1999

February 9, 1999

Mr. Speaker:

Your **VOTERS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE,** to whom has been referred

HOUSE BILL 444

has had it under consideration and reports same with recommendation that it **DO PASS**, amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 15 strike "shall", insert in lieu thereof "may".

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Respectfully submitted,

_____

Edward C. Sandoval, Chairman

Adopted _____   Not Adopted _____

        (Chief Clerk)   (Chief Clerk)

                    Date _____

The roll call vote was __10__ For __0__ Against

Yes: 10

Excused: Coll, Madalena

Absent: Lutz

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underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

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