

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Authors:** Kalin and others

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**Analyst:** Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

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### Overview

**This bill modifies the procedures for voting by citizens serving in the military or otherwise overseas. In addition to technical changes, the bill permits certain citizens to vote for federal offices if a parent has met the proper residency requirement for voting in Minnesota, and exempts a requirement that return postage be provided with an absentee ballot when the ballot is transmitted to a voter electronically.**

#### Section

- 1 Permanent residence outside United States.** Permits a U.S. citizen living overseas who has never resided in the United States to vote for President, Vice-President, and U.S. House and Senate offices, if one of the citizen's parents maintained residence in Minnesota for a least 20 days immediately prior to their departure from the country.

Citizens voting under this section would be required to vote using the same procedures established in current law for uniformed and overseas citizens.

- 2 Application for UOCAVA ballot.** Permits a uniformed or overseas voter to request an absentee ballot by submitting an application via email attachment.

A reference requiring the secretary of state to ensure that email-related security concerns are adequately addressed is removed because this determination has been made.

This section also eliminates an allowance for a person to use their Social Security number as their military identification number.

- 3 Mailing of ballots.** Provides an exemption for certain postage requirements consistent with changes made in section 5 of the bill.

- 4 Transmitting ballots.** Modifies terminology used in statute to reference the "transmission" of a ballot to a uniformed or overseas voter, instead of "mailing" the ballot.

- 5      **Transmitting ballot.** Exempts the county auditor from the requirement that return postage be provided with a ballot that is transmitted to a voter electronically.
- 6      **Write-in absentee ballot.** Eliminates an obsolete reference to the state write-in absentee ballot.