



DEBRA BOWEN | SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA | ELECTIONS

1500 11th Street, 5th Floor | Sacramento, CA 95814 | Tel (916) 657-2166 | Fax (916) 653-3214 | www.sos.ca.gov

October 11, 2007

To: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters (07174)

FROM: Irene E. Capps
Voting and Outreach Program Manager

Subject: Assembly Bill 1287 – Absentee Voting

As you may already know, Assembly Bill 1287, signed by the Governor in July 2007, changes existing law which provides that absentee ballots may be submitted to satellite offices, the locations, hours, and telephone numbers of which must be announced by general news release no less than 14 days before voting at that location.

AB 1287 changes that requirement so that in cases of disaster or emergency, only 48 hours' notice of the satellite office information is required. The news release still must set forth the following information:

- 1) The satellite location or locations
- 2) The dates and hours the satellite location(s) will be open
- 3) A telephone number that voters may use to obtain information regarding absentee ballots and the satellite locations.

For your convenience, I have attached a copy of Assembly Bill 1287.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at irene.capps@sos.ca.gov or (916) 657-2166.

Thank you!

Attachment

BILL NUMBER: AB 1287 CHAPTERED
BILL TEXT

CHAPTER 63
FILED WITH SECRETARY OF STATE JULY 12, 2007
APPROVED BY GOVERNOR JULY 12, 2007
PASSED THE SENATE JUNE 28, 2007
PASSED THE ASSEMBLY MAY 7, 2007

INTRODUCED BY Assembly Member Jeffries

FEBRUARY 23, 2007

An act to amend Section 3018 of the Elections Code, relating to absentee voting.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1287, Jeffries. Absentee voting.

Existing law provides that absentee ballots may be submitted to satellite offices, the locations, hours, and telephone numbers of which must be announced by general news release no less than 14 days before voting at that location.

This bill would provide that in cases of disaster or emergency, only 48 hours' notice of the satellite office information is required.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 3018 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

3018. (a) Any voter using an absentee ballot may, prior to the close of the polls on election day, vote the ballot at the office of the elections official. The voter shall vote the ballot in the presence of an officer of the elections official or in a voting booth, at the discretion of the elections official, but in no case may his or her vote be observed. Where voting machines are used the elections official may provide one voting machine for each ballot type used within the jurisdiction. Elections officials may provide electronic voting devices for this purpose provided that sufficient devices are provided to include all ballot types in the election.

(b) For purposes of this section, the office of an elections official may include satellite locations. Notice of the satellite locations shall be made by the elections official by the issuance of a general news release, issued not later than 14 days prior to voting at the satellite location, except that in a county with a declared emergency or disaster, notice shall be made not later than 48 hours prior to voting at the satellite location. The news release shall set forth the following information:

- (1) The satellite location or locations.
- (2) The dates and hours the satellite location or locations will be open.

AB 1287 continued

(3) A telephone number that voters may use to obtain information regarding absentee ballots and the satellite locations.

(c) Absentee ballots voted at a satellite location pursuant to this section shall be placed in an absentee voter identification envelope to be completed by the voter pursuant to Section 3011. However, if the elections official utilizes electronic voting devices, the absentee ballot may be cast on an electronic voting device.