**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**H. 3207**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Weeks, Robinson, Thigpen, Cobb‑Hunter and Henegan

Document Path: l:\council\bills\cc\15861zw21.docx

Companion/Similar bill(s): 310, 3268, 3519, 3822, 4036

Introduced in the House on January 12, 2021

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Absentee ballot

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/9/2020 House Prefiled

12/9/2020 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/12/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 115](file:///h:\hj\20210112.docx))

1/12/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 115](file:///h:\hj\20210112.docx))

1/14/2021 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Henegan

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3207&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/9/2020](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\3207_20201209.docx)

**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 7‑15‑325 SO AS TO ESTABLISH A THIRTY-DAY PERIOD DURING WHICH ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THIS STATE MUST BE ALLOWED TO CAST AN IN‑PERSON ABSENTEE BALLOT WITHOUT BEING REQUIRED TO ASSERT, STATE, OFFER, OR PROVIDE AN EXCUSE, JUSTIFICATION, OR REASON.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 5, Chapter 15, Title 7 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 7‑15‑325. (A) For a thirty-day period, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, except as provided in subsection (B), and ending at 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately prior to any election for which absentee voting is permitted, all qualified electors of this State must be allowed to cast an in‑person absentee ballot without being required to assert, state, offer, or provide an excuse, justification, or reason. Each county board of voter registration and elections must establish at least one in‑person absentee voting location and may establish up to six in‑person absentee voting locations. If the election for which absentee voting is permitted falls on a Saturday, then the last day for in‑person absentee voting is the Thursday immediately preceding the election.

(B) During the thirty-day in‑person absentee voting period, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, provided for in this section, all in‑person absentee voting locations must be open each day from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. However, all in‑person absentee voting locations must be open from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday immediately preceding the election.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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