

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5828

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to permit an absentee ballot application submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter with respect to an election for Federal office to serve as an absentee ballot application for each subsequent election for Federal office held in the State through the next regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY (for herself, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. HONDA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

A BILL

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to permit an absentee ballot application submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter with respect to an election for Federal office to serve as an absentee ballot application for each subsequent election for Federal office held in the State through the next regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. USE OF SINGLE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICA-**
2 **TION FOR SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 104 of the Uniformed and
4 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–
5 3) is amended to read as follows:

6 **“SEC. 104. USE OF SINGLE APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT**
7 **ELECTIONS.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—If a State accepts and processes
9 an official post card form (prescribed under section 101)
10 submitted by an absent uniformed services voter or over-
11 seas voter for simultaneous voter registration and absen-
12 tee ballot application (in accordance with section
13 102(a)(4)) and the voter requests that the application be
14 considered an application for an absentee ballot for each
15 subsequent election for Federal office held in the State
16 through the next regularly scheduled general election for
17 Federal office (including any runoff elections which may
18 occur as a result of the outcome of such general election),
19 the State shall provide an absentee ballot to the voter for
20 each such subsequent election.

21 “(b) EXCEPTION FOR VOTERS CHANGING REGISTRA-
22 TION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a
23 voter registered to vote in a State for any election held
24 after the voter notifies the State that the voter no longer
25 wishes to be registered to vote in the State or after the
26 State determines that the voter has registered to vote in

1 another State or is otherwise no longer eligible to vote in
2 the State.

3 “(c) PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATION ON
4 GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION.—A State may not
5 refuse to accept or to process, with respect to any election
6 for Federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration
7 application or absentee ballot application (including the
8 postcard form prescribed under section 101) submitted by
9 an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter on
10 the grounds that the voter submitted the application be-
11 fore the first date on which the State otherwise accepts
12 or processes such applications for that election which are
13 submitted by absentee voters who are not members of the
14 uniformed services or overseas citizens.”.

15 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
16 subsection (a) shall apply with respect to voter registration
17 and absentee ballot applications which are submitted to
18 a State or local election official on or after the date of
19 the enactment of this Act.

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