

Calendar No. 355

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 1728

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve ballot accessibility to uniformed services voters and overseas voters, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 19, 2013

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. KING, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WALSH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. PRYOR) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration

APRIL 10, 2014

Reported by Mr. SCHUMER, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve ballot accessibility to uniformed services voters and overseas voters, and for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Safeguarding Elections
3 for our Nation’s Troops through Reforms and Improve-
4 ments (SENTRI) Act”.

5 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS RE-**
6 **LATED TO THE UNIFORMED**
7 **AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS AB-**
8 **SENTEE VOTING ACT**

9 **SEC. 101. PRE-ELECTION REPORTING REQUIREMENT ON**
10 **TRANSMISSION OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 102 of
12 the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act
13 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(e)) is amended by striking “Not later
14 than 90 days” and inserting the following:

15 “(1) PRE-ELECTION REPORT ON ABSENTEE
16 BALLOTS TRANSMITTED.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 43
18 days before any election for Federal office held
19 in a State, the chief State election official of
20 such State shall submit a report to the Attor-
21 ney General and the Presidential designee, and
22 make that report publicly available that same
23 day, confirming—

24 “(i) the number of absentee ballots
25 validly requested by absent uniformed serv-
26 ices voters and overseas voters whose re-

1 quests were received by the 46th day be-
2 fore the election, and

3 ~~“(ii) whether those ballots were timely~~
4 ~~transmitted.~~

5 ~~“(B) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The~~
6 ~~report under subparagraph (A) shall include the~~
7 ~~following information:~~

8 ~~“(i) Specific information about ballot~~
9 ~~transmission, including the total numbers~~
10 ~~of ballot requests received from such voters~~
11 ~~and ballots transmitted to such voters by~~
12 ~~the 46th day before the election from each~~
13 ~~unit of local government that will admin-~~
14 ~~ister the election.~~

15 ~~“(ii) If the chief State election official~~
16 ~~has incomplete information on any items~~
17 ~~required to be included in the report, an~~
18 ~~explanation of what information is incom-~~
19 ~~plete information and efforts made to ac-~~
20 ~~quire such information.~~

21 ~~“(C) REQUIREMENT TO SUPPLEMENT IN-~~
22 ~~COMPLETE INFORMATION.—If the report under~~
23 ~~subparagraph (A) has incomplete information~~
24 ~~on any items required to be included in the re-~~
25 ~~port, the chief State election official shall make~~

1 all reasonable efforts to expeditiously supple-
 2 ment the report with complete information.

3 “(D) FORMAT.—The report under sub-
 4 paragraph (A) shall be in a format prescribed
 5 by the Attorney General in consultation with
 6 the chief State election officials of each State.

7 “(2) POST ELECTION REPORT ON NUMBER OF
 8 ABSENTEE BALLOTS TRANSMITTED AND RE-
 9 CEIVED.—Not later than 90 days”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for
 11 subsection (c) of section 102 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 12 1973ff-1(c)) is amended by striking “REPORT ON NUM-
 13 BER OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS TRANSMITTED AND RE-
 14 CEIVED” and inserting “REPORTS ON ABSENTEE BAL-
 15 LOTS”.

16 **SEC. 102. TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS; REPEAL OF**
 17 **WAIVER PROVISION.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 102(a)
 19 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting
 20 Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1(a)) is amended to read as fol-
 21 lows:

22 “(8) transmit a validly requested absentee bal-
 23 lot to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas
 24 voter by the date and in the manner determined
 25 under subsection (g);”.

1 (b) BALLOT TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND
 2 REPEAL OF WAIVER PROVISION.—Subsection (g) of sec-
 3 tion 102 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1(g)) is amended
 4 to read as follows:

5 “(g) BALLOT TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subsection
 7 (a)(8), in the case in which a valid request for an
 8 absentee ballot is received at least 46 days before an
 9 election for Federal office, the following rules shall
 10 apply:

11 “(A) TRANSMISSION DEADLINE.—The
 12 State shall transmit the absentee ballot not
 13 later than 46 days before the election.

14 “(B) SPECIAL RULES IN CASE OF FAILURE
 15 TO TRANSMIT ON TIME.—

16 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If the State fails
 17 to transmit any absentee ballot by the 46th
 18 day before the election as required by sub-
 19 paragraph (A) and the absent uniformed
 20 services voter or overseas voter did not re-
 21 quest electronic ballot transmission pursu-
 22 ant to subsection (f), the State shall trans-
 23 mit such ballot by express delivery.

24 “(ii) EXTENDED FAILURE.—If the
 25 State fails to transmit any absentee ballot

by the 41st day before the election, in addition to transmitting the ballot as provided in clause (i), the State shall—

“(I) in the case of absentee ballots requested by absent uniformed services voters with respect to regularly scheduled general elections, notify such voters of the procedures established under section 103A for the collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots; and

“(II) in any other case, provide for the return of such ballot by express delivery.

“(iii) COST OF EXPRESS DELIVERY.—

In any case in which express delivery is required under this subparagraph, the cost of such express delivery—

“(I) shall not be paid by the voter, and

“(II) may be required by the State to be paid by a local jurisdiction if the State determines that election officials in such jurisdiction are responsible for the failure to transmit

1 the ballot by any date required under
 2 this paragraph.

3 “(iv) ~~ENFORCEMENT.~~—A State’s com-
 4 pliance with this subparagraph does not
 5 bar the Attorney General from seeking ad-
 6 ditional remedies necessary to effectuate
 7 the purposes of this Act.

8 “(2) ~~REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER 46TH DAY~~
 9 ~~BEFORE ELECTION.~~—For purposes of subsection
 10 (a)(8), in the case in which a valid request for an
 11 absentee ballot is received less than 46 days but not
 12 less than 30 days before an election for Federal of-
 13 fice, the State shall transmit the absentee ballot not
 14 later than 3 business days after such request is re-
 15 ceived.”.

16 **SEC. 103. TECHNICAL CLARIFICATIONS TO CONFORM TO**
 17 **2009 MOVE ACT AMENDMENTS RELATED TO**
 18 **THE FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT.**

19 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Section 102(a)(3) of the Uni-
 20 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42
 21 U.S.C. 1973ff-1(a)(3)) is amended by striking “general
 22 elections” and inserting “general, special, primary, and
 23 runoff elections”.

24 (b) ~~CONFORMING AMENDMENT.~~—Section 103 of
 25 such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-2) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by striking “gen-
2 eral”, and

3 (2) in the heading thereof, by striking “**GEN-**
4 **ERAL**”.

5 **SEC. 104. TREATMENT OF BALLOT REQUESTS.**

6 (a) APPLICATION OF PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF
7 APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION TO
8 OVERSEAS VOTERS.—Section 104 of the Uniformed and
9 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-
10 3) is amended—

11 (1) by inserting “or overseas voter” after “sub-
12 mitted by an absent uniformed services voter”; and

13 (2) by striking “members of the uniformed
14 services” and inserting “absent uniformed services
15 voters or overseas voters”.

16 (b) USE OF SINGLE APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT
17 ELECTIONS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 104 of the Uni-
19 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act
20 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-3) is amended—

21 (A) by striking “A State” and inserting
22 the following:

23 “(a) PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATIONS
24 ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION.—A State”, and

1 ~~(B)~~ by adding at the end the following new
 2 subsections:

3 ~~“(b) APPLICATION TREATED AS VALID FOR SUBSE-~~
 4 ~~QUENT ELECTIONS.—~~

5 ~~“(1) IN GENERAL.—~~If a State accepts and
 6 processes a request for an absentee ballot by an ab-
 7 sent uniformed services voter or overseas voter and
 8 the voter requests that the application be considered
 9 an application for an absentee ballot for each subse-
 10 quent election for Federal office held in the State
 11 through the next regularly scheduled general election
 12 for Federal office (including any runoff elections
 13 which may occur as a result of the outcome of such
 14 general election) and any special elections for Fed-
 15 eral office held in the State through the calendar
 16 year following such general election, the State shall
 17 provide an absentee ballot to the voter for each such
 18 subsequent election.

19 ~~“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—~~Paragraph ~~(1)~~ shall not
 20 apply with respect to either of the following:

21 ~~“(A) VOTERS CHANGING REGISTRATION.—~~

22 A voter removed from the list of official eligible
 23 voters in accordance with subparagraph ~~(A)~~,
 24 ~~(B)~~, or ~~(C)~~ of section 8(a)(3) of the National

Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-6(a)).

“(B) UNDELIVERABLE BALLOTS.—A voter whose ballot is returned by mail to the State or local election officials as undeliverable or, in the case of a ballot delivered electronically, if the email sent to the voter was undeliverable or rejected due to an invalid email address.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 104 of such Act is amended by striking “**PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION**” and inserting “**TREATMENT OF BALLOT REQUESTS**”.

(3) REVISION TO POSTCARD FORM.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Presidential designee shall ensure that the official postcard form prescribed under section 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff(b)(2)) enables a voter using the form to—

(i) request an absentee ballot for each election for Federal office held in a State through the next regularly scheduled general election for Federal office (including any runoff elections which may occur as a

1 result of the outcome of such general elec-
 2 tion) and any special elections for Federal
 3 office held in the State through the cal-
 4 endar year following such general election;
 5 or

6 (ii) request an absentee ballot for a
 7 specific election or elections for Federal of-
 8 fice held in a State during the period de-
 9 scribed in paragraph (1).

10 (B) **PRESIDENTIAL DESIGNEE.**—For pur-
 11 poses of this paragraph, the term “Presidential
 12 designee” means the individual designated
 13 under section 101(a) of the Uniformed and
 14 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42
 15 U.S.C. 1973ff(a)).

16 **SEC. 105. APPLICABILITY TO COMMONWEALTH OF THE**
 17 **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.**

18 Paragraphs (6) and (8) of section 107 of the Uni-
 19 formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42
 20 U.S.C. 1973ff-6(6)) are each amended by striking “and
 21 American Samoa” and inserting “American Samoa, and
 22 the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands”.

1 **SEC. 106. BIENNIAL REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF**
 2 **ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL VOTING AS-**
 3 **SISTANCE PROGRAM AND COMPTROLLER**
 4 **GENERAL REVIEW.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105A(b) of the Uniformed
 6 and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.
 7 1973ff-4a(b)) is amended—

8 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

9 (A) by striking “March 31 of each year”
 10 and inserting “June 30 of each odd-numbered
 11 year”; and

12 (B) by striking “the following information”
 13 and inserting “the following information with
 14 respect to the Federal elections held during the
 15 2 preceding calendar years”;

16 (2) in paragraph (1), by striking “separate as-
 17 sessment” each place it appears and inserting “sepa-
 18 rate assessment and statistical analysis”; and

19 (3) in paragraph (2)—

20 (A) by striking “section 1566a” in the
 21 matter preceding subparagraph (A) and insert-
 22 ing “sections 1566a and 1566b”;

23 (B) by striking “such section” each place
 24 it appears in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and
 25 inserting “such sections”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following new
2 subparagraphs:

3 “(C) The number of completed official
4 postcard forms prescribed under section
5 101(b)(2) that were completed by absent uni-
6 formed services members and accepted and
7 transmitted.

8 “(D) The number of absent uniformed
9 services members who declined to register to
10 vote under such sections.”.

11 (b) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEWS.—Section
12 105A of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee
13 Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-4a) is amended by redesign-
14 nating subsection (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting
15 after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

16 “(c) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEWS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

18 “(A) REVIEW.—The Comptroller General
19 shall conduct a review of any reports submitted
20 by the Presidential designee under subsection
21 (b) with respect to elections occurring in cal-
22 endar years 2014 through 2020.

23 “(B) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days
24 after a report is submitted by the Presidential
25 designee under subsection (b), the Comptroller

1 General shall submit to the relevant committees
2 of Congress a report containing the results of
3 the review conducted under subparagraph (A).

4 “(2) MATTERS REVIEWED.—A review conducted
5 under paragraph (1) shall assess—

6 “(A) the methodology used by the Presi-
7 dential designee to prepare the report and to
8 develop the data presented in the report, includ-
9 ing the approach for designing, implementing,
10 and analyzing the results of any surveys;

11 “(B) the effectiveness of any voting assist-
12 ance covered in the report provided under sub-
13 section (b) and provided by the Presidential
14 designee to absent overseas uniformed services
15 voters and overseas voters who are not members
16 of the uniformed services, including an assess-
17 ment of—

18 “(i) any steps taken toward improving
19 the implementation of such voting assist-
20 ance; and

21 “(ii) the extent of collaboration be-
22 tween the Presidential designee and the
23 States in providing such voting assistance;
24 and

1 “(C) any other information the Comp-
 2 troller General considers relevant to the re-
 3 view.”.

4 (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

5 (1) Section 101(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 6 ~~1973ff(b)~~) is amended—

7 (A) by striking paragraph (6); and

8 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (7)
 9 through (11) as paragraphs (6) through (10),
 10 respectively.

11 (2) Section 102(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 12 ~~1973ff-1(a)~~) is amended—

13 (A) in paragraph (5), by striking
 14 “101(b)(7)” and inserting “101(b)(6)”; and

15 (B) in paragraph (11), by striking
 16 “101(b)(11)” and inserting “101(b)(10)”.

17 (3) Section 105A(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
 18 ~~1973ff-4a(b)~~) is amended—

19 (A) by striking “ANNUAL REPORT” in the
 20 subsection heading and inserting “BIENNIAL
 21 REPORT”; and

22 (B) by striking “In the case of” in para-
 23 graph (3) and all that follows through “a de-
 24 scription” and inserting “A description”.

1 **SEC. 107. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The amendments made by this title shall apply with
3 respect to the regularly scheduled general election for Fed-
4 eral office held in November 2014 and each succeeding
5 election for Federal office.

6 **TITLE II—PROVISION OF VOTER**
7 **ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF**
8 **THE ARMED FORCES**

9 **SEC. 201. PROVISION OF ANNUAL VOTER ASSISTANCE.**

10 (a) ANNUAL VOTER ASSISTANCE.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 80 of title 10,
12 United States Code, is amended by inserting after
13 section 1566a the following new section:

14 **“§ 1566b. Annual voter assistance**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall
16 carry out the following activities:

17 “(1) In coordination with the Secretary of each
18 military department—

19 “(A) affirmatively offer, on an annual
20 basis, each member of the armed forces on ac-
21 tive duty (other than active duty for training)
22 the opportunity, through the online system de-
23 veloped under paragraph (2), to—

24 “(i) register to vote in an election for
25 Federal office;

1 ~~“(ii) update the member’s voter reg-~~
2 ~~istration information; or~~

3 ~~“(iii) request an absentee ballot;~~

4 ~~“(B) provide services to such members for~~
5 ~~the purpose of carrying out the activities in~~
6 ~~clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A);~~
7 ~~and~~

8 ~~“(C) require any such member who de-~~
9 ~~clines the offer for voter assistance under sub-~~
10 ~~paragraph (A) to indicate and record that deci-~~
11 ~~sion.~~

12 ~~“(2) Implement an online system that, to the~~
13 ~~extent practicable, is integrated with the existing~~
14 ~~systems of each of the military departments and~~
15 ~~that—~~

16 ~~“(A) provides an electronic means for ear-~~
17 ~~rying out the requirements of paragraph (1);~~

18 ~~“(B) in the case of an individual reg-~~
19 ~~istering to vote in a State that accepts elec-~~
20 ~~tronic voter registration and operates its own~~
21 ~~electronic voter registration system using a~~
22 ~~form that meets the requirements for mail voter~~
23 ~~registration forms under section 9(b) of the Na-~~
24 ~~tional Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42~~

1 U.S.C. ~~1973gg-7(b)~~), directs such individual to
2 that system; and

3 “(C) in the case of an individual using the
4 official postcard form prescribed under section
5 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi-
6 zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.
7 ~~1973ff(b)(2)~~) to register to vote and request an
8 absentee ballot—

9 “(i) pre-populates such official post-
10 card form with the personal information of
11 such individual; and

12 “(ii)(I) produces the pre-populated
13 form and a pre-addressed envelope for use
14 in transmitting such official postcard form;
15 or

16 “(II) transmits the completed official
17 postcard form electronically to the appro-
18 priate State or local election officials.

19 “(3) Implement a system (either independently
20 or in conjunction with the online system under para-
21 graph (2)) by which any change of address by a
22 member of the armed forces on active duty who is
23 undergoing a permanent change of station, deploying
24 overseas for at least six months, or returning from
25 an overseas deployment of at least six months auto-

1 matically triggers, through the Defense Enrollment
 2 and Eligibility Registration System or related sys-
 3 tems, a notification via electronic means to such
 4 member that—

5 “(A) indicates that such member’s voter
 6 registration or absentee mailing address should
 7 be updated with the appropriate State or local
 8 election officials; and

9 “(B) includes instructions on how to up-
 10 date such voter registration using the online
 11 system developed under paragraph (2).

12 “(b) DATA COLLECTION.—The online system devel-
 13 oped under subsection (a)(2) shall collect and store all
 14 data required to meet the reporting requirements of sec-
 15 tion 201(b) of the Safeguarding Elections for our Nation’s
 16 Troops through Reforms and Improvements (SENTRI)
 17 Act and section 105A(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Over-
 18 seas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-
 19 4a(b)(2)) in a manner that complies with section 552a of
 20 title 5, United States Code, (commonly known as the Pri-
 21 vacy Act of 1974) and imposes no new record management
 22 burden on any military unit or military installation.

23 “(c) TIMING OF VOTER ASSISTANCE.—To the extent
 24 practicable, the voter assistance under subsection (a)(1)

1 shall be offered as a part of each servicemember's annual
2 training.

3 “(d) ~~REGULATIONS.~~—Not later than 1 year after the
4 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of De-
5 fense shall prescribe regulations implementing the require-
6 ments of subsection (a). Such regulations shall include
7 procedures to inform those members of the armed forces
8 on active duty (other than active duty for training) experi-
9 encing a change of address about the benefits of this sec-
10 tion and the timeframe for requesting an absentee ballot
11 to ensure sufficient time for State delivery of the ballot.”.

12 ~~(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.~~—The table of sec-
13 tions at the beginning of chapter 80 of such title is
14 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-
15 tion 1566a the following new item:

“1566b: Annual voter assistance.”.

16 ~~(b) REPORT ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION.~~—

17 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 180 days
18 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
19 retary of Defense shall submit to the relevant com-
20 mittees of Congress a report on the status of the im-
21 plementation of the requirements of section 1566b of
22 title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection
23 (a)(1).

24 ~~(2) ELEMENTS.~~—The report under paragraph
25 ~~(1)~~ shall include—

1 (A) a detailed description of any specific
2 steps already taken towards the implementation
3 of the requirements of such section 1566b;

4 (B) a detailed plan for the implementation
5 of such requirements, including milestones and
6 deadlines for the completion of such implemen-
7 tation;

8 (C) the costs expected to be incurred in the
9 implementation of such requirements;

10 (D) a description of how the annual voting
11 assistance and system under subsection (a)(3)
12 of such section will be integrated with the De-
13 fense Enrollment and Eligibility Registration
14 System or other Department of Defense per-
15 sonnel databases that track military
16 servicemembers' address changes;

17 (E) an estimate of how long it will take an
18 average member to complete the voter assist-
19 ance process required under subsection (a)(1)
20 of such section;

21 (F) an explanation of how the Secretary of
22 Defense will collect reliable data on the utiliza-
23 tion of the online system under subsection
24 (a)(2) of such section; and

1 (G) a summary of any objections, con-
 2 cerns, or comments made by State or local elec-
 3 tion officials regarding the implementation of
 4 such section.

5 (3) RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-
 6 FINED.—In this subsection, the term “relevant com-
 7 mittees of Congress” means—

8 (A) the Committees on Appropriations,
 9 Armed Services, and Rules and Administration
 10 of the Senate; and

11 (B) the Committees on Appropriations,
 12 Armed Services, and House Administration of
 13 the House of Representatives.

14 **TITLE III—ELECTRONIC VOTING** 15 **SYSTEMS**

16 **SEC. 301. REPEAL OF ELECTRONIC VOTING DEMONSTRA-** 17 **TION PROJECT.**

18 Section 1604 of the National Defense Authorization
 19 Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff note) is re-
 20 pealed.

TITLE IV—RESIDENCY OF MILITARY FAMILY MEMBERS

SEC. 401. EXTENDING GUARANTEE OF RESIDENCY FOR VOTING PURPOSES TO FAMILY MEMBERS OF ABSENT MILITARY PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 705 of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 595) is amended—

(1) by striking “a person who is absent from a State because the person is accompanying the persons’s spouse who is absent from that same State in compliance with military or naval orders shall not, solely by reason of that absence” and inserting “a dependent of a person who is absent from a State in compliance with military orders shall not, solely by reason of absence, whether or not accompanying that person”; and

(2) in the heading by striking “SPOUSES” and inserting “DEPENDENTS”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading of section 705 of such Act (50 U.S.C. App. 595) is amended by striking “**SPOUSES**” and inserting “**DEPENDENTS**”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to absences from States described in section 705(b) of the Servicemembers

1 Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. App. 595(b)), as amended by
 2 subsection (a), after the date of the enactment of this Act,
 3 regardless of the date of the military orders concerned.

4 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

5 *This Act may be cited as the “Safeguarding Elections*
 6 *for our Nation’s Troops through Reforms and Improvements*
 7 *(SENTRI) Act”.*

8 **TITLE I—AMENDMENTS RE-**
 9 **LATED TO THE UNIFORMED**
 10 **AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS AB-**
 11 **SENTEE VOTING ACT**

12 **SEC. 101. PRE-ELECTION REPORTING REQUIREMENT ON**
 13 **TRANSMISSION OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS.**

14 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 102 of the*
 15 *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42*
 16 *U.S.C. 1973ff–1(c)) is amended by striking “Not later than*
 17 *90 days” and inserting the following:*

18 *“(1) PRE-ELECTION REPORT ON ABSENTEE BAL-*
 19 *LOTS TRANSMITTED.—*

20 *“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 43 days*
 21 *before any election for Federal office held in a*
 22 *State, the chief State election official of such*
 23 *State shall submit a report containing the infor-*
 24 *mation in subparagraph (B) to the Attorney*

1 *General and the Presidential designee, and make*
2 *that report publicly available that same day.*

3 “(B) *INFORMATION REPORTED.*—*The report*
4 *under subparagraph (A) shall consist of the fol-*
5 *lowing:*

6 “(i) *The total number of absentee bal-*
7 *lots validly requested by absent uniformed*
8 *services voters and overseas voters whose re-*
9 *quests were received by the 47th day before*
10 *the election.*

11 “(ii) *The total number of ballots trans-*
12 *mitted to such voters by the 46th day before*
13 *the election by each unit of local government*
14 *within the State that will administer the*
15 *election.*

16 “(iii) *If the chief State election official*
17 *has incomplete information on any items*
18 *required to be included in the report, an ex-*
19 *planation of what information is incom-*
20 *plete information and efforts made to ac-*
21 *quire such information, including the iden-*
22 *tity of any unit of local government that*
23 *failed to provide required information to the*
24 *State.*

1 “(C) *REQUIREMENT TO SUPPLEMENT IN-*
 2 *COMPLETE INFORMATION.—If the report under*
 3 *subparagraph (A) has incomplete information on*
 4 *any items required to be included in the report,*
 5 *the chief State election official shall make all*
 6 *reasonable efforts to expeditiously supplement the*
 7 *report with complete information.*

8 “(D) *FORMAT.—The report under subpara-*
 9 *graph (A) shall be in a format prescribed by the*
 10 *Attorney General in consultation with the chief*
 11 *State election officials of each State.*

12 “(2) *POST ELECTION REPORT ON NUMBER OF*
 13 *ABSENTEE BALLOTS TRANSMITTED AND RECEIVED.—*
 14 *Not later than 90 days”.*

15 (b) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The heading for sub-*
 16 *section (c) of section 102 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–*
 17 *1(c)) is amended by striking “REPORT ON NUMBER OF AB-*
 18 *SENTEE BALLOTS TRANSMITTED AND RECEIVED” and in-*
 19 *serting “REPORTS ON ABSENTEE BALLOTS”.*

20 **SEC. 102. TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS; REPEAL OF**
 21 **WAIVER PROVISION.**

22 (a) *IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 102(a) of*
 23 *the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act*
 24 *(42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(a)) is amended to read as follows:*

1 “(8) transmit a validly requested absentee ballot
2 to an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter
3 by the date and in the manner determined under sub-
4 section (g);”.

5 (b) *BALLOT TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND RE-*
6 *PEAL OF WAIVER PROVISION.*—Subsection (g) of section
7 102 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–1(g)) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 “(g) *BALLOT TRANSMISSION REQUIREMENTS.*—

10 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—For purposes of subsection
11 (a)(8), in the case in which a valid request for an ab-
12 sentee ballot is received at least 47 days before an
13 election for Federal office, the following rules shall
14 apply:

15 “(A) *TRANSMISSION DEADLINE.*—The State
16 shall transmit the absentee ballot not later than
17 46 days before the election.

18 “(B) *SPECIAL RULES IN CASE OF FAILURE*
19 *TO TRANSMIT ON TIME.*—

20 “(i) *IN GENERAL.*—If the State fails to
21 transmit any absentee ballot by the 46th
22 day before the election as required by sub-
23 paragraph (A) and the absent uniformed
24 services voter or overseas voter did not re-
25 quest electronic ballot transmission pursu-

1 *ant to subsection (f), the State shall trans-*
 2 *mit such ballot by express delivery.*

3 “(ii) *EXTENDED FAILURE.—If the*
 4 *State fails to transmit any absentee ballot*
 5 *by the 41st day before the election, in addi-*
 6 *tion to transmitting the ballot as provided*
 7 *in clause (i), the State shall—*

8 “(I) *in the case of absentee ballots*
 9 *requested by absent uniformed services*
 10 *voters with respect to regularly sched-*
 11 *uled general elections, notify such vot-*
 12 *ers of the procedures established under*
 13 *section 103A for the collection and de-*
 14 *livery of marked absentee ballots; and*

15 “(II) *in any other case, provide*
 16 *for the return of such ballot by express*
 17 *delivery.*

18 “(iii) *COST OF EXPRESS DELIVERY.—*
 19 *In any case in which express delivery is re-*
 20 *quired under this subparagraph, the cost of*
 21 *such express delivery—*

22 “(I) *shall not be paid by the voter,*
 23 *and*

24 “(II) *may be required by the*
 25 *State to be paid by a local jurisdiction*

1 *if the State determines that election of-*
 2 *officials in such jurisdiction are respon-*
 3 *sible for the failure to transmit the bal-*
 4 *lot by any date required under this*
 5 *paragraph.*

6 “(iv) *EXCEPTION.—*Clause (ii)(II)
 7 *shall not apply when an absent uniformed*
 8 *services voter or overseas voter indicates the*
 9 *preference to return the late sent absentee*
 10 *ballot by electronic transmission in a State*
 11 *that permits return of an absentee ballot by*
 12 *electronic transmission.*

13 “(v) *ENFORCEMENT.—*A State’s com-
 14 *pliance with this subparagraph does not bar*
 15 *the Attorney General from seeking addi-*
 16 *tional remedies necessary to fully resolve or*
 17 *prevent ongoing, future, or systematic viola-*
 18 *tions of this provision.*

19 “(C) *SPECIAL PROCEDURE IN EVENT OF*
 20 *DISASTER.—*If a disaster (hurricane, tornado,
 21 *earthquake, storm, volcanic eruption, landslide,*
 22 *fire, flood, or explosion), or an act of terrorism*
 23 *prevents the State from transmitting any absen-*
 24 *tee ballot by the 46th day before the election as*
 25 *required by subparagraph (A), it shall notify the*

1 *Attorney General as soon as practicable and take*
 2 *all actions necessary, including seeking any nec-*
 3 *essary judicial relief, to ensure that affected ab-*
 4 *sent uniformed services voters and overseas voters*
 5 *are provided a reasonable opportunity to receive*
 6 *and return their absentee ballots in time to be*
 7 *counted.*

8 *“(2) REQUESTS RECEIVED AFTER 47TH DAY BE-*
 9 *FORE ELECTION.—For purposes of subsection (a)(8),*
 10 *in the case in which a valid request for an absentee*
 11 *ballot is received less than 47 days but not less than*
 12 *30 days before an election for Federal office, the State*
 13 *shall transmit the absentee ballot not later than 3*
 14 *business days after such request is received.”.*

15 **SEC. 103. TECHNICAL CLARIFICATIONS TO CONFORM TO**
 16 **2009 MOVE ACT AMENDMENTS RELATED TO**
 17 **THE FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT.**

18 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102(a)(3) of the Uniformed*
 19 *and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.*
 20 *1973ff-1(a)(3)) is amended by striking “general elections”*
 21 *and inserting “general, special, primary, and runoff elec-*
 22 *tions”.*

23 *(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 103 of such*
 24 *Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-2) is amended—*

1 (1) in subsection (b)(2)(B), by striking “gen-
2 eral”, and

3 (2) in the heading thereof, by striking “**GEN-**
4 **ERAL**”.

5 **SEC. 104. TREATMENT OF POST CARD REGISTRATION RE-**
6 **QUESTS.**

7 Section 102 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens
8 Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-1) is amended by
9 adding at the end the following new subsection:

10 “(j) *TREATMENT OF POST CARD REGISTRATIONS.*—A
11 State shall not remove any voter who has registered to vote
12 using the official post card form (prescribed under section
13 101) except in accordance with subparagraph (A), (B), or
14 (C) of section 8(a)(3) of the National Voter Registration Act
15 of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-6(a)).”.

16 **SEC. 105. TREATMENT OF BALLOT REQUESTS.**

17 (a) *APPLICATION OF PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF*
18 *APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION TO*
19 *OVERSEAS VOTERS.*—Section 104 of the Uniformed and
20 Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-
21 3) is amended—

22 (1) by inserting “or overseas voter” after “sub-
23 mitted by an absent uniformed services voter”; and

1 (2) *by striking “members of the uniformed serv-*
 2 *ices” and inserting “absent uniformed services voters*
 3 *or overseas voters”.*

4 ***(b) USE OF SINGLE APPLICATION FOR SUBSEQUENT***
 5 ***ELECTIONS.—***

6 ***(1) IN GENERAL.—****Section 104 of the Uniformed*
 7 *and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.*
 8 *1973ff-3) is amended—*

9 *(A) by striking “A State” and inserting the*
 10 *following:*

11 ***“(a) PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATIONS ON***
 12 ***GROUND OF EARLY SUBMISSION.—A State”, and***

13 *(B) by adding at the end the following new*
 14 *subsections:*

15 ***“(b) APPLICATION TREATED AS VALID FOR SUBSE-***
 16 ***QUENT ELECTIONS.—***

17 ***“(1) IN GENERAL.—****If a State accepts and proc-*
 18 *esses a request for an absentee ballot by an absent*
 19 *uniformed services voter or overseas voter and the*
 20 *voter requests that the application be considered an*
 21 *application for an absentee ballot for each subsequent*
 22 *election for Federal office held in the State through*
 23 *the next regularly scheduled general election for Fed-*
 24 *eral office (including any runoff elections which may*
 25 *occur as a result of the outcome of such general elec-*

tion), the State shall provide an absentee ballot to the voter for each such subsequent election.

“(2) *EXCEPTIONS.*—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to either of the following:

“(A) *VOTERS CHANGING REGISTRATION.*—A voter removed from the list of official eligible voters in accordance with subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 8(a)(3) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–6(a)).

“(B) *UNDELIVERABLE BALLOTS.*—A voter whose ballot is returned by mail to the State or local election officials as undeliverable or, in the case of a ballot delivered electronically, if the email sent to the voter was undeliverable or rejected due to an invalid email address.”.

(2) *CONFORMING AMENDMENT.*—The heading of section 104 of such Act is amended by striking “**PROHIBITION OF REFUSAL OF APPLICATIONS ON GROUNDS OF EARLY SUBMISSION**” and inserting “**TREATMENT OF BALLOT REQUESTS**”.

(3) *REVISION TO POSTCARD FORM.*—

(A) *IN GENERAL.*—The Presidential designee shall ensure that the official postcard form prescribed under section 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting

1 *Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff(b)(2)) enables a voter*
 2 *using the form to—*

3 *(i) request an absentee ballot for each*
 4 *election for Federal office held in a State*
 5 *through the next regularly scheduled general*
 6 *election for Federal office (including any*
 7 *runoff elections which may occur as a result*
 8 *of the outcome of such general election); or*

9 *(ii) request an absentee ballot for a*
 10 *specific election or elections for Federal of-*
 11 *fice held in a State during the period de-*
 12 *scribed in paragraph (1).*

13 *(B) PRESIDENTIAL DESIGNEE.—For pur-*
 14 *poses of this paragraph, the term “Presidential*
 15 *designee” means the individual designated under*
 16 *section 101(a) of the Uniformed and Overseas*
 17 *Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.*
 18 *1973ff(a)).*

19 **SEC. 106. APPLICABILITY TO COMMONWEALTH OF THE**
 20 **NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.**

21 *Paragraphs (6) and (8) of section 107 of the Uni-*
 22 *formed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42*
 23 *U.S.C. 1973ff–6(6)) are each amended by striking “and*
 24 *American Samoa” and inserting “American Samoa, and*
 25 *the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands”.*

1 **SEC. 107. BIENNIAL REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF**
 2 **ACTIVITIES OF THE FEDERAL VOTING ASSIST-**
 3 **ANCE PROGRAM AND COMPTROLLER GEN-**
 4 **ERAL REVIEW.**

5 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 105A(b) of the Uniformed
 6 and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.
 7 1973ff-4a(b)) is amended—

8 (1) *in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—*

9 (A) *by striking “March 31 of each year”*
 10 *and inserting “June 30 of each odd-numbered*
 11 *year”; and*

12 (B) *by striking “the following information”*
 13 *and inserting “the following information with*
 14 *respect to the Federal elections held during the 2*
 15 *preceding calendar years”;*

16 (2) *in paragraph (1), by striking “separate as-*
 17 *essment” each place it appears and inserting “sepa-*
 18 *rate assessment and statistical analysis”; and*

19 (3) *in paragraph (2)—*

20 (A) *by striking “section 1566a” in the mat-*
 21 *ter preceding subparagraph (A) and inserting*
 22 *“sections 1566a and 1566b”;*

23 (B) *by striking “such section” each place it*
 24 *appears in subparagraphs (A) and (B) and in-*
 25 *serting “such sections”; and*

1 (C) by adding at the end the following new
2 subparagraphs:

3 “(C) *The number of completed official post-*
4 *card forms prescribed under section 101(b)(2)*
5 *that were completed by absent uniformed services*
6 *members and accepted and transmitted.*

7 “(D) *The number of absent uniformed serv-*
8 *ices members who declined to register to vote*
9 *under such sections.”.*

10 (b) *COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEWS.—Section 105A*
11 *of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act*
12 *(42 U.S.C. 1973ff–4a) is amended by redesignating sub-*
13 *section (c) as subsection (d) and by inserting after sub-*
14 *section (b) the following new subsection:*

15 “(c) *COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEWS.—*

16 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—*

17 “(A) *REVIEW.—The Comptroller General*
18 *shall conduct a review of any reports submitted*
19 *by the Presidential designee under subsection (b)*
20 *with respect to elections occurring in calendar*
21 *years 2014 through 2020.*

22 “(B) *REPORT.—Not later than 180 days*
23 *after a report is submitted by the Presidential*
24 *designee under subsection (b), the Comptroller*
25 *General shall submit to the relevant committees*

1 *of Congress a report containing the results of the*
 2 *review conducted under subparagraph (A).*

3 “(2) *MATTERS REVIEWED.*—*A review conducted*
 4 *under paragraph (1) shall assess—*

5 “(A) *the methodology used by the Presi-*
 6 *dential designee to prepare the report and to de-*
 7 *velop the data presented in the report, including*
 8 *the approach for designing, implementing, and*
 9 *analyzing the results of any surveys,*

10 “(B) *the effectiveness of any voting assist-*
 11 *ance covered in the report provided under sub-*
 12 *section (b) and provided by the Presidential des-*
 13 *ignee to absent overseas uniformed services voters*
 14 *and overseas voters who are not members of the*
 15 *uniformed services, including an assessment of—*

16 “(i) *any steps taken toward improving*
 17 *the implementation of such voting assist-*
 18 *ance; and*

19 “(ii) *the extent of collaboration between*
 20 *the Presidential designee and the States in*
 21 *providing such voting assistance; and*

22 “(C) *any other information the Comptroller*
 23 *General considers relevant to the review.”.*

24 (c) *CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.*—

1 (1) *Section 101(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.*
2 *1973ff(b)) is amended—*

3 *(A) by striking paragraph (6); and*

4 *(B) by redesignating paragraphs (7)*
5 *through (11) as paragraphs (6) through (10), re-*
6 *spectively.*

7 (2) *Section 102(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C.*
8 *1973ff-1(a)) is amended—*

9 *(A) in paragraph (5), by striking*
10 *“101(b)(7)” and inserting “101(b)(6)”;* and

11 *(B) in paragraph (11), by striking*
12 *“101(b)(11)” and inserting “101(b)(10)”.*

13 (3) *Section 105A(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C.*
14 *1973ff-4a(b)) is amended—*

15 *(A) by striking “ANNUAL REPORT” in the*
16 *subsection heading and inserting “BIENNIAL RE-*
17 *PORT”;* and

18 *(B) by striking “In the case of” in para-*
19 *graph (3) and all that follows through “a de-*
20 *scription” and inserting “A description”.*

21 (d) *EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this*
22 *section shall apply to reports required to be issued after the*
23 *date of the enactment of this Act.*

1 **SEC. 108. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 *Except as provided in section 107(d), the amendments*
 3 *made by this title shall take effect on January 1, 2015.*

4 **TITLE II—PROVISION OF VOTER**
 5 **ASSISTANCE TO MEMBERS OF**
 6 **THE ARMED FORCES**

7 **SEC. 201. PROVISION OF ANNUAL VOTER ASSISTANCE.**

8 *(a) ANNUAL VOTER ASSISTANCE.—*

9 *(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 80 of title 10, United*
 10 *States Code, is amended by inserting after section*
 11 *1566a the following new section:*

12 **“§ 1566b. Annual voter assistance**

13 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall*
 14 *carry out the following activities:*

15 *“(1) In coordination with the Secretary of each*
 16 *military department—*

17 *“(A) affirmatively offer, on an annual*
 18 *basis, each member of the armed forces on active*
 19 *duty (other than active duty for training) the*
 20 *opportunity, through the online system developed*
 21 *under paragraph (2), to—*

22 *“(i) register to vote in an election for*
 23 *Federal office;*

24 *“(ii) update the member’s voter reg-*
 25 *istration information; or*

26 *“(iii) request an absentee ballot;*

1 “(B) provide services to such members for
 2 the purpose of carrying out the activities in
 3 clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A);
 4 and

5 “(C) require any such member who declines
 6 the offer for voter assistance under subparagraph
 7 (A) to indicate and record that decision.

8 “(2) Implement an online system that, to the ex-
 9 tent practicable, is integrated with the existing sys-
 10 tems of each of the military departments and that—

11 “(A) provides an electronic means for car-
 12 rying out the requirements of paragraph (1);

13 “(B) in the case of an individual registering
 14 to vote in a State that accepts electronic voter
 15 registration and operates its own electronic voter
 16 registration system using a form that meets the
 17 requirements for mail voter registration forms
 18 under section 9(b) of the National Voter Reg-
 19 istration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–7(b)),
 20 directs such individual to that system; and

21 “(C) in the case of an individual using the
 22 official postcard form prescribed under section
 23 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citi-
 24 zens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C.

1 1973ff(b)(2)) to register to vote and request an
2 absentee ballot—

3 “(i) pre-populates such official post-
4 card form with the personal information of
5 such individual, and

6 “(ii)(I) produces the pre-populated
7 form and a pre-addressed envelope for use
8 in transmitting such official postcard form;
9 or

10 “(II) transmits the completed official
11 postcard form electronically to the appro-
12 priate State or local election officials.

13 “(3) Implement a system (either independently
14 or in conjunction with the online system under para-
15 graph (2)) by which any change of address by a mem-
16 ber of the armed forces on active duty who is under-
17 going a permanent change of station, deploying over-
18 seas for at least six months, or returning from an
19 overseas deployment of at least six months automati-
20 cally triggers a notification via electronic means to
21 such member that—

22 “(A) indicates that such member’s voter reg-
23 istration or absentee mailing address should be
24 updated with the appropriate State or local elec-
25 tion officials; and

1 “(B) includes instructions on how to update
 2 such voter registration using the online system
 3 developed under paragraph (2).

4 “(b) *DATA COLLECTION.*—The online system developed
 5 under subsection (a)(2) shall collect and store all data re-
 6 quired to meet the reporting requirements of section 201(b)
 7 of the *Safeguarding Elections for our Nation’s Troops*
 8 *through Reforms and Improvements (SENTRI) Act* and
 9 section 105A(b)(2) of the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens*
 10 *Absentee Voting Act* (42 U.S.C. 1973ff–4a(b)(2)) in a man-
 11 ner that complies with section 552a of title 5, *United States*
 12 *Code*, (commonly known as the *Privacy Act of 1974*) and
 13 imposes no new record management burden on any mili-
 14 tary unit or military installation.

15 “(c) *TIMING OF VOTER ASSISTANCE.*—To the extent
 16 practicable, the voter assistance under subsection (a)(1)
 17 shall be offered as a part of each servicemember’s annual
 18 training.

19 “(d) *REGULATIONS.*—Not later than 1 year after the
 20 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary of De-
 21 fense shall prescribe regulations implementing the require-
 22 ments of subsection (a). Such regulations shall include pro-
 23 cedures to inform those members of the armed forces on ac-
 24 tive duty (other than active duty for training) experiencing
 25 a change of address about the benefits of this section and

1 *the timeframe for requesting an absentee ballot to ensure*
 2 *sufficient time for State delivery of the ballot.”.*

3 (2) *CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-*
 4 *tions at the beginning of chapter 80 of such title is*
 5 *amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-*
 6 *tion 1566a the following new item:*

“1566b. Annual voter assistance.”.

7 (b) *REPORT ON STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION.—*

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after*
 9 *the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of*
 10 *Defense shall submit to the relevant committees of*
 11 *Congress a report on the status of the implementation*
 12 *of the requirements of section 1566b of title 10,*
 13 *United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1).*

14 (2) *ELEMENTS.—The report under paragraph*
 15 *(1) shall include—*

16 (A) *a detailed description of any specific*
 17 *steps already taken towards the implementation*
 18 *of the requirements of such section 1566b;*

19 (B) *a detailed plan for the implementation*
 20 *of such requirements, including milestones and*
 21 *deadlines for the completion of such implementa-*
 22 *tion;*

23 (C) *the costs expected to be incurred in the*
 24 *implementation of such requirements;*

1 (D) a description of how the annual voting
 2 assistance and system under subsection (a)(3) of
 3 such section will be integrated with Department
 4 of Defense personnel databases that track mili-
 5 tary servicemembers' address changes;

6 (E) an estimate of how long it will take an
 7 average member to complete the voter assistance
 8 process required under subsection (a)(1) of such
 9 section;

10 (F) an explanation of how the Secretary of
 11 Defense will collect reliable data on the utiliza-
 12 tion of the online system under subsection (a)(2)
 13 of such section; and

14 (G) a summary of any objections, concerns,
 15 or comments made by State or local election offi-
 16 cials regarding the implementation of such sec-
 17 tion.

18 (3) *RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DE-*
 19 *FINED.*—In this subsection, the term “relevant com-
 20 mittees of Congress” means—

21 (A) the Committees on Appropriations,
 22 Armed Services, and Rules and Administration
 23 of the Senate; and

1 *(B) the Committees on Appropriations,*
2 *Armed Services, and House Administration of*
3 *the House of Representatives.*

4 ***TITLE III—ELECTRONIC VOTING***
5 ***SYSTEMS***

6 ***SEC. 301. REPEAL OF ELECTRONIC VOTING DEMONSTRA-***
7 ***TION PROJECT.***

8 *Section 1604 of the National Defense Authorization*
9 *Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (42 U.S.C. 1973ff note) is repealed.*

Calendar No. 355

113TH CONGRESS
2D Session

S. 1728

A BILL

To amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens
Absentee Voting Act to improve ballot accessi-
bility to uniformed services voters and overseas
voters, and for other purposes.

APRIL 10, 2014

Reported with an amendment