

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING AND RETURNING OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTS IN PRIMARIES AND ELECTIONS

The accompanying ballot and two envelopes are sent to you in response to a request made by you or a member of your family.

YOU MUST FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS FOR YOUR VOTE TO COUNT:

1.
 - A. Use a black or blue pen to mark your ballot. Be sure the ink is dry before folding the ballot and placing it in the envelope.
 - B. Completely fill in the oval next to the name of the candidate for whom you wish to vote and the response you wish to give to a question (if applicable).
 - C. To vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot for a general election or a special election, follow the directions on the ballot for casting a write-in vote. Write-in votes are not allowed in primary elections.

EXAMPLE OFFICIAL OFFICE TITLE

(Vote for One)
 CANDIDATE NAME
 CANDIDATE NAME
 Write-in _____

2. If while voting you inadvertently make an error, spoil, or otherwise deface the ballot, **IMMEDIATELY** contact the Board of Registrars of your county or the municipal absentee ballot clerk, whichever is applicable, to receive a replacement ballot. **Note: No replacement absentee ballot can be mailed by the registrars or absentee ballot clerk's office on the day prior to a primary or election.**
3. After voting your ballot, enclose and securely seal the ballot in the smaller of the two envelopes provided, which is white and on which is printed "Official Absentee Ballot."
4. Place this envelope in the second (or larger) envelope, which has a yellow bar, and complete the oath on the back of the envelope, then sign on the line provided.
5. Personally mail or personally deliver to the Board of Registrars or the municipal absentee ballot clerk, whichever is applicable. Be sure to use sufficient postage if mailing.

NOTE: Mailing or delivery may be made by the elector's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or an individual residing in the household of such elector.

O.C.G.A. § 21-2-385(b): A physically disabled or illiterate elector may receive assistance in preparing his or her ballot from any person of the elector's choice other than such elector's employer or the agent of such employer or an officer or agent of such elector's union; provided, however, that no person whose name appears on the ballot as a candidate at a particular primary, election, or runoff nor the mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of such candidate shall offer assistance during such primary, election, or runoff under the provisions of this Code section to any elector who is not related to such candidate. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "related to such candidate" shall mean such candidate's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law. The person rendering assistance to the elector in preparing the ballot shall sign the oath printed on the same envelope as the oath to be signed by the elector. Any person who willfully violates this subsection shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than one nor more than ten years or to pay a fine not to exceed \$100,000.00, or both, for each such violation.

AN ABSENTEE BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF REGISTRARS BY 7:00 P.M. (CLOSE OF THE POLLS) ON THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION DAY IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED. ALTHOUGH GEORGIA LAW PROHIBITS ANYONE FROM VOTING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT ON PRIMARY OR ELECTION DAY, IT DOES NOT PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM MAILING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN VOTED ON THAT DAY; HOWEVER, IT WILL NOT BE COUNTED UNLESS RECEIVED IN THE REGISTRAR'S OFFICE BY 7:00 P.M. EXCEPTION: A REGISTRAR MAY DELIVER, ON THE DAY OF THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION, AN ABSENTEE BALLOT TO AN ELECTOR CONFINED IN A HOSPITAL, AND SUCH ELECTOR MAY THEN AND THERE VOTE THE ABSENTEE BALLOT.