

## Session 119 - (2011-2012)

**H 3546 General Bill, By J.E. Smith**

***Similar (S 0404)***

**Summary:** Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voters Act

A BILL TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, SO AS TO ENACT THE "SOUTH CAROLINA UNIFORMED AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS ABSENTEE VOTERS ACT"; TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-400, RELATING TO APPLICATIONS AND ISSUANCE OF WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS, SO AS TO ALLOW A VOTER TO MAKE A STATEMENT ON A FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT THAT HE IS UNABLE TO VOTE BY REGULAR ABSENTEE BALLOT OR IN PERSON DUE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF MILITARY SERVICE, LIVING IN AN ISOLATED AREA, OR AN EXTREMELY REMOTE AREA OF THE WORLD, AND TO ADD THAT A QUALIFIED ABSENTEE ELECTOR MAY ALTERNATIVELY SUBMIT A FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR ANY FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL OFFICE OR BALLOT INITIATIVE; TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-405, RELATING TO VOTER ELIGIBILITY AND ABSENTEE INSTANT RUNOFF BALLOTS, SO AS TO SUBSTITUTE THE WORD, "SENT" FOR "MAILED"; BY ADDING SECTION 7-15-406 SO AS TO REQUIRE ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE MAILED TO THE ELECTOR AT LEAST FORTY-FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO AN ELECTION; TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-460, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO ABSENTEE BALLOTS AS PROVIDED BY THE UNIFORMED AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS ABSENTEE VOTING ACT, SO AS TO MAKE THE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL OFFICES, AND TO REQUIRE THAT AN ELECTRONIC FREE ACCESS BALLOT TRACKING SYSTEM IS AVAILABLE TO ELECTORS; TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-220, RELATING TO THE SIGNING AND WITNESSING OF THE OATH BY THE ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICANT, SO AS TO PROVIDE AN EXCEPTION FOR WITNESS REQUIREMENTS FOR VOTERS QUALIFIED UNDER THE UNIFORMED AND OVERSEAS CITIZENS ABSENTEE VOTERS ACT; AND TO AMEND SECTION 7-15-380, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE OATH OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICANTS, SO AS TO EXEMPT QUALIFIED UNIFORMED AND OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTERS.

**02/02/11 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 17)**

**02/02/11 House Referred to Committee on Judiciary (House Journal-page 17)**