

SUBCHAPTER VII. ABSENTEE VOTING.

Article 20.

Absentee Ballot.

§ 163-226. Who may vote an absentee ballot.

(a) **Who May Vote Absentee Ballot; Generally.** – Any qualified voter of the State may vote by absentee ballot in a statewide primary, general, or special election on constitutional amendments, referenda or bond proposals, and any qualified voter of a county is authorized to vote by absentee ballot in any primary or election conducted by the county board of elections, in the manner provided in this Article.

(b) **Annual Request by Person With Sickness or Physical Disability.** – If the applicant reports that the voter has a sickness or physical disability that is expected to last the remainder of the calendar year, the voter may request to vote by mail-in absentee ballot for all of the primaries and elections held during the calendar year when the completed written request under G.S. 163-230.1 is received.

(c) **Repealed by Session Laws 2019-136, s. 1, effective July 19, 2019, and applicable to fire district elections held on or after that date.**

(d) **The Term "Election".** – As used in this Article, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the term "election" includes a general, primary, second primary, runoff election, bond election, referendum, or special election.

(e) **The Term "Verifiable Legal Guardian."** – An individual appointed guardian under Chapter 35A of the General Statutes. For a corporation appointed as a guardian under that Chapter, the corporation may submit a list of 10 named individuals to the State Board of Elections who may act for that corporation under this Article.

(f) **For the purpose of this Article, "near relative" means spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild.** (1939, c. 159, s. 1; 1963, c. 457, s. 1; 1967, c. 775, s. 1; c. 952, s. 1; 1973, c. 536, s. 1; c. 1018; 1977, c. 469, s. 1; 1979, c. 140, s. 1; 1995 (Reg. Sess., 1996), c. 561, s. 1; c. 734, s. 5; 1999-455, s. 1; 2001-337, s. 1; 2001-507, s. 1; 2013-381, s. 4.5; 2017-6, s. 3; 2018-146, s. 3.1(a), (b); 2019-136, s. 1; 2019-239, ss. 1.2(a), 1.3(b).)