

2017 -- S 0335

LC001063

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

Introduced By: Senators Morgan, Kettle, Gee, Raptakis, and Cote

Date Introduced: February 16, 2017

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-20-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-20 entitled "Mail
2 Ballots" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-20-2. Eligibility for mail ballots.**

4 Any otherwise qualified elector may vote by mail ballot in the following circumstances:

5 (1) An elector, within the State of Rhode Island who is incapacitated to the extent that it
6 would be an undue hardship to vote at the polls because of illness, or mental or physical
7 disability, blindness, or serious impairment of mobility;

8 (2) An elector who is confined in any hospital, convalescent home, nursing home, rest
9 home, or similar institution, public or private, within the State of Rhode Island;

10 (3) An elector who will be temporarily absent from the state because of employment or
11 service intimately connected with military operations or who is a spouse or legal dependent
12 residing with that person, or a United States citizen that will be outside of the United States;

13 (4) An elector who ~~may~~ will not be able to vote at his or her polling place in his or her
14 city or town on the day of the election.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- MAIL BALLOTS

1 This act would change one of the eligibility requirements to vote by mail ballot from an
2 elector who "may" not be able to vote at a polling place to and an elector who will not be able to
3 vote at a polling place.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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