

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**S. B. No. 191**

**Senator Gavarone**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 3509.031 of the Revised Code to 1  
authorize the Secretary of State to establish a 2  
secure online process for applying to vote by 3  
absent voter's ballots. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 3509.031 of the Revised Code be 5  
enacted to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 3509.031.** (A) The secretary of state, by rule adopted 7  
under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, shall establish a secure 8  
online process for applying to vote by absent voter's ballots. 9  
The rules shall provide for all of the following: 10

(1) An elector to submit an application to vote by absent 11  
voter's ballots online through the internet; 12

(2) The elector to be sent proper absent voter's ballots 13  
for the applicable election, if all of the following apply: 14

(a) The application contains all of the required 15  
information. 16

(b) The elector is registered to vote and eligible to vote 17  
in the election for which the elector is seeking absent voter's 18

ballots. 19

(c) The elector attests to the truth and accuracy of the 20  
information submitted in the online application under penalty of 21  
election falsification using the elector's birth date and the 22  
last four digits of the elector's social security number, the 23  
elector's Ohio driver's license number, or the elector's Ohio 24  
identification card number as proof of the elector's identity. 25

(B) If an elector applies to vote by absent voter's 26  
ballots under this section, the secretary of state shall obtain 27  
an electronic copy of the elector's signature that is on file 28  
with the statewide voter registration database. That electronic 29  
signature shall be used as the elector's signature on the absent 30  
voter's ballot application for the purpose of matching the 31  
signature with the elector's signature on the elector's voter 32  
registration record. 33

(C) The secretary of state shall employ security measures 34  
necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of information 35  
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in 36  
processing applications for absent voter's ballots in the online 37  
system shall not prevent an elector from receiving absent 38  
voter's ballots. 39