

SENATE BILL 2212

By Powers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
Chapter 6, relative to absentee voting.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, Chapter 6, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) The county election commission, with assistance from the coordinator of elections, shall research methods, systems, and technologies that would allow members and employees of the United States armed forces and their dependents who are registered to vote in the county but are stationed outside the territorial limits of the United States to vote by means other than, or in addition to, mail.

(b) Beginning March 1, 2025, the county election commission may test a means of voting that is the result of the research conducted pursuant to subsection (a) if the county election commission finds a method, system, or technology for voting that:

- (1) Is secure against hacking, manipulation, or other interference;
- (2) Is monitored by security consultants throughout the test period; and
- (3) Has been approved by the secretary of state.

(c) A test conducted under subsection (b) must be stopped immediately upon finding any security breaches. The test must conclude on or before December 31, 2026.

(d) Within one (1) month of the conclusion of the test period, the county election commission shall provide a report to the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives detailing the results of the test and recommendations for legislation, if any.

(e) As used in this section, "county election commission" means a county election commission in a county having a population of not less than two hundred twenty thousand (220,000) and not more than two hundred twenty thousand one hundred (220,100), according to the 2020 or a subsequent federal census.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.