

House BILL NO. 247

INTRODUCED BY M. Hanson

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN VOTERS WHO HAVE VOTED BY ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR 8 CONSECUTIVE YEARS; AND AMENDING SECTION 13-2-401, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 13-2-401, MCA, is amended to read:

"13-2-401. Cancellation of registration for failure to vote -- reregistration. (1) Except as provided in subsection (3), within 60 days after every each general election in which a president is elected, the election administrator shall:

(a) cancel the registration of the electors who:

(i) have not voted in each precinct, as shown by the official pollbook and precinct register of each precinct; or

(ii) have voted by absentee ballot for 8 consecutive years unless the elector is a student, is in military service, or has a medical condition that prevents attendance at the polls;

(b) mark the form of each elector whose registration has been canceled; and

(c) place canceled forms for the entire county in alphabetical order in the canceled file.

(2) An elector whose registration is canceled may reregister in the same manner as if he the elector were registering for the first time.

(3) The Subject to subsection (1)(a)(ii), the registration of an elector who votes by absentee ballot but whose ballot does not arrive in time to be counted may not be canceled if his the ballot is received and rejected by the election administrator within 10 days succeeding the election.

(4) A notice of cancellation shall must be published on radio or television, as provided in 2-3-105 through 2-3-107, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the county once a week for 2 weeks prior to the date of cancellation. The notice shall must be run in a display advertisement (known as ROP in the trade) if in a newspaper or as an announcement if on radio or television and shall must be in a form prescribed by the secretary of state. The names of those electors whose registration has been canceled

1 need not be published."

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