



2021 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 184

Introduced by: **Senator Kolbeck**

1 **An Act to require the sorting of absentee ballots.**

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

3 **Section 1.** That § 12-19-43 be AMENDED.

4 **12-19-43. Review--Sorting--Processing--Absentee Ballots.**

5 The county auditor ~~may~~ shall direct the board to meet on election day prior to the
 6 closing of the polls for the sole purpose of reviewing the absentee voters' affidavits
 7 appearing on the sealed ballot envelopes, if in the auditor's judgment this procedure shall
 8 be necessary due to the number of absentee ballots received. The absentee ballots ~~may~~
 9 shall be opened, stamped, and placed in the ballot box or processed by an automatic
 10 tabulating machine, but under no circumstances shall the ballots be manually counted nor
 11 any vote totals printed or displayed by any tabulating machine prior to the closing of the
 12 polls. If ballots are processed by an automatic tabulating machine prior to the closing of
 13 the polls, the resolution board shall be present and notification of such processing shall be
 14 provided to each county party chairperson at least ten days before the election.