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2025 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1208

AMENDMENT 1208E FOR THE HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS ENGROSSED BILL

An Act to provide for registration of an overseas citizen or individual using the
address of a mail forwarding service or post office box as a national statewide
voter.

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

Section 1. That § 12-1-4 be AMENDED:

12-1-4. For the purposes of this title, the term, residence, means the place in which a person is domiciled as shown by "resident," means an individual who maintains an actual fixed permanent dwelling, establishment, or any other abode to which the person returns where the individual lives and usually sleeps, for at least thirty consecutive days. An individual who is a resident of this state remains a resident during an absence from this state, if the individual intends to return to this state after a period of absence. An individual may only be a resident of one place.

A person who leaves the residence and If an individual who is a resident of a county of this state, goes into another county of this state or another state or territory for a temporary purpose has not changed residence, the individual remains a resident of the county.

A person is considered to have gained residence in any An individual is a resident of the county or municipality of this state in which the person individual actually lives, if the person individual has no present intention of leaving.

A person retains residence in An individual remains a resident of this state until another residence has been gained. If a person the individual becomes a resident of another state or territory. If an individual moves from this state to another state or territory with the intention of making it the person's permanent home, the person loses residence in this state becoming a resident of that state or territory for any purpose, the individual is no longer a resident of this state.

Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 12-19:

If an individual applies to register as a voter of this state using only the address of a commercial mail receiving agency, mail forwarding service, or other post office box as the individual's residence address, without providing a description of the location of the individual's habitation, the individual does not meet the requirements to be a resident of this state for the purposes of this title, and may be registered only as a national statewide voter. If an individual who does not meet the requirements to be a resident of this state but is eligible to vote pursuant to this section, the county auditor must indicate that the individual is eligible to vote only as a national statewide voter.

The county auditor shall prepare a ballot that lists only the:

(1) The names of the candidates for:

- (a) Statewide office, as defined in § 12-27-1;
- (b) United States senator;
- (c) United States representative, and president; and
- (d) President and vice president of the United States, as certified by the secretary of state pursuant to § 12-8-8, and the names of the presidential electors designated for each candidate; and
- (2) Any ballot question that affects fees or taxes.

The county auditor or member of the precinct election board shall provide the ballot to any individual who has been designated as a national statewide voter, by the county auditor.

For the purposes of this section, "national voter" "statewide voter" means an individual who is eligible to vote in elections for candidates for statewide office, as defined in § 12-27-1, presidential electors, United States senator, or United States representative, and any ballot question that affects fees or taxes, at a primary, runoff, special, or general election.

Section 3. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 12-20:

The ballot of a national statewide voter, as defined in section 2 of this Act, must be counted with the resident voter ballots of the precinct where the national statewide voter is registered, or in an absentee precinct.