

State of South Dakota

NINETY-THIRD SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2018

663Z0621

HOUSE BILL NO. 1105

Introduced by: Representatives Lust, Diedrich, Johnson, Rounds, and Turbiville and Senators
Soholt, Ewing, and Jensen (Phil)

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding the validation of
2 absentee ballot signatures.

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

4 Section 1. That chapter 12-19 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

5 If a county uses an absentee ballot precinct at the building where the county auditor is
6 located to process absentee ballots on election day for a federal, state, or county election, the
7 county has the option to validate the absentee ballot signatures in the county auditor's office.

8 The county auditor shall follow the provisions of § 12-19-10 except for the following:

9 (1) The county auditor, at anytime during the absentee voting timeframe, shall carefully
10 compare the statement on the reverse side of the official return envelope with the
11 written application without opening or breaking the seal of the return envelope; and

12 (2) If the county auditor determines that both signatures match:

13 (a) The application for absentee ballot does not need to be sent to the absentee
14 precinct board; and

15 (b) The county auditor shall initial the envelope after the determination that



1 signatures do match.