

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS OF ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOTS

R.C. 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.08, 3505.181

1. **INSPECT YOUR BALLOT:** Before voting your ballot, ensure that there are no marks on your ballot. If there are any marks on your ballot, immediately return it to your county board of elections and ask for a new ballot.
2. **MARK YOUR BALLOT:** Mark your ballot according to the specific instructions provided on the ballot.
3. **IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE:** If you make a mistake when marking your ballot, please contact your county board of elections for a replacement ballot. You may request a replacement ballot only two times.
4. **PREPARE YOUR VOTED BALLOT FOR SUBMISSION:**

- A. The numbered stub must remain attached to your ballot. Your ballot cannot be counted if the stub is removed.
- B. Place your voted ballot into the Identification Envelope. Seal the Identification Envelope. Your ballot cannot be counted if it is not sealed in the Identification Envelope.
- C. Complete and sign the Statement of Voter on the outside of the Identification Envelope.

Your ballot cannot be counted if required information on the Statement of Voter is not completed.

1. If your board of elections has not already pre-printed your name on the Statement of Voter, you must **print your name – REQUIRED.**
2. **Print your Ohio driver's license number** (two letters followed by six numbers) **OR the last four digits of your Social Security number.** If you do not provide either of these forms of identification, you must enclose a copy of a valid ID in the Return Envelope as described below – **REQUIRED.**
3. **Sign your name.** Your ballot cannot be counted without your signature – **REQUIRED.**
- D. Place the sealed, completed, and signed Identification Envelope into the Return Envelope.
- E. If you did not write your Ohio driver's license number or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number on your Identification Envelope, include a copy of a current and valid photo identification, a military ID, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections), that shows your name and address. Place the copy of your ID in the Return Envelope **separate** from the Identification Envelope. Election officials must be able to see you have provided ID in order to count your ballot.
- F. Seal the Return Envelope containing your completed and sealed Identification Envelope and, if appropriate, your separate ID document.

5. RETURN YOUR VOTED BALLOT:

- You or a near relative may deliver your ballot in person to the board of elections until the close of the polls on Election Day (7:30 p.m.), or you may return your ballot by mail. If you return your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked (not a date marked by a postage evidence system such as a postage meter) no later than the day before Election Day and received by your county board of elections not later than 10 days after Election Day in order to be counted. You must affix sufficient postage for the prompt delivery of your ballot.
- You may NOT return your absent voter's ballot to your polling place.
- Ballots received late cannot be counted.

NOTICE:

If you change your mind about voting absentee and decide to vote at your precinct polling location on Election Day, you will be required to vote a provisional ballot.