

1 H.388

2 Introduced by Representative Brennan of Colchester

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; local elections; Australian ballot system; early and absentee  
6 voting; municipal districts

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to authorize  
8 incorporated municipal districts to mail annual meeting ballots to all active  
9 registered voters of the district, after receiving approval of the legislative body  
10 of each member municipality within the district.

11 An act relating to authorizing municipal districts to mail annual meeting  
12 ballots

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2103 is amended to read:

15 § 2103. DEFINITIONS

16 As used in this title, ~~unless the context or a specific definition requires a~~  
17 ~~different reading:~~

18 \* \* \*

19 (17) “Legislative body” means the selectboard in the case of a town; the  
20 city council, mayor, and alder board in the case of a city; the trustees or bailiffs

1 in the case of a village; the school board in the case of a school district; the  
2 governing body in the case of a municipal district; and the prudential  
3 committee in the case of a fire district.

4 \* \* \*

5 (44) "Municipal district" means any incorporated district consisting of  
6 two or more member municipalities.

7 Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2680 is amended to read:

8 § 2680. AUSTRALIAN BALLOT SYSTEM; GENERAL

9 \* \* \*

10 (g) Early and absentee voting. At the time the Australian ballots are  
11 available, which shall be not less than 20 days before the election, early and  
12 absentee voting shall be permitted in accordance with chapter 51, subchapter 6  
13 of this title.

14 \* \* \*

15 (2) A school board or the legislative body of a municipal district may,  
16 after receiving the approval of the legislative body of each member town in the  
17 district, vote to mail its annual meeting ballot to all active registered voters in  
18 the district. In such case, the town clerk and election officials in the member  
19 towns shall be responsible for the mailing of the ballots, but all costs  
20 associated with the mailing of ballots shall be borne by the ~~school~~ district.

21 \* \* \*

1       Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2       This act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.