

**DRAFT**

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LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF IDAHO  
Sixty-sixth Legislature First Regular Session - 2021  
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1 AN ACT  
2 RELATING TO ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 34-201, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PRO-  
3 VISIONS REGARDING THE POWERS OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN CERTAIN EMER-  
4 GENCY SITUATIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

5 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

6 SECTION 1. That Section 34-201, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 34-201. SECRETARY OF STATE CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER. (1) The secretary  
9 of state is the chief election officer of this state, and it is his responsi-  
10 bility to obtain and maintain uniformity in the application, operation and  
11 interpretation of the election laws.

12 (2) The secretary of state is responsible for providing information re-  
13 garding voter registration procedures and absentee ballot procedures to be  
14 used by absent uniformed service voters and overseas voters with respect to  
15 elections for federal office as required by section 102 of the uniformed and  
16 overseas citizens absentee voting act (42 U.S.C. section 1973 et seq.).

17 (3) If a national or local emergency or other situation arises which  
18 makes substantial compliance with the provisions of the uniformed and  
19 overseas citizens absentee voting act or the provisions of this chapter  
20 impossible or unreasonable, such as a declaration of a state of emergency,  
21 a natural disaster, or an armed conflict involving United States armed  
22 forces, mobilization of those forces, including state national guard and  
23 reserve components of this state, the secretary of state may prescribe, by  
24 directive, such special procedures or requirements as may be necessary to  
25 facilitate the elections process and absentee voting by those citizens di-  
26 rectly affected who otherwise are eligible to vote in this state.

27 SECTION 2. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby  
28 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after its  
29 passage and approval.