IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 693

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

AN ACT
RELATING TO ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 34-1005, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE RETURN OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. That Section 34-1005, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

34-1005. RETURN OF ABSENTEE BALLOT. (1) The return envelope shall be mailed or delivered to the officer who issued the same; provided, that an absentee ballot must be received by the issuing officer by 8:00 p.m. on the day of election before such ballot may be counted. The use of drop-off boxes or similar drop-off locations to collect absentee ballots is prohibited. (2) Upon receipt of an absent elector's ballot, the county clerk of the county wherein such elector resides shall verify the authenticity of the affidavit, including verifying that the signature matches the signature from such elector's voter registration, and shall write or stamp upon the envelope containing the same, the date and hour such envelope was received in his office and shall record the information pursuant to section 34-1011, Idaho Code. He shall safely keep and preserve all absent electors' ballots unopened until the time prescribed for delivery to the polls or to the central count ballot processing center.

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