

# SB2168



## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

SB2168

Introduced 2/20/2009, by Sen. Toi W. Hutchinson

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/20-1

from Ch. 46, par. 20-1

Amends the Election Code. Specifies that the spouse or dependent of a member of the armed forces or merchant marine, residing with or accompanying the member, need not have resided in Illinois in order to vote a military or overseas absentee ballot.

LRB096 04888 JAM 14954 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Section  
5 20-1 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/20-1) (from Ch. 46, par. 20-1)

7 Sec. 20-1. The following words and phrases contained in  
8 this Article shall be construed as follows:

9 1. "Territorial limits of the United States" means each of  
10 the several States of the United States and includes the  
11 District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam and  
12 the Virgin Islands; but does not include American Samoa, the  
13 Canal Zone, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands or any  
14 other territory or possession of the United States.

15 2. "Member of the United States Service" means (a) members  
16 of the Armed Forces while on active duty and their spouses and  
17 dependents of voting age when residing with or accompanying  
18 them, (b) members of the Merchant Marine of the United States  
19 and their spouses and dependents when residing with or  
20 accompanying them and (c) United States government employees  
21 serving outside the territorial limits of the United States.  
22 For the purposes of this definition, nothing in this Code shall  
23 be construed to require that the spouse or voting age dependent

1 of a member of the Armed Forces or Merchant Marine must have  
2 ever resided in Illinois.

3 3. "Citizens of the United States temporarily residing  
4 outside the territorial limits of the United States" means  
5 civilian citizens of the United States and their spouses and  
6 dependents of voting age when residing with or accompanying  
7 them, who maintain a precinct residence in a county in this  
8 State and whose intent to return may be ascertained.

9 4. "Non-Resident Civilian Citizens" means civilian  
10 citizens of the United States (a) who reside outside the  
11 territorial limits of the United States, (b) who had maintained  
12 a precinct residence in a county in this State immediately  
13 prior to their departure from the United States, (c) who do not  
14 maintain a residence and are not registered to vote in any  
15 other State, and (d) whose intent to return to this State may  
16 be uncertain.

17 5. "Official postcard" means the postcard application for  
18 registration to vote or for an absentee ballot in the form  
19 provided in Section 204(c) of the Federal Voting Rights Act of  
20 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1973cc-14(c)).

21 6. "Federal office" means the offices of President and  
22 Vice-President of the United States, United States Senator,  
23 Representative in Congress, delegates and alternate delegates  
24 to the national nominating conventions and candidates for the  
25 Presidential Preference Primary.

26 7. "Federal election" means any general, primary or special

1 election at which candidates are nominated or elected to  
2 Federal office.

3 8. "Dependent", for purposes of this Article, shall mean a  
4 father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter.

5 (Source: P.A. 81-953.)