

Introduced by

Senators Schaible, Dever, Sorvaag

Representatives Meier, Rohr

1 | A BILL for an Act to create and enact ~~a new section to chapter 16.1-01 and~~ a new section to
2 | chapter 16.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to emergency authority of the
3 | secretary of state for the administration of elections.

4 | **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 | ~~**SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 16.1-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 | and enacted as follows:~~

7 | ~~**Secretary of state may postpone election under emergency declaration.**~~

8 | ~~The secretary of state may postpone an election in part or all of the state for a reasonable
9 | time if, in a state of disaster or emergency declared by the governor under section 37-17.1-05,
10 | the state of disaster or emergency is reasonably likely to substantially interfere with the election.
11 | The period of the postponement of an election may not exceed thirty days from the regularly
12 | scheduled date of the election. During the state of disaster or emergency, the secretary of state
13 | may take any action necessary or expedient to facilitate the conduct of the postponed election.~~

14 | **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 16.1-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
15 | and enacted as follows:

16 | **Emergency procedures to facilitate absentee voting.**

17 | If an international, national, state, or local disaster or emergency or other situation arises
18 | which makes substantial compliance with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee
19 | Voting Act [42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.] impossible or impracticable, as confirmed by the existence
20 | of armed conflict involving the armed forces of the United States or the mobilization of those
21 | forces, including national guard and reserve component members of this state, by the
22 | occurrence of a natural disaster or the existence of a state of emergency, civil unrest, war, or
23 | other exigency in a foreign country, or by an official declaration by the governor that a state of
24 | disaster or emergency exists, the secretary of state may prescribe special procedures or

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- 1 requirements as may be necessary to facilitate absentee voting by those absent uniformed
- 2 services voters or overseas voters directly affected and who are eligible to vote in this state.