



Our election must be

Safe!
Accessible!
Secure!

- ★ Expanded absentee voting
- ★ Additional days for counting ballots
- ★ Venues & staff for all local polling places
- ★ PPE and safety measures for staff & voters

9-16-20 Update — SC House approves absentee voting for all

ELECTION CHANGES PASS HOUSE. On September 15 the SC House took up H.5305, the bill used by the Senate as a vehicle for pandemic-related changes in laws governing the general elections in 2020. The House passed a version identical to that passed by the Senate on September 2.

LWVSC appreciate despecially the efforts of Rep. Wendy Brawley to amend the bill to remove the requirement for a witness signature on the envelope, and to permit secure drop boxes at election offices. However, her amendments were tabled.

Here is a quick summary of what will become effective when the Governor signs the bill:

- Absentee voting eligibility is expanded to include all qualified electors in South Carolina. This includes both voting absentee by mail and early in-person absentee voting.
- The bill specifies that early in-person absentee voting will begin on October 5, 2020.
- If a mail ballot is obtained, it can be filled out and handed over to an official at a county or satellite election office, but not at ordinary polling places on Election Day, November 3.

The LWVSC is planning energetic voter education efforts to help voters navigate these conditions for a safe, secure, and accessible election.