

STATE ELECTION BOARD
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Revisions to Subject 183-1-14-.11 *Mailing and Issuance of Ballots*

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSON AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Election Board, (hereinafter “SEB”) proposes the attached amendments to Subject 183-1-14-.11 (Mailing and Issuance of Ballots).

This notice, together with an exact copy of the proposed new rules and a synopsis of the proposed rules, is being distributed to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a distribution list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the proposed rule amendments, and a synopsis of the proposed rule amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official state holidays, at the Office of the Secretary of State, Elections Division, 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E., 8th Floor West Tower, Atlanta, Georgia 30334. These documents will also be available for review on the State Election Board’s web page at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/proposed-state-election-board-rules-and-rule-amendments> Copies may also be requested by contacting the State Election Board at: ahardin@sos.ga.gov .

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed rule amendments, a public hearing will be held on Friday, September 20, 2024 at 9:00 A.M. The meeting will take place at the Georgia State Capitol, Room 341.

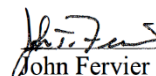
Information regarding how to join and provide public comment at the meeting will be available on the State Election Board’s webpage at: <https://sos.ga.gov/page/state-election-board-meetings-events>

Public comments given at the meeting will be limited to two minutes per person. Additional comments may be given using the following means and must be received by noon on September 19 to be considered by the State Election Board:

- Electronically by emailing SEBPublicComments@sos.ga.gov
- By mailing comments to:
State Election Board
C/O Alexandra Hardin
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, S.E.
8th Floor West Tower Suite 802
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 21st day of August 2024.


John Fervier

Chair, State Election Board

Posted: August 21, 2024

**SYNOPSIS OF THE PROPOSED RULE
OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD
RULE 183-1-14-.11. *Mailing and Issuance of Ballots***

Purpose: The purpose of the rule is to maintain the chain of custody of ballots in Georgia by ensuring that ballots are mailed to the intended recipient and returned to the county elections office with an auditable trail.

Main Features: The main feature of this rule amendment is that it establishes the United States Postal Service tracking as a means to track absentee-by-mail ballots. It also establishes that the USPS tracking records for each ballot mailed to electors should be maintained by the county board of registrars or the absentee ballot clerk for public inspection.

**DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE EXISTING RULE AND THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENTS OF THE STATE ELECTION BOARD,
RULE 183-1-14-.11. *Mailing and Issuance of Ballots***

NOTE: Underlined text is proposed to be added.

Rule 183-1-14-.11. *Mailing and Issuance of Ballots*

During early voting, as additional applicants for absentee ballots are determined to be eligible, the board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall mail by United States Postal Service or other delivery service which offers tracking, or issue official absentee ballots or provisional absentee ballots, if appropriate, to such additional applicants immediately upon determining their eligibility. The board or clerk shall make such determination and mail by United States Postal Service or other delivery service which offers tracking of, or issue official absentee ballots; provisional absentee ballots, if appropriate, or notices of rejection of absentee ballot applications to such additional applicants within 3 business days after receiving the absentee ballot applications. The board of registrars or absentee ballot clerk shall maintain for public inspection pursuant to O.C.G.A 50-17-70 U.S. Postal Service tracking records for each ballot mailed to electors.

Authority: O.C.G.A. § 21-2-31, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384

COPY OF THE PROPOSED NEW RULE

Rule 183-1-14-.11. *Mailing and Issuance of Ballots*

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Authority: O.C.G.A. § 21-2-31, O.C.G.A. § 21-2-384