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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 395  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Galonski

Abby McMahon, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Requires the Secretary of State to prepay the return postage for completed absent voter's ballots, except when no postage is required under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Prepay return postage for completed absent voter's ballots

The bill requires the Secretary of State to prepay the return postage for completed absent voter's ballots mailed or otherwise delivered to an elector, unless no postage is required under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA). Under current law, a board of elections is prohibited from prepaying the return postage for completed absent voter's ballots.

Under continuing law, UOCAVA is a federal program that allows overseas voters to apply for and vote using an absent voter's ballot while overseas. Federal law specifically provides that ballot materials under UOCAVA are free of postage and may be mailed at any post office outside the United States.<sup>1</sup>

### HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	11-05-19

H0395-I-133/ec

<sup>1</sup> R.C. 3509.04, 3509.05, and 3511.04; 39 U.S.C. 3406.