



NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
AMENDMENT  
Senate Bill 249

AMENDMENT NO. A5

(to be filled in by  
Principal Clerk)

S249-ABKe-10 [v.4]

Page 1 of 2

Amends Title [YES]  
Second Edition

Date \_\_\_\_\_, 2025

Senator Lowe

1 moves to amend the bill on page 1, line 2, by deleting "DISTRICTS." and substituting  
2 "DISTRICTS AND TO ALLOW FOR A TEN-DAY GRACE PERIOD FOR THE RETURN OF  
3 ABSENTEE BALLOTS IF POSTMARKED ON ELECTION DAY.";

4  
5 and on page 3, line 43, by rewriting that line to read:

6 "SECTION 2.(a) G.S. 163-231(b) reads as rewritten:

7 "(b) Transmitting Executed Absentee Ballots to County ~~Board of Elections.~~ Board. – The  
8 sealed container-return envelope in which executed absentee ballots have been placed shall be  
9 transmitted to the county board of elections who issued those ballots as follows:

10 (1) All ballots issued under the provisions of this Article and Article 21A of this  
11 Chapter shall be transmitted by one of the following means:

- 12 a. Mail or commercial courier service, at the voter's expense, and  
13 received by the county board not later than 7:30 P.M. on the day of the  
14 statewide primary or general election or county bond election.  
15 b. Delivered in person, by the voter or the voter's near relative or  
16 verifiable legal guardian, to the county board not later than 7:30 P.M.  
17 on the day of the statewide primary or general election or county bond  
18 election.  
19 c. Electronically transmitted to the county board, if the ballot was issued  
20 under the provisions of Article 21A of this Chapter.

21 (2) If ballots are received later than the hour stated in subdivision (1) of this  
22 subsection, those ballots shall not be accepted unless one of the following  
23 applies:

- 24 a. Acceptance of the ballots is required by federal law or the law.  
25 b. The ballots issued under this Article are postmarked and that postmark  
26 is dated on or before the day of the statewide primary or general  
27 election or county bond election and are received by the county board  
28 no later than ten days after the election by 5:00 P.M.  
29 c. The ballots are received in accordance with Article 21A of this Chapter  
30 or the Chapter.  
31 d. The State Board or court order extended the closing time of the polls  
32 for every poll in the county in accordance with G.S. 163-166.25. If the



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TABLED

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1 State Board or court order so extended the closing time of the polls,  
2 the ballots shall be received by the closing time as extended by the  
3 State Board or court order in order to be counted."  
4 **SECTION 2.(b)** This section becomes effective January 1, 2026, and applies to  
5 elections held on or after that date.  
6 **SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
7 law."  
8  
9  
10 and by rewriting the Short Title to read: "Realign Congress Dist. 2025/Absentee Ballots".

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
Amendment Sponsor

SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_  
Committee Chair if Senate Committee Amendment

ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_ FAILED \_\_\_\_\_ , TABLED \_\_\_\_\_