

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2015**

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**SENATE BILL 587**

Short Title: Postage Paid on Return/Voted Absentee Ballots. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators D. Davis, Smith-Ingram (Primary Sponsors); and Lowe.

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate.

March 30, 2015

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF VOTED ABSENTEE BALLOTS BY  
PRE-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES, POSTAGE PAID UPON RETURN.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 163-231(b)(1) reads as rewritten:

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

(1) All ballots issued under the provisions of this Article and Article 21A of this Chapter shall be transmitted by mail in the pre-addressed envelope, postage paid upon return or by commercial courier ~~service, at the voter's expense, service~~ or delivered in person, or by the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian and received by the county board not later than 5:00 p.m. on the day of the statewide primary or general election or county bond election. Ballots issued under the provisions of Article 21A of this Chapter may also be electronically transmitted.

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**SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held on or after that date.

