AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to certain absentee ballots received by a board of elections that do not bear or display a dated postmark

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 8-412 of the election law, as amended by chapter 155 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as follows:

1. The board of elections shall cause all absentee ballots received by it before the close of the polls on election day and all ballots contained in envelopes showing a cancellation mark of the United States postal service or a foreign country's postal service, or showing a dated endorsement of receipt by another agency of the United States government, with a date which is ascertained to be not later than the day before election and received by such board of elections not later than seven days following the day of election to be cast and counted except that the absentee ballot of a voter who requested such ballot by letter, rather than application, shall not be counted unless a valid application form, signed by such voter, is received by the board of elections with such ballot. For purposes of this section, any absentee ballot received by the board of elections no later than seven days following the day of the election that does not bear or display a dated postmark shall be presumed to have been timely mailed or delivered if such ballot bears a time stamp of the receiving board of elections indicating receipt by such board.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to elections occurring on or after such effective date.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [−] is old law to be omitted.