HOUSE BILL No. 2319

By Representative Esau

AN ACT concerning elections; relating to the deadline for returning advance voting ballots; amending K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 25-1132 and repealing the existing section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 25-1132 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1132. (a) All advance voting ballots which are received in the office of the county election officer or any polling place within the county not later than the hour for closing of the polls on the date of any election specified in K.S.A. 25-1122(f), and amendments thereto, shall be delivered by the county election officer to the appropriate special election board provided for in K.S.A. 25-1133, and amendments thereto.

(b) Subject to the deadline for receipt by the office of the county election officer as set forth in this subsection, all advance voting ballots received by mail by the office of the county election officer after the closing of the polls on the date of any election specified in K.S.A. 25-1122(f), and amendments thereto, and which are postmarked or are otherwise indicated by the United States postal service to have been mailed on or before the close of the polls on the date of the election, shall be delivered by the county election officer to a special election board or the county board of canvassers, as determined by the secretary of state, for canvassing in a manner consistent, as nearly as may be, with other advance voting ballots. The deadline for the receipt by mail of the advance voting ballots by the office of the county election officer shall be the last delivery of mail by the United States postal service 5:00 p.m. on the third day following the date of the election, unless additional time is permitted by the secretary. In no case shall an elected or appointed official or a court change the deadline. The secretary of state shall adopt rules and regulations to implement this subsection.

Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 25-1132 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.