## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING**

## AND RETURNING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

- Determine the number of candidates for which you are permitted to vote by reading the disclosure information at the top or bottom for each office on the ballot.
- Vote by completely filling in or putting an "X" in the oval to the right of the name of the candidate or candidates for whom you want to vote. If a write in field is provided your municipality permits you to write in a candidate that does not appear on the ballot. NOTE: If you vote for more than the allowable number of candidates for an office, the votes for that office shall not be counted.
- If you make a mistake or change your mind, clearly indicate by words and arrows the person for whom you want to vote.
- If you spoil your ballot, contact the municipality that mailed you the Absentee Ballot for instructions on how to obtain a replacement.
- Check your ballot to make sure that you have made selections for each office on the ballot unless you intentionally did not make selections for one or more offices.
- Once you are satisfied that you have completed your ballot, fold it neatly and put it into the envelope marked BALLOT ENVELOPE.
- Seal the BALLOT ENVELOPE. Read the oath that is printed on the BALLOT ENVELOPE, then sign and date the BALLOT ENVELOPE in the space provided. Put the BALLOT ENVELOPE into the mailing envelope, seal the mailing envelope and then mail the sealed mailing envelope with the ballot enclosed or deliver the sealed mailing envelope with the ballot enclosed to the address of the municipality.

## OTHER INFORMATION

- The above instructions also apply to any referenda question that may appear on the ballot.
- Absentee ballots must be received by the appropriate municipality no later than the time the polls close on the Election Day.
- Any person making a false affidavit shall be guilty of perjury and, upon conviction, be punished as provided by law.
  - Any person who fraudulently signs the name of a voter to any affidavit on any voucher envelope shall be guilty of forgery and, upon conviction, be punished as provided by law.
- Any person in voting or attempting to vote by himself or herself, or any other person, pursuant to the provisions of the absentee ballot law, violates any of the laws of this State enacted to secure the secrecy and independence of the voter, preserve the freedom and purity of the elections and prevent fraud, corruption and intimidation, shall be punished as provided by law.