

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 18, 2009

TO: All Members of the Delaware State Senate
and House of Representatives

FROM: Ms. Daniese McMullin-Powell
Chairperson
State Council for Persons with Disabilities

RE: H.B. 132 [Absentee Voting]

The State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) has reviewed H.B. 132 which would permit military and overseas citizens with the ability to receive and send absentee ballots applications, absentee ballots and related forms by electronic transmission. Specifically, the bill is designed to facilitate the absentee voting process for several groups of individuals, including the following: 1) persons “absent from this State because of illness or injury received while serving in the armed forces of the United States”; 2) citizens temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the United States”; 3) persons “in the public service of the United States or of this State”; and 4) persons eligible to vote under the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

SCPD endorses the proposed legislation since it would facilitate voting by injured veterans undergoing rehabilitation out-of-state, as well as other citizens temporarily living abroad.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact SCPD if you have any questions regarding our position on the proposed legislation.

cc: The Honorable Jack Markell
Mr. Brian Hartman, Esq.
Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens
Developmental Disabilities Council