

**20A-16-503 Prohibition of nonsubstantive requirements.**

- (1)
  - (a) If a covered voter's mistake or omission in the completion of a document under this chapter does not prevent determining whether a covered voter is eligible to vote, the mistake or omission does not invalidate the document.
  - (b) Failure to satisfy a nonsubstantive requirement, such as using paper or envelopes of a specified size or weight, does not invalidate a document submitted under this chapter.
  - (c) In a write-in ballot authorized by this chapter or in a vote for a write-in candidate on a regular ballot, if the intention of the covered voter is discernable under this state's uniform definition of what constitutes a vote, an abbreviation, misspelling, or other minor variation in the form of the name of a candidate or a political party is a valid vote.
- (2)
  - (a) Notarization is not required for the execution of a document under this chapter.
  - (b)
    - (i) An authentication, other than the declaration specified in Section 20A-16-409 or the declaration on the federal postcard application and federal write-in absentee ballot, is not required for execution of a document under this chapter.
    - (ii) The declaration and any information in the declaration may be compared with information on file to ascertain the validity of the document.

Enacted by Chapter 327, 2011 General Session