The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Rodriguez) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)**

Between lines 532 and 533
insert:

101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.—

(2)

(c)1. The canvassing board must, if the supervisor has not already done so, compare the signature of the elector on the voter’s certificate or on the vote-by-mail ballot cure affidavit as provided in subsection (4) with the signature of the elector
in the registration books or the precinct register to see that the elector is duly registered in the county and to determine the legality of that vote-by-mail ballot. A vote-by-mail ballot may only be counted if:

a. The signature on the voter’s certificate or the cure affidavit matches the elector’s signature in the registration books or precinct register; however, in the case of a cure affidavit, the supporting identification listed in subsection (4) must also confirm the identity of the elector; or

b. The cure affidavit contains a signature that does not match the elector’s signature in the registration books or precinct register, but the elector has submitted a current and valid Tier 1 identification pursuant to subsection (4) which confirms the identity of the elector.

For purposes of this paragraph, any canvassing board finding that signatures do not match must be beyond a reasonable doubt.

2. The ballot of an elector who casts a vote-by-mail ballot shall be counted even if the elector dies on or before election day, as long as, before the death of the voter, the ballot was postmarked by the United States Postal Service, date-stamped with a verifiable tracking number by a common carrier, or already in the possession of the supervisor of elections.

3. A vote-by-mail ballot is not considered illegal if the signature of the elector does not cross the seal of the mailing envelope.

4. If any elector or candidate present believes that a vote-by-mail ballot is illegal due to a defect apparent on the voter’s certificate or the cure affidavit, he or she may, at any
time before the ballot is removed from the envelope, file with
the canvassing board a protest against the canvass of that
ballot, specifying the precinct, the ballot, and the reason he
or she believes the ballot to be illegal. A challenge based upon
a defect in the voter’s certificate or cure affidavit may not be
accepted after the ballot has been removed from the mailing
envelope.

5. If the canvassing board determines that a ballot is
illegal, a member of the board must, without opening the
envelope, mark across the face of the envelope: “rejected as
illegal.” The cure affidavit, if applicable, the envelope, and
the ballot therein shall be preserved in the manner that
official ballots are preserved.

====== DIRECTORY CLAUSE AMENDMENT ======
And the directory clause is amended as follows:

Delete line 495

and insert:

Section 9. Subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (c) of
subsection (2),

================ TITLE AMENDMENT =================
And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 30 and 31
insert:
revising requirements related to the canvassing and
counting of vote-by-mail ballots;