

**ESSB 5743** - H COMM AMD

By Committee on State Government Operations & Accountability

NOT ADOPTED 04/14/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 9.94A RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 When a person is convicted of a felony, the court shall require the  
6 offender to sign a statement acknowledging that his or her right to  
7 vote has been lost, that the secretary of state and county auditors are  
8 being notified thereof, that his or her voter registration will be  
9 canceled in accordance with RCW 29A.08.520, and that voting before  
10 restoration of the right to vote under RCW 9.92.066, 9.94A.637, or  
11 chapter 9.96 RCW, is a felony under RCW 29A.84.660.

12 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29A.08.010 and 2004 c 267 s 102 are each amended to  
13 read as follows:

14 As used in this chapter: "Information required for voter  
15 registration" means the minimum information provided on a voter  
16 registration application that is required by the county auditor in  
17 order to place a voter registration applicant on the voter registration  
18 rolls. This information includes (~~the applicant's~~):

19 (1) Name(~~, complete residence~~);

20 (2) Residential address(~~)~~;

21 (3) Date of birth(~~)~~;

22 (4) Washington state driver's license number, Washington state  
23 identification card, or the last four digits of the applicant's Social  
24 Security number(~~)~~;

25 (5) A signature attesting to the truth of the information provided  
26 on the application(~~)~~; and

27 (6) A check or indication in the box confirming the individual is  
28 a United States citizen.

1 If the individual does not have a driver's license, state  
2 identification card, or Social Security number, the registrant must be  
3 issued a unique voter registration number (~~(and)~~) in order to be placed  
4 on the voter registration rolls. All other information supplied is  
5 ancillary and not to be used as grounds for not registering an  
6 applicant to vote. Modification of the language of the official  
7 Washington state voter registration form by the voter will not be  
8 accepted and will cause the rejection of the registrant's application.

9 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.030 and 2004 c 267 s 104 are each amended to  
10 read as follows:

11 The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this  
12 chapter, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

13 (1) "Verification notice" means a notice sent by the county auditor  
14 or secretary of state to a voter registration applicant and is used to  
15 verify or collect information about the applicant in order to complete  
16 the registration. The verification notice must be designed to include  
17 a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form by which the applicant may  
18 verify or send information.

19 (2) "Acknowledgement notice" means a notice sent by nonforwardable  
20 mail by the county auditor or secretary of state to a registered voter  
21 to acknowledge a voter registration transaction, which can include  
22 initial registration, transfer, or reactivation of an inactive  
23 registration. An acknowledgement notice may be a voter registration  
24 card.

25 (3) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent to a registered voter  
26 by first class forwardable mail at the address indicated on the voter's  
27 permanent registration record and to any other address at which the  
28 county auditor or secretary of state could reasonably expect mail to be  
29 received by the voter in order to confirm the voter's residence  
30 address. The confirmation notice must be designed (~~((so that the voter~~  
31 ~~may update his or her current residence address))~~) to include a postage  
32 prepaid, preaddressed return form by which the registrant may verify  
33 the address information.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08 RCW  
35 to read as follows:

36 When a former felon's voting rights have been restored, the county

1 clerk shall immediately transmit this information to the secretary of  
2 state along with information about the county where the conviction  
3 occurred and the county that is the last known residence of the former  
4 felon. The secretary of state shall maintain such records as a part of  
5 the elections data base and shall transmit information about the  
6 restoration of the former felon's voting rights to the county auditor  
7 where the conviction took place and, if different, the county where the  
8 felon was last known to reside.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 (1) The civil right to vote is automatically restored to persons  
12 convicted of a felony upon completion of all the requirements of all of  
13 their sentences as defined in RCW 9.94A.030.

14 (2) This section does not impair or alter an offender's ability to  
15 obtain a certificate of discharge if eligible under RCW 9.94A.637.

16 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.08.107 and 2004 c 267 s 106 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 (1) The secretary of state must review the information provided by  
19 each voter registration applicant, other than an applicant issued a  
20 unique voter registration number under RCW 29A.08.010, to ensure that  
21 ~~((either))~~ the driver's license number, state identification card  
22 number, or the last four digits of the Social Security number match the  
23 information maintained by the Washington department of licensing or the  
24 Social Security administration. If a match cannot be made, the  
25 secretary of state or county auditor must correspond with the applicant  
26 to resolve the discrepancy.

27 (2) If the applicant fails to respond to any correspondence  
28 required in this section to confirm information provided on a voter  
29 registration application ~~((7))~~ within thirty days, ~~the ((secretary of~~  
30 ~~state shall forward the application to the appropriate county auditor~~  
31 ~~for document storage))~~ applicant will not be registered to vote.

32 (3) Only after the secretary of state has confirmed that an  
33 applicant's driver's license number, state identification card number,  
34 or the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number match  
35 existing records with the Washington department of licensing or the  
36 Social Security administration or determined that the applicant does

1 not have (~~either~~) a driver's license number, state identification  
2 card number, or Social Security number may the applicant be placed on  
3 the official list of registered voters.

4 (4) All records of applications are public records and must be  
5 disclosed upon request.

6 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2004 c 267 s 107 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (1) On receipt of an application for voter registration, the county  
9 auditor shall review the application to determine whether the  
10 information supplied is complete. An application is considered  
11 complete only if it contains the applicant's name, complete valid  
12 residence address, date of birth, and signature attesting to the truth  
13 of the information provided and an indication (~~the license~~  
14 ~~information~~) that the driver's license number, state identification  
15 card number, or Social Security number has been confirmed by the  
16 secretary of state. If the applicant does not have a driver's license,  
17 state identification card, or Social Security number, the indication  
18 that the driver's license number, state identification card number, or  
19 Social Security number has been confirmed is not required for the  
20 application to be complete. If it is not complete, the auditor shall  
21 promptly mail a verification notice of the deficiency to the applicant.  
22 This verification notice shall require the applicant to provide the  
23 missing information. If the verification notice is not returned by the  
24 applicant or is returned as undeliverable (~~the auditor shall not~~  
25 ~~place~~), the name of the applicant shall not be placed on the county  
26 voter list. If the applicant provides the required verified  
27 information, the applicant shall be registered to vote as of the date  
28 of mailing of the original voter registration application.

29 (2) In order to prevent duplicate registration records, all  
30 complete voter registration applications must be screened against  
31 existing voter registration records in the official statewide voter  
32 registration list. If a match of an existing record is found in the  
33 official list the record must be updated with the new information  
34 provided on the application. If the new information indicates that the  
35 voter has changed his or her county of residence, the application must  
36 be forwarded to the voter's new county of residence for processing. If

1 the new information indicates that the voter remains in the same county  
2 of residence or if the applicant is a new voter the application must be  
3 processed by the county of residence.

4 (3) If the information required in subsection (1) of this section  
5 is complete, the applicant is considered to be registered to vote as of  
6 the original date of mailing or date of delivery, whichever is  
7 applicable. The auditor shall record the appropriate precinct  
8 identification, taxing district identification, and date of  
9 registration on the voter's record in the state voter registration  
10 list. Within forty-five days after the receipt of an application but  
11 no later than seven days before the next primary, special election, or  
12 general election, the auditor shall send to the applicant, by first  
13 class mail, an acknowledgement notice identifying the registrant's  
14 precinct and containing such other information as may be required by  
15 the secretary of state. The postal service shall be instructed not to  
16 forward a voter registration card to any other address and to return to  
17 the auditor any card which is not deliverable. If the registrant has  
18 indicated on the form that he or she is registered to vote within the  
19 county but has provided a new address within the county that is for  
20 voter registration purposes, the auditor shall transfer the voter's  
21 registration.

22 (4) If an acknowledgement notice card is properly mailed as  
23 required by this section to the address listed by the voter as being  
24 the voter's mailing address and the notice is subsequently returned to  
25 the auditor by the postal service as being undeliverable to the voter  
26 at that address, the auditor shall promptly send the voter a  
27 confirmation notice. The auditor shall place the voter's registration  
28 on inactive status pending a response from the voter to the  
29 confirmation notice.

30 NEW SECTION. Sec. 8. A new section is added to chapter 29A.08 RCW  
31 to read as follows:

32 No person registering to vote, who meets all the qualifications of  
33 a registered voter in the state of Washington, shall be disqualified  
34 because of a nontraditional address being used as a residence address.  
35 Voters using such an address will be registered and assigned to a  
36 precinct based on the location provided. Voters without a traditional  
37 address will be registered at the county courthouse, city hall, or

1 other public building near the area that the voter considers his or her  
2 residence. Registering at a nontraditional address will not disqualify  
3 a voter from requesting ongoing absentee voter status if the voter  
4 designates a valid mailing address.

5 For the purposes of this section, "nontraditional address" includes  
6 shelters, parks, or other identifiable locations that the voter deems  
7 to be his or her residence.

8 **Sec. 9.** RCW 29A.08.115 and 2004 c 267 s 108 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 A person or organization collecting voter registration application  
11 forms must transmit the forms to the secretary of state or a  
12 ((designee)) county auditor at least once weekly. The registration  
13 date on such forms will be the date they are received by the secretary  
14 of state or county auditor.

15 **Sec. 10.** RCW 29A.08.125 and 2004 c 267 s 110 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (1) Each county auditor shall maintain a computer file containing  
18 a copy of each record of all registered voters within the county  
19 contained on the official statewide voter registration list for that  
20 county.

21 (2) The secretary of state every quarter shall review and update  
22 the records of all registered voters on the official statewide voter  
23 registration data base to make additions and corrections.

24 (3) The computer file must include, but not be limited to, each  
25 voter's last name, first name, middle initial, date of birth, residence  
26 address, gender, date of registration, applicable taxing district and  
27 precinct codes, and the last date on which the individual voted.

28 (4) The county auditor shall subsequently record each consecutive  
29 date upon which the individual has voted and retain all such  
30 consecutive dates.

31 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29A.08.145 and 2004 c 267 s 113 are each amended to  
32 read as follows:

33 This section establishes a special procedure which an elector may  
34 use to register to vote or transfer a voter registration by changing  
35 his or her address during the period beginning after the closing of

1 registration for voting at the polls under RCW 29A.08.140 and ending on  
2 the fifteenth day before a primary, special election, or general  
3 election. A qualified elector in the state may register to vote or  
4 change his or her registration address in person in the office of the  
5 county auditor of the county in which the applicant resides, or at a  
6 voter registration location specifically designated for this purpose by  
7 the (~~county auditor of the county in which the applicant resides~~)  
8 secretary of state, and apply for an absentee ballot for that primary  
9 or election. The auditor or registration assistant shall register that  
10 individual in the manner provided in this chapter. The application for  
11 an absentee ballot executed by the newly registered or transferred  
12 voter for the primary or election that follows the execution of the  
13 registration shall be promptly transmitted to the auditor with the  
14 completed voter registration form.

15 **Sec. 12.** RCW 29A.08.210 and 2003 c 111 s 216 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 An applicant for voter registration shall complete an application  
18 providing the following information concerning his or her  
19 qualifications as a voter in this state:

20 (1) The address of the last former registration of the applicant as  
21 a voter in the state;

22 (2) The applicant's full name;

23 (3) The applicant's date of birth;

24 (4) The address of the applicant's residence for voting purposes;

25 (5) The mailing address of the applicant if that address is not the  
26 same as the address in subsection (4) of this section;

27 (6) The sex of the applicant;

28 (7) The applicant's Washington state driver's license number,  
29 Washington state identification card number, or the last four digits of  
30 the applicant's Social Security number;

31 (8) A check box and declaration confirming that the applicant is a  
32 citizen of the United States;

33 (~~(8)~~) (9) The applicant's signature; and

34 (~~(9)~~) (10) Any other information that the secretary of state  
35 determines is necessary to establish the identity of the applicant and  
36 prevent duplicate or fraudulent voter registrations. Flawed  
37 applications are public records and must be disclosed upon request.

1       The application form must also provide a box the applicant may  
2 check to indicate that he or she is a member of the armed forces or if  
3 he or she will be an overseas voter.

4       This information shall be recorded on a single registration form to  
5 be prescribed by the secretary of state.

6       If the applicant fails to provide the information required for  
7 voter registration, the auditor shall send the applicant a verification  
8 notice. The auditor shall not register the applicant until the  
9 required information is provided. If a verification notice is returned  
10 as undeliverable or the applicant fails to respond to the notice within  
11 forty-five days, the auditor shall not register the applicant to vote.

12       The following warning shall appear in a conspicuous place on the  
13 voter registration form:

14       "If you knowingly provide false information on this voter  
15 registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your  
16 qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class  
17 C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, or by  
18 a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both imprisonment and fine."

19       **Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.08.330 and 2003 c 111 s 224 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21       (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe the method of voter  
22 registration for each designated agency. The agency shall use either  
23 the state voter registration by mail form with a separate declination  
24 form for the applicant to indicate that he or she declines to register  
25 at this time, or the agency may use a separate form approved for use by  
26 the secretary of state.

27       (2) The person providing service at the agency shall offer voter  
28 registration services to every client whenever he or she applies for  
29 service or assistance and with each renewal, recertification, or change  
30 of address. The person providing service shall give the applicant the  
31 same level of assistance with the voter registration application as is  
32 offered to fill out the agency's forms and documents, including  
33 information about age and citizenship requirements for voter  
34 registration.

35       (3) The person providing service at the agency shall determine if  
36 the prospective applicant wants to register to vote or transfer his or  
37 her voter registration by asking the following question:

1 "Do you want to register to vote or transfer your voter  
2 registration?"

3 If the applicant chooses to register or transfer a registration,  
4 the service agent shall ask the following:

5 (a) "Are you a United States citizen?"

6 (b) "Are you or will you be eighteen years of age on or before the  
7 next election?"

8 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions, the  
9 agent shall then provide the applicant with a voter registration form  
10 and instructions and shall record that the applicant has requested to  
11 register to vote or transfer a voter registration.

12 If the applicant answers in the negative to either question, the  
13 agent shall not provide the applicant with a voter registration form  
14 and instructions.

15 (4) If an agency uses a computerized application process, it may,  
16 in consultation with the secretary of state, develop methods to capture  
17 simultaneously the information required for voter registration during  
18 a person's computerized application process.

19 ~~((+4))~~ (5) Each designated agency shall provide for the voter  
20 registration application forms to be collected from each agency office  
21 at least once each week. The agency shall then forward the application  
22 forms to the secretary of state each week. The secretary of state  
23 shall forward the forms to the county in which the applicant has  
24 registered to vote no later than ten days after the date on which the  
25 forms were received by the secretary of state.

26 **Sec. 14.** RCW 29A.08.520 and 2004 c 267 s 126 are each amended to  
27 read as follows:

28 (1) Upon receiving official notice of a person's conviction of a  
29 felony in either state or federal court, if the convicted person is a  
30 registered voter in the county, the county auditor shall cancel the  
31 defendant's voter registration. Additionally, the secretary of state  
32 in conjunction with the department of corrections, the Washington state  
33 patrol, the office of the administrator for the courts, and other  
34 appropriate state agencies shall arrange for a ~~((periodic))~~ quarterly  
35 comparison of a list of known felons with the statewide voter  
36 registration list. If a person is found on ~~((the department of~~

1 ~~corrections))~~ a felon list and the statewide voter registration list,  
2 the secretary of state or county auditor shall confirm the match  
3 through a date of birth comparison and (~~cancel~~) suspend the voter  
4 registration from the official state voter registration list. The  
5 canceling authority shall send (~~notice of the proposed cancellation~~)  
6 to the person at his or her last known voter registration address a  
7 notice of the proposed cancellation and an explanation of the  
8 requirements for restoring the right to vote once all terms of  
9 sentencing have been completed. If the person does not respond within  
10 thirty days, the registration must be canceled.

11 (2) A certificate of discharge or an order restoring civil rights  
12 may be used as proof that a felon has completed all sentencing  
13 requirements resulting from the felony conviction for which the  
14 certificate was issued.

15 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29A.08.651 and 2004 c 267 s 101 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 (1) The office of the secretary of state shall create and maintain  
18 a statewide voter registration data base. This data base must be a  
19 single, uniform, official, centralized, interactive computerized  
20 statewide voter registration list defined, maintained, and administered  
21 at the state level that contains the name and registration information  
22 of every legally registered voter in the state and assigns a unique  
23 identifier to each legally registered voter in the state.

24 (2) The computerized list must serve as the single system for  
25 storing and maintaining the official list of registered voters  
26 throughout the state.

27 (3) The computerized list must contain the name and registration  
28 information of every legally registered voter in the state.

29 (4) Under the computerized list, a unique identifier is assigned to  
30 each legally registered voter in the state.

31 (5) The computerized list must be coordinated with other agency  
32 data bases within the state, including but not limited to the  
33 department of corrections, the department of licensing, (~~and~~) the  
34 department of health, the Washington state patrol, and the office of  
35 the administrator for the courts.

36 (6) Any election officer in the state, including any local election

1 officer, may obtain immediate electronic access to the information  
2 contained in the computerized list.

3 (7) All voter registration information obtained by any local  
4 election officer in the state must be electronically entered into the  
5 computerized list on an expedited basis at the time the information is  
6 provided to the local officer.

7 (8) The chief state election officer shall provide support, as may  
8 be required, so that local election officers are able to enter  
9 information as described in subsection (3) of this section.

10 (9) The computerized list serves as the official voter registration  
11 list for the conduct of all elections.

12 (10) The secretary of state has data authority on all voter  
13 registration data.

14 (11) The voter registration data base must be designed to  
15 accomplish at a minimum, the following:

16 (a) Comply with the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-252);

17 (b) Identify duplicate voter registrations;

18 (c) Identify suspected duplicate voters;

19 (d) Screen against the department of corrections, the Washington  
20 state patrol, and other appropriate state agency data bases to aid in  
21 the cancellation of voter registration of felons;

22 (e) Provide up-to-date signatures of voters for the purposes of  
23 initiative signature checking;

24 (f) Provide current and accurate voter registration information  
25 using information obtained under RCW 29A.08.125;

26 (g) Provide for a comparison between the voter registration data  
27 base and the department of licensing change of address data base;

28 ((+g)) (h) Provide online access for county auditors with the goal  
29 of real time duplicate checking and update capabilities; and

30 ((+h)) (i) Provide for the cancellation of voter registration for  
31 persons who have moved to other states and surrendered their Washington  
32 state drivers' licenses.

33 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29A.08.710 and 2004 c 267 s 133 are each amended to  
34 read as follows:

35 (1) The county auditor shall have custody of the original voter  
36 registration records for each county. The original voter registration  
37 form must be filed without regard to precinct and is considered

1 confidential and unavailable for public inspection and copying. An  
2 automated file of all registered voters must be maintained pursuant to  
3 RCW 29A.08.125. An auditor may maintain the automated file in lieu of  
4 filing or maintaining the original voter registration forms if the  
5 automated file includes all of the information from the original voter  
6 registration forms including, but not limited to, a retrievable  
7 facsimile of each voter's signature.

8 (2) The following information contained in voter registration  
9 records or files regarding a voter or a group of voters is available  
10 for public inspection and copying: The voter's name, gender, date of  
11 birth, voting record, date of registration, and registration number.  
12 The address and political jurisdiction of a registered voter are  
13 available for public inspection and copying except as provided by  
14 chapter 40.24 RCW. No other information from voter registration  
15 records or files is available for public inspection or copying.

16 **Sec. 17.** RCW 29A.08.775 and 2004 c 267 s 136 are each amended to  
17 read as follows:

18 Only voters who appear on the official statewide voter registration  
19 list are eligible to participate in elections. Each county shall  
20 maintain a copy of that county's portion of the state list. The county  
21 must ensure that data used for the production of poll lists and other  
22 lists and mailings done in the administration of each election are  
23 (~~drawn from~~) the same as the official statewide voter registration  
24 list.

25 **Sec. 18.** RCW 29A.40.091 and 2004 c 271 s 135 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 The county auditor shall send each absentee voter a ballot, a  
28 security envelope in which to seal the ballot after voting, a larger  
29 envelope in which to return the security envelope, and instructions on  
30 how to mark the ballot and how to return it to the county auditor. The  
31 instructions that accompany an absentee ballot for a partisan primary  
32 must include instructions for voting the applicable ballot style, as  
33 provided in chapter 29A.36 RCW. The larger return envelope must  
34 contain a declaration by the absentee voter reciting his or her  
35 qualifications and stating that he or she has not voted in any other  
36 jurisdiction at this election, together with a summary of the penalties

1 for any violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. The return  
2 envelope must provide a box the voter may check to indicate that he or  
3 she is a member of the armed forces or that he or she is an overseas  
4 voter. The return envelope must provide space for the voter to  
5 indicate the date on which the ballot was voted and for the voter to  
6 sign the oath. A summary of the applicable penalty provisions of this  
7 chapter must be printed on the return envelope immediately adjacent to  
8 the space for the voter's signature. The signature of the voter on the  
9 return envelope must affirm and attest to the statements regarding the  
10 qualifications of that voter and to the validity of the ballot. For  
11 out-of-state voters, overseas voters, and service voters, the signed  
12 declaration on the return envelope constitutes the equivalent of a  
13 voter registration for the election or primary for which the ballot has  
14 been issued. The voter must be instructed to either return the ballot  
15 to the county auditor by whom it was issued or attach sufficient first  
16 class postage, if applicable, and mail the ballot to the appropriate  
17 county auditor no later than the day of the election or primary for  
18 which the ballot was issued.

19 If the county auditor chooses to forward absentee ballots, he or  
20 she must include with the ballot a clear explanation of the  
21 qualifications necessary to vote in that election and must also advise  
22 a voter with questions about his or her eligibility to contact the  
23 county auditor. This explanation may be provided on the ballot  
24 envelope, on an enclosed insert, or printed directly on the ballot  
25 itself. If the information is not included, the envelope must clearly  
26 indicate that the ballot is not to be forwarded and that return postage  
27 is guaranteed.

28 **Sec. 19.** RCW 46.20.155 and 2004 c 249 s 7 are each amended to read  
29 as follows:

30 (1) Before issuing an original license or identicard or renewing a  
31 license or identicard under this chapter, the licensing agent shall  
32 determine if the applicant wants to register to vote or transfer his or  
33 her voter registration by asking the following question:

34 "Do you want to register to vote or transfer your voter  
35 registration?"

36 If the applicant chooses to register or transfer a registration,  
37 the agent shall (~~state~~) ask the following:

1 (~~"I would like to remind you that you must be a United States~~  
2 ~~citizen and at least eighteen years of age in order to vote."~~)

3 (1) "Are you a United States citizen?"

4 (2) "Are you or will you be eighteen years of age on or before the  
5 next election?"

6 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions, the  
7 agent shall then provide the applicant with a voter registration form  
8 and instructions and shall record that the applicant has requested to  
9 register to vote or transfer a voter registration.

10 If the applicant answers in the negative to either question, the  
11 agent shall not provide the applicant with a voter registration form  
12 and instructions.

13 (2) The department shall establish a procedure that substantially  
14 meets the requirements of subsection (1) of this section when  
15 permitting an applicant to renew a license or identicard by mail or by  
16 electronic commerce.

17 NEW SECTION. Sec. 20. RCW 29A.08.155 (Payment for maintenance of  
18 electronic records) and 2004 c 267 s 114 & 2003 c 111 s 215 are each  
19 repealed.

20 NEW SECTION. Sec. 21. This act takes effect January 1, 2006."

21 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Verification notices sent to verify or collect information  
must include a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form. The  
provision requiring the Secretary of State or county auditor check the  
citizenship of each applicant with the Immigration and Naturalization  
Service is removed. The requirement for secondary forms of  
identification for registration purposes is removed. The requirement  
that county election officials randomly investigate county voter lists  
with the statewide data base to check for persons who are deceased or  
whose residences differ is removed. Instead, the Secretary of State  
will conduct a quarterly review of the entire data base to update  
information, and to make additions and corrections. A voter  
registration application form and the return envelope for an absentee  
ballot must include a box that can be checked if the registrant or  
voter will be or is an overseas voter. Before removing a felon from

the voter registration list, the canceling authority must suspend the registration and must send a notice of the proposed cancellation advising the voter of an appeal process and of the requirements for restoring the right to vote. If the voter does not respond to the request within 30 days, the registration is cancelled. Convicted felons must be informed of the loss of their right to vote, the conditions under which their right to vote will be restored, and that voting prior to restoration of the right to vote is a felony. The notification process for restoring a former felon's voting rights are outlined. The Secretary must maintain felon information as part of the data base. All state agencies that provide motor voter registrations are required to "ask" applicants if they are or will be 18 years of age at the next election and if they are a U.S. citizen. If the applicant answers negatively to either question, a voter registration form will not be provided. If they answer positively to both questions, a registration form shall be provided. It removes the requirement that for motor voter registration purposes, the assisting agent must confirm that the applicant is a citizen. The birth date of a voter is a public record.

--- END ---