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THIRD SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6353

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2018 Regular Session

**By** Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Hunt, Billig, Kuderer, Saldaña, Conway, Carlyle, Hasegawa, Dhingra, McCoy, Nelson, Mullet, Lias, Rolfes, Hobbs, Keiser, Cleveland, Chase, Darneille, Frockt, Palumbo, Van De Wege, Ranker, Wellman, Takko, and Pedersen; by request of Governor Inslee)

READ FIRST TIME 02/06/18.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing opportunities for citizens to  
2 participate in elections by streamlining procedures in order to  
3 automatically register citizens to vote; amending RCW 29A.08.350,  
4 29A.08.410, 29A.08.420, 29A.08.720, 29A.08.110, and 29A.08.710;  
5 adding new sections to chapter 29A.08 RCW; adding a new section to  
6 chapter 46.20 RCW; adding new sections to chapter 29A.04 RCW; adding  
7 a new section to chapter 29A.84 RCW; creating new sections;  
8 prescribing penalties; providing an effective date; and providing an  
9 expiration date.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the  
12 automatic voter registration act of 2018.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The legislature finds that:

14 (a) The right to vote is enshrined as one of the greatest virtues  
15 of our democracy and that an engaged citizenry is essential at each  
16 level of government to ensure that all voices are heard; and

17 (b) State and local governments should take every step possible  
18 to make it easier to vote in Washington state and ensure that  
19 fundamental values of a true democracy with full participation  
20 remains one of our most important functions. Providing additional

1 opportunities for people to register to vote and helping them make  
2 their own choices about who represents them in this democracy and  
3 about important issues that are central to their lives and  
4 communities are essential to upholding these values.

5 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to increase the  
6 opportunity to register to vote for persons qualified under Article  
7 VI of the Washington state Constitution by expanding the streamlined  
8 voter registration process that will increase opportunities for voter  
9 registration without placing new undue burdens on government  
10 agencies.

11 **PART I**

12 **AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION FOR ENHANCED DRIVER'S LICENSE**

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 101.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
14 RCW to read as follows:

15 A person age eighteen years or older who is a citizen of the  
16 United States applying for or renewing an enhanced driver's license  
17 or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or changing the address for  
18 an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard pursuant to RCW  
19 46.20.205 may be registered to vote or update voter registration  
20 information at the time of registration or renewal by automated  
21 process if the department of licensing record associated with the  
22 applicant verifies United States citizenship, contains the data  
23 required for voter registration under RCW 29A.08.010, and includes a  
24 signature image. The person must be informed that his or her record  
25 will be used for voter registration, and offered an opportunity to  
26 decline to register.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 102.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) If the applicant in section 101 of this act does not decline  
30 registration, the application is submitted pursuant to RCW  
31 29A.08.350.

32 (2) For each such application, the secretary of state must obtain  
33 a digital copy of the applicant's signature image from the department  
34 of licensing.

35 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 103.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
36 RCW to read as follows:

1 (1)(a) For persons age eighteen years and older registering under  
2 section 101 of this act, an application is considered complete only  
3 if it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and  
4 verification of citizenship. The applicant is considered to be  
5 registered to vote as of the original date of application or renewal  
6 of an enhanced driver's license or identicard issued under RCW  
7 46.20.202 or application for change of address for an existing  
8 enhanced driver's license or identicard pursuant to RCW 46.20.205.  
9 The auditor shall record the appropriate precinct identification,  
10 taxing district identification, and date of registration on the  
11 voter's record in the state voter registration list. Any mailing  
12 address provided shall be used only for mail delivery purposes, and  
13 not for precinct assignment or residency purposes. Within sixty days  
14 after the receipt of an application or transfer, the auditor shall  
15 send to the applicant, by first-class nonforwardable mail, an  
16 acknowledgment notice identifying the registrant's precinct and  
17 containing such other information as may be required by the secretary  
18 of state. The United States postal service shall be instructed not to  
19 forward a voter registration card to any other address and to return  
20 to the auditor any card which is not deliverable.

21 (b) An auditor may use other means to communicate with potential  
22 and registered voters such as, but not limited to, email, phone, or  
23 text messaging. The alternate form of communication must not be in  
24 lieu of the first-class mail requirements. The auditor shall act in  
25 compliance with all voter notification processes established in  
26 federal law.

27 (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly  
28 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice  
29 must require the applicant to provide the missing information. If the  
30 applicant provides the required information within forty-five days,  
31 the applicant must be registered to vote. The applicant must not be  
32 placed on the official list of registered voters until the  
33 application is complete.

34 (3) If the prospective registration applicant declines to  
35 register to vote or the information provided by the department of  
36 licensing does not indicate citizenship, the information must not be  
37 included on the list of registered voters.

38 (4) The department of licensing is prohibited from sharing  
39 information used to verify identity with any federal agency unless  
40 required by law. The department may not retain any records or

1 documentation used to certify eligibility to vote under this section  
2 once the certification process has been completed and recorded unless  
3 required by law. Personal information supplied for the purposes of  
4 obtaining a driver's license or identicard is exempt from public  
5 inspection pursuant to RCW 42.56.230.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 104.** A new section is added to chapter 46.20  
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 For persons eighteen years of age or older who the department has  
9 verified United States citizenship, who are applying for or renewing  
10 an enhanced driver's license or identicard under RCW 46.20.202 or  
11 applying for a change of address for an existing enhanced driver's  
12 license or identicard pursuant to RCW 46.20.205, and who have not  
13 declined to register to vote, the department shall produce and  
14 transmit to the secretary of state the following information from the  
15 records of each individual: The name, address, date of birth, gender  
16 of the applicant, the driver's license number, signature image, and  
17 the date on which the application was submitted. The department and  
18 the secretary of state shall process information as an automated  
19 application on a daily basis.

20 **Sec. 105.** RCW 29A.08.350 and 2013 c 11 s 18 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 The department of licensing shall produce and transmit to the  
23 secretary of state the following information from the records of each  
24 individual who requested a voter registration or update at a driver's  
25 license facility: The name, address, date of birth, gender of the  
26 applicant, the driver's license number, signature image, and the date  
27 on which the application for voter registration or update was  
28 submitted. The secretary of state shall process the registrations and  
29 updates as an electronic application.

30 **PART II**  
31 **ENHANCING VOTER REGISTRATION AT THE HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE**

32 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 201.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.04  
33 RCW to read as follows:

34 (1) The health benefit exchange shall provide the following  
35 information to the secretary of state's office for Washington  
36 healthplanfinder applicants, including applicants who file changes of

1 address, who reside in Washington, are age eighteen years or older,  
2 are verified citizens, and do not decline the option, for the purpose  
3 of the applicants being registered to vote:

4 (a) Names;

5 (b) Traditional or nontraditional residential addresses; and

6 (c) Dates of birth.

7 (2) The health benefit exchange shall consult with the secretary  
8 of state's office to ensure that sufficient information is provided  
9 to allow the secretary of state to obtain a digital copy of the  
10 person's signature when available from the department of licensing.

11 (3) If applicable, the health benefit exchange shall report any  
12 known barriers or impediments to implementation of this section to  
13 the appropriate committees of the legislature and the governor no  
14 later than December 1, 2019.

15 (4) The health benefit exchange is prohibited from sharing  
16 information used to verify identity with any federal agency unless  
17 required by law. The exchange may not retain any records or  
18 documentation used to certify eligibility to vote under this section  
19 once the certification process has been completed and recorded unless  
20 required by law. The exchange must protect the confidentiality of  
21 information to be shared pursuant to RCW 43.71.050.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 202.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.04  
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 (1) The health benefit exchange shall consult with the secretary  
25 of state's office to establish automatic voter registration criteria  
26 and procedures. If the exchange implements automatic voter  
27 registration, it shall do so as a qualified voter registration agency  
28 under sections 301 through 309 of this act.

29 (2) If the health benefit exchange determines, in consultation  
30 with the health care authority, that implementation of automatic  
31 voter registration will require application or process changes  
32 subject to approval from the centers for medicare and medicaid  
33 services, implementation is contingent on approval from the centers  
34 for medicare and medicaid services. If applicable, the exchange shall  
35 report any known barriers or impediments to implementation of  
36 automatic voter registration to the appropriate committees of the  
37 legislature and the governor no later than December 1, 2019.

1 PART III

2 AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION AT QUALIFIED VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 301.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.04  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) "Qualified voter registration agency" means the department of  
6 agriculture, the department of veterans affairs, the military  
7 department, and the business professions division of the department  
8 of licensing, or a state agency providing public assistance or  
9 services to persons with disabilities, designated pursuant to RCW  
10 29A.08.310(1), that collects, processes, and stores the following  
11 information as part of providing assistance or services:

12 (a) Names;

13 (b) Traditional or nontraditional residential addresses;

14 (c) Dates of birth;

15 (d) A signature attesting to the truth of the information  
16 provided on the application for assistance or services; and

17 (e) Verification of citizenship information, via social security  
18 administration data match or manually verified by the agency during  
19 the client transaction.

20 (2) Qualified voter registration agencies should seek to provide  
21 automatic voter registration services under section 302 of this act  
22 with any or all agency transactions. If a qualified voter  
23 registration agency chooses to provide automatic voter registration  
24 services, the agency:

25 (a) Must consult with the secretary of state's office to  
26 establish automatic voter registration criteria and procedures; and

27 (b) May adopt rules to enable the agency to provide automatic  
28 voter registration services.

29 (3) Qualified voter registration agencies that do not intend to  
30 seek to provide automatic voter registration services shall submit a  
31 report to the governor and appropriate legislative committees no  
32 later than December 1, 2019, detailing the reasons that make  
33 providing automatic voter registration services not feasible.

34 (4) For agencies submitting a report under subsection (3) of this  
35 section, the governor shall consult with the secretary of state's  
36 office to make a decision as to whether the agency should implement  
37 automatic voter registration. The governor shall make the final  
38 decision at the governor's sole discretion.

1 (5) Once an agency has implemented automatic voter registration,  
2 it shall continue to provide automatic voter registration unless  
3 legislation is enacted that directs the agency to do otherwise.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 302.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) With each application for assistance or services listing the  
7 information described in section 301 of this act, and with each  
8 related recertification, renewal, or change of address, each  
9 qualified voter registration agency that chooses to or is required to  
10 provide automatic voter registration services, as provided in section  
11 301 of this act, shall inform the person of the following:

12 (a) Unless the person declines to register to vote or update an  
13 existing voter registration, or is found to be ineligible to vote,  
14 the person will be registered to vote or, if applicable, the person's  
15 voter registration will be updated;

16 (b)(i) The qualifications to be registered to vote;

17 (ii) The penalties under chapter 29A.84 RCW for registering to  
18 vote when ineligible or providing false registration information; and

19 (iii) That the person should not register to vote if the person  
20 does not meet the qualifications to register;

21 (c) That voter registration is voluntary, and the person's choice  
22 to register or decline to register to vote will not affect the  
23 availability of agency services or benefits, and that the person's  
24 choice to register or decline to register to vote will not be used  
25 for any other purposes or retained by the agency; and

26 (d) Information about the address confidentiality program  
27 established under chapter 40.24 RCW, including how to register for  
28 the address confidentiality program and how voter registration may  
29 impact participation in the program.

30 (2) Each qualified voter registration agency shall:

31 (a) Ensure that each application for service or assistance, and  
32 each related recertification, renewal, or change of address, cannot  
33 be completed until the person is given the opportunity to decline  
34 being registered to vote;

35 (b) Promptly provide to the secretary of state, in a format to be  
36 determined by the secretary in consultation with the agency, the  
37 following information for each person who does not decline to  
38 register to vote:

39 (i) The person's name;

1 (ii) The person's traditional or nontraditional residential  
2 address;

3 (iii) The person's mailing address, if different from the  
4 person's traditional or nontraditional residential address;

5 (iv) The person's date of birth;

6 (v) Confirmation that the person is a citizen of the United  
7 States;

8 (vi) A digital copy of the person's signature; and

9 (vii) An affirmation of the person's eligibility to register to  
10 vote; and

11 (c) Offer each person an opportunity to decline to register to  
12 vote or to update an existing registration at each application for  
13 service or assistance, and each related recertification, renewal, or  
14 change of address, regardless of whether the person previously  
15 declined to register to vote or update an existing registration.

16 (3) A qualified voter registration agency shall not use a  
17 person's declination to register to vote to affect the person's  
18 eligibility for services or benefits provided by a qualified voter  
19 registration agency.

20 (4) The secretary of state shall consult with each qualified  
21 voter registration agency to establish a procedure for transmitting  
22 digital copies of signatures of persons who do not decline to  
23 register to vote.

24 (5) Each qualified voter registration agency is prohibited from  
25 sharing information used to verify identity with any federal agency  
26 unless required by law. The agency may not retain any records or  
27 documentation used to certify eligibility to vote under this section  
28 once the certification process has been completed and recorded unless  
29 required by law. Personal information in files maintained for  
30 patients or clients of agencies providing public assistance or  
31 services to persons with disabilities is exempt from public  
32 inspection pursuant to RCW 42.56.230, 74.04.060, and 74.18.127.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 303.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
34 RCW to read as follows:

35 (1)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, upon  
36 receiving the data for, and a digital copy of the signature of, a  
37 person as provided in section 302(2)(b) of this act, the secretary of  
38 state shall determine whether the person is already registered to  
39 vote. If the person is not already registered to vote, the secretary



1 of state shall provide the information to the county auditor of the  
2 county in which the person may be registered as a voter, and the  
3 auditor shall register the person to vote.

4 (b) If the secretary of state receives information about a person  
5 pursuant to section 302 of this act within eight days of an election  
6 in which that person would otherwise be eligible to vote, the  
7 secretary of state shall wait until after the election to provide the  
8 information to the county auditor of the county in which that person  
9 may be registered as a voter.

10 (2) If the person is already registered to vote, but the  
11 residential address transmitted by the qualified voter registration  
12 agency is different from the residential address on the person's  
13 current registration, the secretary of state shall direct the auditor  
14 of the county in which the person may be registered as a voter to  
15 update the person's voter registration.

16 (3) The county auditor shall promptly send a notification to each  
17 person who is registered to vote or whose existing voter registration  
18 is updated under this section.

19 (4) A voter registration submitted under this section is  
20 otherwise considered an electronic voter registration.

21 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 304.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
22 RCW to read as follows:

23 (1) Each qualified voter registration agency that elects to  
24 provide automatic voter registration services shall promptly transmit  
25 to the secretary of state the information of each person for whom it  
26 retains all the information listed in section 302(2)(b) (i) through  
27 (vi) of this act on July 1, 2020.

28 (2) The secretary of state shall:

29 (a) Identify persons whose information is transmitted pursuant to  
30 subsection (1) of this section who are eligible to be, but are not  
31 currently, registered to vote;

32 (b) Promptly send each person identified notice, which must not  
33 identify the agency transmitting the information, but which must  
34 include:

35 (i) An explanation that voter registration is voluntary, but that  
36 if the person does not decline to register within sixty days, the  
37 person will be registered to vote;

1 (ii) A statement offering the opportunity to decline voter  
2 registration through any means determined by the secretary of state  
3 and consistent with this act;

4 (iii) The eligibility criteria for voting in federal and state  
5 elections;

6 (iv) The instruction that the person should decline registration  
7 if ineligible to vote;

8 (v) Instructions for correcting an erroneous registration;

9 (vi) Instructions for providing any additional information  
10 required for voter registration purposes; and

11 (vii) Information about the address confidentiality program  
12 established under chapter 40.24 RCW, including notification that  
13 registration to vote does not affect any existing program  
14 participation;

15 (c) Promptly register to vote any person who does not decline to  
16 register within sixty days of the notification, unless the secretary  
17 of state receives information about a person pursuant to this section  
18 within twenty-one days of an election in which that person would  
19 otherwise be eligible to vote, in which case the secretary of state  
20 shall wait until after the election to register the person to vote.

21 (3) Information transmitted to the secretary of state pursuant to  
22 subsection (1) of this section shall be used for voter registration  
23 purposes, is not available for public inspection, and shall not be  
24 disclosed to the public.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 305.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
26 RCW to read as follows:

27 (1) If a person who is ineligible to vote becomes automatically  
28 registered to vote under section 101 or 302 of this act in the  
29 absence of a knowing violation by that person of RCW 29A.84.140, that  
30 person's registration is presumed to not be the fault of that person.

31 (2) If a person who is ineligible to vote becomes automatically  
32 registered to vote under section 102 or 302 of this act and votes or  
33 attempts to vote in the absence of a knowing violation by that person  
34 of RCW 29A.84.130, that person's vote is presumed not to be the fault  
35 of that person.

36 (3) An ineligible voter who successfully completes the voter  
37 registration process must have their voter registration invalidated.

1 (4) Should an ineligible individual become registered to vote,  
2 the office of the secretary of state and the relevant agency shall  
3 jointly determine the cause.

4 **Sec. 306.** RCW 29A.08.410 and 2009 c 369 s 22 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6 A registered voter who changes his or her residence from one  
7 address to another within the same county may transfer his or her  
8 registration to the new address in one of the following ways:

9 (1) Sending the county auditor a request stating both the voter's  
10 present address and the address from which the voter was last  
11 registered;

12 (2) Appearing in person before the county auditor and making such  
13 a request;

14 (3) Telephoning or emailing the county auditor to transfer the  
15 registration; ((~~or~~))

16 (4) Submitting a voter registration application;

17 (5) Submitting information to the department of licensing;

18 (6) Submitting information to the health benefit exchange; or

19 (7) Submitting information to a qualified voter registration  
20 agency.

21 **Sec. 307.** RCW 29A.08.420 and 2009 c 369 s 23 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23 A registered voter who changes his or her residence from one  
24 county to another county must do so by submitting a voter  
25 registration form or by submitting information to the department of  
26 licensing, the health benefit exchange, or a qualified voter  
27 registration agency. The county auditor of the voter's new county  
28 shall transfer the voter's registration from the county of the  
29 previous registration.

30 **Sec. 308.** RCW 29A.08.720 and 2011 c 10 s 18 are each amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 (1) In the case of voter registration records received through  
33 the department of licensing, the health benefit exchange, or an  
34 agency designated under RCW 29A.08.310, the identity of the office or  
35 agency at which any particular individual registered to vote must be  
36 used only for voter registration purposes, is not available for  
37 public inspection, and shall not be disclosed to the public. Any

1 record of a particular individual's choice not to register to vote at  
2 an office of the department of licensing or a state agency designated  
3 under RCW 29A.08.310 is not available for public inspection and any  
4 information regarding such a choice by a particular individual shall  
5 not be disclosed to the public.

6 (2) Subject to the restrictions of RCW 29A.08.710 and 40.24.060,  
7 precinct lists and current lists of registered voters are public  
8 records and must be made available for public inspection and copying  
9 under such reasonable rules and regulations as the county auditor or  
10 secretary of state may prescribe. The county auditor or secretary of  
11 state shall promptly furnish current lists of registered voters in  
12 his or her possession, at actual reproduction cost, to any person  
13 requesting such information. The lists shall not be used for the  
14 purpose of mailing or delivering any advertisement or offer for any  
15 property, establishment, organization, product, or service or for the  
16 purpose of mailing or delivering any solicitation for money,  
17 services, or anything of value. However, the lists and labels may be  
18 used for any political purpose. The county auditor or secretary of  
19 state must provide a copy of RCW 29A.08.740 to the person requesting  
20 the material that is released under this section.

21 (3) For the purposes of this section, "political purpose" means a  
22 purpose concerned with the support of or opposition to any candidate  
23 for any partisan or nonpartisan office or concerned with the support  
24 of or opposition to any ballot proposition or issue. "Political  
25 purpose" includes, but is not limited to, such activities as the  
26 advertising for or against any candidate or ballot measure or the  
27 solicitation of financial support.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 309.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.84  
29 RCW to read as follows:

30 An employee of a qualified voter registration agency is guilty of  
31 a gross misdemeanor, if he or she willfully:

32 (1) Neglects or refuses to perform any duty required by law in  
33 connection with the registration of voters;

34 (2) Neglects or refuses to perform such duty in the manner  
35 required by voter registration law;

36 (3) Enters or causes or permits to be entered on the voter  
37 registration records the name of any person in any other manner or at  
38 any other time than as prescribed by voter registration law, or

1 enters or causes or permits to be entered on such records the name of  
2 any person not entitled to be thereon; or

3 (4) Destroys, mutilates, conceals, changes, or alters any  
4 registration record in connection therewith except as authorized by  
5 voter registration law.

6 **PART IV**

7 **STUDY OF AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION AT BIRTH AND OF NATURALIZED**  
8 **CITIZENS**

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 401.** The legislature finds that advances in  
10 database integration and technology can create streamlined, less  
11 bureaucratic, and more efficient processes for citizens in the voter  
12 registration system. Information from certificates of birth filed  
13 with the state should be automatically integrated into the existing  
14 voter registration process in preparation for those citizens'  
15 participation in voting. Voter registration should not be an  
16 impediment or hurdle to participation in the election process, but  
17 rather a function of properly administered elections. Continued  
18 improvement in database integration across state and local agencies  
19 should be applied to a modernized voter registration process and  
20 database in order to facilitate eligible citizens' participation in  
21 future elections. Voter registration should automatically occur at  
22 birth when a certificate of live birth has been filed with the state,  
23 bringing that new state citizen a step closer to fulfilling the  
24 current registration requirements, without changing those existing  
25 regulations. A task force should facilitate proper implementation of  
26 this streamlining technology integration project.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 402.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
28 RCW to read as follows:

29 (1) The office of the secretary of state must conduct a study and  
30 prepare recommendations for creating an automatic voter registration  
31 process for residents who recently completed the naturalization  
32 process, and for an automatic voter registration process at birth.

33 (2) For the automatic registration of residents who recently  
34 completed the naturalization process, the office should consult with  
35 federal agencies involved with naturalization to determine the  
36 feasibility of options for developing an automatic voter registration  
37 process for such persons.

1 (3) For automatic registration at birth, the office should  
2 consult with relevant state agencies that collect and maintain  
3 records containing personal information and consider ways for  
4 transferring and sharing such information with voter registration  
5 databases. Such considerations should include issues regarding data-  
6 sharing agreements and procedures, coordination among state and local  
7 agencies for updating voting registration records, address  
8 confirmation procedures, methods and procedures for collecting and  
9 verifying personally identifiable information, public notice and opt-  
10 out procedures, cybersecurity measures or standards, and delegation  
11 of authority necessary for implementation.

12 (4) The office must prepare a report to the appropriate  
13 legislative standing committees by December 1, 2019, that includes  
14 each study and proposed recommendations, including any legislative  
15 authority that may be needed to implement the proposed  
16 recommendations.

17 (5) This section expires June 30, 2020.

18

## PART V

19

### MISCELLANEOUS

20 **Sec. 501.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2009 c 369 s 10 are each amended to  
21 read as follows:

22 (1) For persons registering under RCW 29A.08.120, 29A.08.123,  
23 29A.08.330, and 29A.08.340, an application is considered complete  
24 only if it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The  
25 applicant is considered to be registered to vote as of the original  
26 date of mailing or date of delivery, whichever is applicable. The  
27 auditor shall record the appropriate precinct identification, taxing  
28 district identification, and date of registration on the voter's  
29 record in the state voter registration list. Any mailing address  
30 provided shall be used only for mail delivery purposes, and not for  
31 precinct assignment or residency purposes. Within sixty days after  
32 the receipt of an application or transfer, the auditor shall send to  
33 the applicant, by first-class nonforwardable mail, an acknowledgment  
34 notice identifying the registrant's precinct and containing such  
35 other information as may be required by the secretary of state. The  
36 postal service shall be instructed not to forward a voter  
37 registration card to any other address and to return to the auditor  
38 any card which is not deliverable.

1 (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly  
2 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice  
3 shall require the applicant to provide the missing information. If  
4 the applicant provides the required information within forty-five  
5 days, the applicant shall be registered to vote as of the original  
6 date of application. The applicant shall not be placed on the  
7 official list of registered voters until the application is complete.

8 **Sec. 502.** RCW 29A.08.710 and 2005 c 246 s 17 are each amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (1) The county auditor shall have custody of the original voter  
11 registration records for each county. The original voter registration  
12 form must be filed without regard to precinct and is considered  
13 confidential and unavailable for public inspection and copying. An  
14 automated file of all registered voters must be maintained pursuant  
15 to RCW 29A.08.125. An auditor may maintain the automated file in lieu  
16 of filing or maintaining the original voter registration forms if the  
17 automated file includes all of the information from the original  
18 voter registration forms including, but not limited to, a retrievable  
19 facsimile of each voter's signature.

20 (2) The following information contained in voter registration  
21 records or files regarding a voter or a group of voters is available  
22 for public inspection and copying, except as provided in RCW  
23 40.24.060: The voter's name, address, political jurisdiction, gender,  
24 ((date)) year of birth, voting record, date of registration, and  
25 registration number. No other information from voter registration  
26 records or files is available for public inspection or copying.

27 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 503.** Sections 101 through 309 of this act  
28 take effect July 1, 2019. Automatic voter registration at the  
29 department of licensing under sections 101 through 105 of this act  
30 must be implemented by July 1, 2019.

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