
SENATE BILL 6313

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Senators Lias, Kuderer, Hunt, Randall, Mullet, Keiser, Billig, Saldaña, Darneille, Hasegawa, Takko, Rolfes, McCoy, Stanford, Das, Dhingra, Lovelett, Nguyen, and Wilson, C.

Read first time 01/15/20. Referred to Committee on State Government, Tribal Relations & Elections.

1 AN ACT Relating to increasing opportunities for young voters;
2 amending RCW 29A.08.210, 29A.08.230, 29A.08.330, 29A.08.810,
3 29A.08.355, 46.20.155, 28A.230.094, 29A.40.160, 29A.32.031,
4 29A.32.241, 29A.04.061, 29A.08.110, 29A.08.170, 29A.08.172,
5 29A.08.174, 29A.08.359, 29A.84.140, 46.20.156, and 29A.08.140; adding
6 a new section to chapter 29A.40 RCW; creating new sections; and
7 providing effective dates.

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

9 **PART I**

10 **ACT NAME AND LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS**

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
12 voting opportunities through education act or the VOTE act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** The legislature finds that robust
14 participation by young voters in Washington state elections is
15 critical to ensuring lifelong civic engagement. Research has shown
16 that voting is a habitual behavior and that people who vote in the
17 first three elections when they are eligible will likely vote for
18 life. However, this is also the period of time when they are likely
19 to face unique barriers to participate in the democratic process,

1 including regularly changing their address, becoming eligible shortly
2 after an election, and exclusion from certain voter registration
3 policies.

4 The legislature also finds that the period prior to election day
5 is the most critical time to ensure ballot access for young voters.
6 States with early voting have higher participation rates than states
7 that do not and the use of early voting sites on college campuses
8 helped produce record levels of participation for young voters in
9 2016 and 2018.

10 The legislature finds that students that have more opportunities
11 to be registered and vote are more likely to participate. Limiting
12 statutory voter registration opportunities on college campuses to
13 days well in advance of election day is inconsistent with
14 implementation of same-day voter registration. Making automatic voter
15 registration unavailable to those registering for the first time
16 denies young voters the same benefits as every other voter.

17 **PART II**

18 **PERSONS ALLOWED TO VOTE IN PRIMARIES**

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.210 and 2018 c 109 s 8 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

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

24 (1) The former address of the applicant if previously registered
25 to vote;

26 (2) The applicant's full name;

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

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

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

31 (6) The sex of the applicant;

32 (7) The applicant's Washington state driver's license number,
33 Washington state identification card number, or the last four digits
34 of the applicant's social security number if he or she does not have
35 a Washington state driver's license or Washington state
36 identification card;

1 (8) A check box allowing the applicant to indicate that he or she
2 is a member of the armed forces, national guard, or reserves, or that
3 he or she is an overseas voter;

4 (9) A check box allowing the applicant to acknowledge that he or
5 she is at least ~~((eighteen))~~ sixteen years old ~~((or is at least
6 sixteen years old and will vote only after he or she reaches the age
7 of eighteen))~~;

8 (10) Clear and conspicuous language, designed to draw the
9 applicant's attention, stating that ~~((the))~~;

10 (a) The applicant must be a United States citizen in order to
11 register to vote; and

12 (b) The applicant may register to vote if the applicant is at
13 least sixteen years old and may vote if the applicant will be at
14 least eighteen years old by the next general election, or is at least
15 eighteen years old for special elections;

16 (11) A check box and declaration confirming that the applicant is
17 a citizen of the United States;

18 (12) The following warning:

19 "If you knowingly provide false information on this voter
20 registration form or knowingly make a false declaration about your
21 qualifications for voter registration you will have committed a class
22 C felony that is punishable by imprisonment for up to five years, a
23 fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both."

24 (13) The oath required by RCW 29A.08.230 and a space for the
25 applicant's signature; and

26 (14) Any other information that the secretary of state determines
27 is necessary to establish the identity of the applicant and prevent
28 duplicate or fraudulent voter registrations.

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

31 **Sec. 4.** RCW 29A.08.230 and 2013 c 11 s 14 are each amended to
32 read as follows:

33 For all voter registrations, the registrant shall sign the
34 following oath:

35 "I declare that the facts on this voter registration form are
36 true. I am a citizen of the United States, I will have lived at this
37 address in Washington for at least thirty days immediately before the
38 next election at which I vote, I ~~((will be))~~ am at least ~~((eighteen))~~

1 sixteen years old (~~(when I vote)~~), I am not disqualified from voting
2 due to a court order, and I am not under department of corrections
3 supervision for a Washington felony conviction."

4 **Sec. 5.** RCW 29A.08.330 and 2019 c 391 s 6 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe the method of voter
7 registration for each designated agency. The agency shall use either
8 the state voter registration by mail form with a separate declination
9 form for the applicant to indicate that he or she declines to
10 register at this time, or the agency may use a separate form approved
11 for use by the secretary of state.

12 (2) The person providing service at the agency shall offer voter
13 registration services to every client whenever he or she applies for
14 service or assistance and with each renewal, recertification, or
15 change of address. The person providing service shall give the
16 applicant the same level of assistance with the voter registration
17 application as is offered to fill out the agency's forms and
18 documents, including information about age and citizenship
19 requirements for voter registration.

20 (3) The person providing service at the agency shall determine if
21 the prospective applicant wants to register to vote or update his or
22 her voter registration by asking the following question:

23 "Do you want to register or sign up to vote or update your voter
24 registration?"

25 If the applicant chooses to register, sign up, or update a
26 registration, the service agent shall ask the following:

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

28 (b) "Are you at least (~~eighteen~~) sixteen years old (~~(or are you~~
29 ~~at least sixteen years old and will you vote only after you turn~~
30 ~~eighteen)~~)?"

31 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions,
32 the agent shall then provide the applicant with a voter registration
33 form and instructions and shall record that the applicant has
34 requested to sign up to vote, register to vote, or update a voter
35 registration. If the applicant answers in the negative to either
36 question, the agent shall not provide the applicant with a voter
37 registration application.

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

5 (5) Each designated agency shall transmit the applications to the
6 secretary of state or appropriate county auditor within three
7 business days and must be received by the election official by the
8 required voter registration deadline.

9 (6) Information that is otherwise disclosable under this chapter
10 cannot be disclosed on the future voter until the person reaches
11 eighteen years of age, except for the purpose of processing and
12 delivering ballots.

13 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.08.810 and 2011 c 10 s 20 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) Registration of a person as a voter is presumptive evidence
16 of his or her right to vote. A challenge to the person's right to
17 vote must be based on personal knowledge of one of the following:

18 (a) The challenged voter has been convicted of a felony and the
19 voter's civil rights have not been restored;

20 (b) The challenged voter has been judicially declared ineligible
21 to vote due to mental incompetency;

22 (c) The challenged voter does not live at the residential address
23 provided, in which case the challenger must either:

24 (i) Provide the challenged voter's actual residence on the
25 challenge form; or

26 (ii) Submit evidence that he or she exercised due diligence to
27 verify that the challenged voter does not reside at the address
28 provided and to attempt to contact the challenged voter to learn the
29 challenged voter's actual residence, including that the challenger
30 personally:

31 (A) Sent a letter with return service requested to the challenged
32 voter's residential address provided, and to the challenged voter's
33 mailing address, if provided;

34 (B) Visited the residential address provided and contacted
35 persons at the address to determine whether the voter resides at the
36 address and, if not, obtained and submitted with the challenge form a
37 signed affidavit subject to the penalties of perjury from a person
38 who owns or manages property, resides, or is employed at the address

1 provided, that to his or her personal knowledge the challenged voter
2 does not reside at the address as provided on the voter registration;

3 (C) Searched local telephone directories, including online
4 directories, to determine whether the voter maintains a telephone
5 listing at any address in the county;

6 (D) Searched county auditor property records to determine whether
7 the challenged voter owns any property in the county; and

8 (E) Searched the statewide voter registration database to
9 determine if the voter is registered at any other address in the
10 state;

11 (d) The challenged voter will not be eighteen years of age by the
12 next general election; or

13 (e) The challenged voter is not a citizen of the United States.

14 (2) A person's right to vote may be challenged by another
15 registered voter or the county prosecuting attorney.

16 (3) The challenger must file a signed affidavit subject to the
17 penalties of perjury swearing that, to his or her personal knowledge
18 and belief, having exercised due diligence to personally verify the
19 evidence presented, the challenged voter either is not qualified to
20 vote or does not reside at the address given on his or her voter
21 registration record based on one of the reasons allowed in subsection
22 (1) of this section. The challenger must provide the factual basis
23 for the challenge, including any information required by subsection
24 (1)(c) of this section, in the signed affidavit. The challenge may
25 not be based on unsupported allegations or allegations by anonymous
26 third parties. All documents pertaining to the challenge are public
27 records.

28 (4) Challenges based on a felony conviction under RCW 29A.08.520
29 must be heard according to RCW 29A.08.520 and rules adopted by the
30 secretary of state.

31 PART III

32 AUTOMATIC VOTER SIGN-UP TO REGISTER

33 **Sec. 7.** RCW 29A.08.355 and 2018 c 110 s 102 are each amended to
34 read as follows:

35 (1) The department of licensing ((shall implement an automatic
36 voter registration system so that)) must allow a person age eighteen
37 years or older ((who)) to be registered to vote or update voter

1 registration information by automated process at the time of
2 registration, renewal, or change of address if:

3 (a) The person meets requirements for voter registration ((and));

4 (b) The person has received or is renewing an enhanced driver's
5 license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or is changing the
6 address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard
7 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205 ((may be registered to vote or update voter
8 registration information at the time of registration, renewal, or
9 change of address, by automated process if the)); and

10 (c) The department of licensing record associated with the
11 applicant contains ((the));

12 (i) The data required to determine whether the applicant meets
13 requirements for voter registration under RCW 29A.08.010((~~other~~));

14 (ii) Other information as required by the secretary of state((~~7~~
15 and includes a)); and

16 (iii) A signature image.

17 (2) The department of licensing must allow a person sixteen or
18 seventeen years of age to be signed up to register to vote by
19 automated process at the time of registration, renewal, or change of
20 address if:

21 (a) The person meets requirements to sign up to register to vote;

22 (b) The person has received or is renewing an enhanced driver's
23 license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or is changing the
24 address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard
25 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205; and

26 (c) The department of licensing record associated with the
27 applicant contains:

28 (i) The data required to determine whether the applicant meets
29 the requirements for voter registration under RCW 29A.08.210, other
30 than age;

31 (ii) Other information as required by the secretary of state; and

32 (iii) A signature image.

33 (3) The person must be informed that his or her record will be
34 used for voter registration and offered an opportunity to decline to
35 register.

36 **Sec. 8.** RCW 46.20.155 and 2018 c 109 s 15 are each amended to
37 read as follows:

38 (1) Before issuing an original license or identicard or renewing
39 a license or identicard under this chapter, the licensing agent shall

1 determine if the applicant wants to register to vote or update his or
2 her voter registration by asking the following question:

3 "Do you want to register or sign up to vote or update your voter
4 registration?"

5 If the applicant chooses to register, sign up, or update a
6 registration, the agent shall ask the following:

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

8 (2) "Are you at least ((eighteen)) sixteen years old ((~~or are you~~
9 ~~at least sixteen years old and will you vote only after you turn~~
10 ~~eighteen~~))?"

11 If the applicant answers in the affirmative to both questions,
12 the agent shall then submit the registration, sign up form, or
13 update. If the applicant answers in the negative to either question,
14 the agent shall not submit an application. Information that is
15 otherwise disclosable under chapter 29A.08 RCW cannot be disclosed on
16 the future voter until the person reaches eighteen years of age,
17 except for the purpose of processing and delivering ballots.

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

22 **Sec. 9.** RCW 28A.230.094 and 2018 c 127 s 2 are each amended to
23 read as follows:

24 (1)(a) Beginning with or before the 2020-21 school year, each
25 school district that operates a high school must provide a mandatory
26 one-half credit stand-alone course in civics for each high school
27 student. Except as provided by (c) of this subsection, civics content
28 and instruction embedded in other social studies courses do not
29 satisfy the requirements of this subsection.

30 (b) Credit awarded to students who complete the civics course
31 must be applied to course credit requirements in social studies that
32 are required for high school graduation.

33 (c) Civics content and instruction required by this section may
34 be embedded in social studies courses that offer students the
35 opportunity to earn both high school and postsecondary credit.

36 (2) The content of the civics course must include, but is not
37 limited to:

1 (a) Federal, state, tribal, and local government organization and
2 procedures;

3 (b) Rights and responsibilities of citizens addressed in the
4 Washington state and United States Constitutions;

5 (c) Current issues addressed at each level of government;

6 (d) Electoral issues, including elections, ballot measures,
7 initiatives, and referenda;

8 (e) The study and completion of the civics component of the
9 federally administered naturalization test required of persons
10 seeking to become naturalized United States citizens; and

11 (f) The importance in a free society of living the basic values
12 and character traits specified in RCW 28A.150.211.

13 (3) By September 1, 2020, the office of the superintendent of
14 public instruction, in collaboration with the Washington state
15 association of county auditors and the league of women voters, shall
16 identify and make available civics materials and resources for use in
17 courses under this section. The materials and resources must be
18 posted on the office of the superintendent of public instruction's
19 web site.

20 **PART IV**

21 **STUDENT ENGAGEMENT CENTERS**

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.40
23 RCW to read as follows:

24 (1)(a) Each county auditor shall open a voting center each
25 primary, special election, and general election. The voting center
26 must be open during business hours during the voting period, which
27 begins eighteen days before, and ends at 8:00 p.m. on the day of, the
28 primary, special election, or general election.

29 (b) Each county auditor shall register voters in person at each
30 of the following locations in the county:

31 (i) At the county auditor's office; and

32 (ii) At the division of elections, if located in a separate city
33 from the county auditor's office.

34 (2) For each presidential general election, each county auditor
35 shall register voters in person at a voting center in each city in
36 the county with a population of one hundred thousand or greater,
37 which does not have a voting center as required in subsection
38 (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section. A voting center opened pursuant to

1 this subsection (2) is not required to be open on the Sunday before
2 the presidential election.

3 (3) Voting centers must be located in public buildings or
4 buildings that are leased by a public entity including, but not
5 limited to, libraries.

6 (4) (a) Each public university campus described in chapter 28B.45
7 RCW with an enrollment of five thousand students or greater shall
8 open a student engagement center on its campus. The student
9 engagement center may be open during business hours beginning eight
10 days before, and ending at 8:00 p.m. on the day of, the general
11 election. The student engagement center must provide ballots.

12 (b) Upon request of the student government organization to the
13 administration and the county auditor, the state universities,
14 regional universities, and The Evergreen State College as defined in
15 RCW 28B.10.016 and excluding university campuses described in chapter
16 28B.45 RCW shall open a student engagement center on its campus. The
17 student engagement center may be open during business hours beginning
18 eight days before, and ending at 8:00 p.m. on the day of, the general
19 election. The student engagement center must allow voters to register
20 in person pursuant to RCW 29A.08.140(1)(b) and provide voter
21 registration materials and ballots.

22 (c) Each institution shall contract with the county auditor for
23 the operation of a student engagement center under this subsection.

24 (d) Any institution of higher education operating a voting center
25 on its campus under this subsection is designated as a voter
26 empowerment campus.

27 **Sec. 11.** RCW 29A.40.160 and 2019 c 6 s 6 are each amended to
28 read as follows:

29 ~~(1) ((Each county auditor shall open a voting center each~~
30 ~~primary, special election, and general election. The voting center~~
31 ~~shall be open during business hours during the voting period, which~~
32 ~~begins eighteen days before, and ends at 8:00 p.m. on the day of, the~~
33 ~~primary, special election, or general election.~~

34 ~~(2) Each county auditor shall register voters in person at each~~
35 ~~of the following locations in the county:~~

36 ~~(a) At the county auditor's office;~~

37 ~~(b) At the division of elections, if located in a separate city~~
38 ~~from the county auditor's office; and~~

1 ~~(c) For each presidential general election, at a voting center in~~
2 ~~each city in the county with a population of one hundred thousand or~~
3 ~~greater, which does not have a voting center as required in (a) or~~
4 ~~(b) of this subsection. A voting center opened pursuant to this~~
5 ~~subsection (2) is not required to be open on the Sunday before the~~
6 ~~presidential election.~~

7 ~~(3) Voting centers shall be located in public buildings or~~
8 ~~buildings that are leased by a public entity including, but not~~
9 ~~limited to, libraries.~~

10 ~~(4))~~ Each voting center, and at least one of the other locations
11 designated by the county auditor to allow voters to register in
12 person pursuant to RCW 29A.08.140(1)(b), must provide voter
13 registration materials, ballots, provisional ballots, disability
14 access voting units, sample ballots, instructions on how to properly
15 vote the ballot, a ballot drop box, and voters' pamphlets, if a
16 voters' pamphlet has been published.

17 ~~((5))~~ (2) Each voting center must be accessible to persons with
18 disabilities. Each state agency and entity of local government shall
19 permit the use of any of its accessible facilities as voting centers
20 when requested by a county auditor.

21 ~~((6))~~ (3) Each voting center must provide at least one voting
22 unit certified by the secretary of state that provides access to
23 individuals who are blind or visually impaired, enabling them to vote
24 with privacy and independence.

25 ~~((7))~~ (4) No person may interfere with a voter attempting to
26 vote in a voting center. Interfering with a voter attempting to vote
27 is a violation of RCW 29A.84.510.

28 ~~((8))~~ (5) Before opening the voting center, the voting
29 equipment shall be inspected to determine if it has been properly
30 prepared for voting. If the voting equipment is capable of direct
31 tabulation of each voter's choices, the county auditor shall verify
32 that no votes have been registered for any issue or office, and that
33 the device has been sealed with a unique numbered seal at the time of
34 final preparation and logic and accuracy testing. A log must be made
35 of all device numbers and seal numbers.

36 ~~((9))~~ (6) The county auditor shall require any person desiring
37 to vote at a voting center to either sign a ballot declaration or
38 provide identification.

39 (a) The signature on the declaration must be compared to the
40 signature on the voter registration record before the ballot may be

1 counted. If the voter registered using a mark, or can no longer sign
2 his or her name, the election officers shall require the voter to be
3 identified by another registered voter.

4 (b) The identification must be valid photo identification, such
5 as a driver's license, state identification card, student
6 identification card, tribal identification card, or employer
7 identification card. A tribal identification card is not required to
8 include a residential address or an expiration date to be considered
9 valid under this section. Any individual who desires to vote in
10 person but cannot provide identification shall be issued a
11 provisional ballot, which shall be accepted if the signature on the
12 declaration matches the signature on the voter's registration record.

13 ~~((10))~~ (7) Provisional ballots must be accompanied by a
14 declaration and security envelope, as required by RCW 29A.40.091, and
15 space for the voter's name, date of birth, current and former
16 registered address, reason for the provisional ballot, and
17 disposition of the provisional ballot. The voter shall vote and
18 return the provisional ballot at the voting center. The voter must be
19 provided information on how to ascertain whether the provisional
20 ballot was counted and, if applicable, the reason why the vote was
21 not counted.

22 ~~((11))~~ (8) Any voter may take printed or written material into
23 the voting device to assist in casting his or her vote. The voter
24 shall not use this material to electioneer and shall remove it when
25 he or she leaves the voting center.

26 ~~((12))~~ (9) If any voter states that he or she is unable to cast
27 his or her votes due to a disability, the voter may designate a
28 person of his or her choice, or two election officers, to enter the
29 voting booth and record the votes as he or she directs.

30 ~~((13))~~ (10) No voter is entitled to vote more than once at a
31 primary, special election, or general election. If a voter
32 incorrectly marks a ballot, he or she may be issued a replacement
33 ballot.

34 ~~((14))~~ (11) A voter who has already returned a ballot but
35 requests to vote at a voting center shall be issued a provisional
36 ballot. The canvassing board shall not count the provisional ballot
37 if it finds that the voter has also voted a regular ballot in that
38 primary, special election, or general election.

1 secretary of state may substitute such language as is necessary for
2 accuracy and clarity and consistent with the intent of this section;

3 (5) Contact information for major political parties;

4 (6) A brief statement explaining the deletion and addition of
5 language for proposed measures under RCW 29A.32.080; (~~and~~)

6 (7) A list of all voter empowerment campuses as designated under
7 section 10(4) of this act; and

8 (8) Any additional information pertaining to elections as may be
9 required by law or in the judgment of the secretary of state is
10 deemed informative to the voters.

11 **Sec. 13.** RCW 29A.32.241 and 2016 c 83 s 2 are each amended to
12 read as follows:

13 (1) The local voters' pamphlet shall include but not be limited
14 to the following:

15 (a) Appearing on the cover, the words "official local voters'
16 pamphlet," the name of the jurisdiction producing the pamphlet, and
17 the date of the election or primary;

18 (b) A list of jurisdictions that have measures or candidates in
19 the pamphlet;

20 (c) Information on how a person may register to vote and obtain a
21 ballot;

22 (d) The text of each measure accompanied by an explanatory
23 statement prepared by the prosecuting attorney for any county measure
24 or by the attorney for the jurisdiction submitting the measure if
25 other than a county measure. All explanatory statements for city,
26 town, or district measures not approved by the attorney for the
27 jurisdiction submitting the measure shall be reviewed and approved by
28 the county prosecuting attorney or city attorney, when applicable,
29 before inclusion in the pamphlet;

30 (e) The arguments for and against each measure submitted by
31 committees selected pursuant to RCW 29A.32.280; (~~and~~)

32 (f) A list of all voter empowerment campuses in the county as
33 designated under section 10(4) of this act; and

34 (g) For partisan primary elections, information on how to vote
35 the applicable ballot format and an explanation that minor political
36 party candidates and independent candidates will appear only on the
37 general election ballot.

38 (2) The county auditor's name may not appear in the local voters'
39 pamphlet in his or her official capacity if the county auditor is a

1 candidate for office during the same year. His or her name may only
2 be included as part of the information normally included for
3 candidates.

4 **PART VI**

5 **HARMONIZING PROVISIONS**

6 **Sec. 14.** RCW 29A.04.061 and 2003 c 111 s 111 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 "Elector" means any person who possesses all of the
9 qualifications to vote under Article VI of the state Constitution,
10 including persons who are seventeen years of age at the primary
11 election or presidential primary election but who will be eighteen
12 years of age by the general election.

13 **Sec. 15.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2019 c 391 s 5 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) For persons registering under RCW 29A.08.120, 29A.08.123,
16 29A.08.170, 29A.08.330, 29A.08.340, 29A.08.362, and 29A.08.365, an
17 application is considered complete only if it contains the
18 information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The applicant is considered
19 to be registered to vote as of ~~((the))~~;

20 (a) The original date of receipt~~((~~or when~~))~~;

21 (b) When the person will be at least eighteen years old by the
22 next election; or

23 (c) When the person will be at least seventeen years old by the
24 next primary election or presidential primary election and eighteen
25 years old by the general election, whichever is applicable.

26 (2) As soon as practicable, the auditor shall record the
27 appropriate precinct identification, taxing district identification,
28 and date of registration on the voter's record in the state voter
29 registration list. The secretary of state shall, pursuant to RCW
30 29A.04.611, establish procedures to enable new or updated voter
31 registrations to be recorded on an expedited basis. Any mailing
32 address provided shall be used only for mail delivery purposes, and
33 not for precinct assignment or residency purposes. Within sixty days
34 after the receipt of an application or transfer, the auditor shall
35 send to the applicant, by first-class nonforwardable mail, an
36 acknowledgment notice identifying the registrant's precinct and
37 containing such other information as may be required by the secretary

1 of state. The postal service shall be instructed not to forward a
2 voter registration card to any other address and to return to the
3 auditor any card which is not deliverable.

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

12 ~~((+3))~~ (4) Once a future voter is no longer in pending status,
13 as described in RCW 29A.08.615, his or her application to sign up to
14 register to vote is no longer pending and is subject to this section.

15 **Sec. 16.** RCW 29A.08.170 and 2018 c 109 s 5 are each amended to
16 read as follows:

17 (1) A person may sign up to register to vote if he or she is
18 sixteen or seventeen years of age, as part of the future voter
19 program.

20 (2) A person who signs up to register to vote may not vote until
21 reaching eighteen years of age ~~(, and his or her name)~~ unless the
22 person is seventeen years of age at the primary election or
23 presidential primary election and will be eighteen years of age by
24 the general election. A person who signs up to register to vote may
25 not be added to the statewide voter registration database list of
26 voters until such time as he or she will be ~~((eighteen years of age~~
27 ~~by))~~ eligible to vote in the next election.

28 **Sec. 17.** RCW 29A.08.172 and 2018 c 109 s 6 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 (1) A person who has attained sixteen years of age may sign up to
31 register to vote, as part of the future voter program, by submitting
32 a voter registration application by mail.

33 (2) The applicant must attest to the truth of the information
34 provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the
35 information as true.

36 (3) If signing up to register by mail, the person must provide a
37 signature for voter registration purposes.

1 (4) The applicant must affirmatively acknowledge that he or she
2 will not vote in a special or general election until his or her
3 eighteenth birthday.

4 **Sec. 18.** RCW 29A.08.174 and 2018 c 109 s 14 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1) A person who has attained sixteen years of age and has a
7 valid Washington state driver's license or identicard may sign up to
8 register to vote as part of the future voter program, by submitting a
9 voter registration application electronically on the secretary of
10 state's web site.

11 (2) The applicant must attest to the truth of the information
12 provided on the application by affirmatively accepting the
13 information as true.

14 (3) If signing up to register electronically, the applicant must
15 affirmatively assent to the use of his or her driver's license or
16 identicard signature for voter registration purposes.

17 (4) The applicant must affirmatively acknowledge that he or she
18 will not vote in a special or general election until his or her
19 eighteenth birthday, and will only vote in a primary election or
20 presidential primary election if he or she will be eighteen years of
21 age by the general election.

22 (5) For each electronic registration application, the secretary
23 of state must obtain a digital copy of the applicant's driver's
24 license or identicard signature from the department of licensing.

25 (6) The secretary of state may employ additional security
26 measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of voter
27 preregistration applications submitted electronically.

28 **Sec. 19.** RCW 29A.08.359 and 2019 c 391 s 8 are each amended to
29 read as follows:

30 (1)(a) For persons age eighteen years and older registering under
31 RCW 29A.08.355(1), an application is considered complete only if it
32 contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and other
33 information as required by the secretary of state. The applicant is
34 considered to be registered to vote as of the original date of
35 issuance or renewal or date of change of address of an enhanced
36 driver's license or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 or change
37 of address for an existing enhanced driver's license or identicard
38 pursuant to RCW 46.20.205.

1 (b) For persons sixteen or seventeen years of age registering
2 under RCW 29A.08.355(2), an application is considered complete only
3 if it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and other
4 information as required by the secretary of state. The applicant is
5 considered to be registered to vote as of the date set forth in RCW
6 29A.08.110(1).

7 (c) The information must be transmitted in an expedited manner
8 and must be received by an election official by the required voter
9 registration deadline. The auditor shall record the appropriate
10 precinct identification, taxing district identification, and date of
11 registration on the voter's record in the state voter registration
12 list. Any mailing address provided shall be used only for mail
13 delivery purposes, and not for precinct assignment or residency
14 purposes. Within sixty days after the receipt of an application or
15 transfer, the auditor shall send to the applicant, by first-class
16 nonforwardable mail, an acknowledgment notice identifying the
17 registrant's precinct and containing such other information as may be
18 required by the secretary of state. The United States postal service
19 shall be instructed not to forward a voter registration card to any
20 other address and to return to the auditor any card which is not
21 deliverable.

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

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

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

39 (4) The department of licensing is prohibited from sharing data
40 files used by the secretary of state to certify voters registered

1 through the automated process outlined in RCW 29A.08.355 with any
2 federal agency, or state agency other than the secretary of state.
3 Personal information supplied for the purposes of obtaining a
4 driver's license or identicard is exempt from public inspection
5 pursuant to RCW 42.56.230.

6 **Sec. 20.** RCW 29A.84.140 and 2018 c 109 s 13 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 A person who knows that he or she does not possess the legal
9 qualifications of a voter and who registers to vote is guilty of a
10 class C felony. This section does not apply to persons age sixteen or
11 seventeen signing up to register to vote as authorized under RCW
12 29A.08.170 or 29A.08.355(2).

13 **Sec. 21.** RCW 46.20.156 and 2018 c 110 s 105 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 For persons eighteen years of age or older who meet requirements
16 for voter registration and persons sixteen or seventeen years of age
17 who meet requirements to sign up to register to vote, who have been
18 issued or are renewing an enhanced driver's license or identicard
19 under RCW 46.20.202 or applying for a change of address for an
20 existing enhanced driver's license or identicard pursuant to RCW
21 46.20.205, and have not declined to register to vote, the department
22 shall produce and transmit to the secretary of state the following
23 information from the records of each individual: The name, address,
24 date of birth, gender of the applicant, the driver's license number,
25 signature image, and the date on which the application was submitted.
26 The department and the secretary of state shall process information
27 as an automated application on a daily basis.

28 **PART VII**
29 **OTHER PROVISIONS**

30 **Sec. 22.** RCW 29A.08.140 and 2019 c 391 s 4 are each amended to
31 read as follows:

32 (1) In order to vote in any primary, special election, or general
33 election, a person who is not registered to vote in Washington must:

34 (a) Submit a registration application that is received by an
35 election official no later than eight days before the day of the
36 primary, special election, or general election. For purposes of this

1 subsection (1)(a), "received" means: (i) Being physically received by
2 an election official by the close of business of the required
3 deadline; or (ii) for applications received online or electronically,
4 by midnight, of the required deadline; or

5 (b) Register in person at (~~the~~) a county auditor's office, the
6 division of elections if in a separate city from the county auditor's
7 office, a voting center, a student engagement center, or other
8 location designated by the county auditor (~~in his or her county of~~
9 ~~residence~~) no later than 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary,
10 special election, or general election.

11 (2) (~~(a)~~) (a) In order to change a residence address for
12 voting in any primary, special election, or general election, a
13 person who is already registered to vote in Washington may update his
14 or her registration by:

15 (~~(a)---(i)~~) (i) Submitting an address change using a
16 registration application or making notification via any non-in-person
17 method that is received by election officials no later than eight
18 days before the day of the primary, special election, or general
19 election; or

20 (~~(b)---(ii)~~) (ii) Appearing in person, at (~~the~~) a county
21 auditor's office, the division of elections if in a separate city
22 from the county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location
23 designated by the county auditor (~~in his or her county of~~
24 ~~residence~~), no later than 8:00 p.m. on the day of the primary,
25 special election, or general election to be in effect for that
26 primary, special election, or general election.

27 (~~(c)---(b)~~) (b) A registered voter who fails to update his or
28 her residential address by this deadline may vote according to his or
29 her previous registration address.

30 (3) To register or update a voting address in person at (~~the~~) a
31 county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location
32 designated by the county auditor, a person must appear in person at
33 (~~the~~) a county auditor's office, a voting center, or other location
34 designated by the county auditor (~~in the county in which the person~~
35 ~~resides~~) at a time when the facility is open and complete the voter
36 registration application by providing the information required by RCW
37 29A.08.010.

38 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 23.** Sections 3 through 6 and 22 of this act
39 take effect January 1, 2022.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 24.** Sections 7 and 8 of this act take effect
2 September 1, 2020.

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