

HOUSE BILL No. 2020

By Representative Finney

1-6

1 AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter registration; allowing
2 voter registration on election days; amending K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 25-
3 2311, 25-2316c and 25-3602 and repealing the existing sections.

4
5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 25-2311 is hereby amended to read as
7 follows: 25-2311. (a) County election officers shall provide for the
8 registration of voters at one or more places on all days except the
9 following:

10 (1) Days when the main offices of the county government are closed
11 for business, except as is otherwise provided by any county election officer
12 under the provisions of K.S.A. 25-2312, and amendments thereto; *and*

13 (2) days when the main offices of the city government are closed for
14 business, in the case of deputy county election officers who are city clerks
15 except as is otherwise provided by any county election officer under the
16 provisions of K.S.A. 25-2312, and amendments thereto;

17 ~~(3) the 20 days preceding the day of primary and general elections;~~

18 ~~(4) the 20 days preceding the day of any election other than one~~
19 ~~specified in this subsection; and~~

20 ~~(5) the day of any question submitted election.~~

21 ~~(b) For the purposes of this section in counting days that registration~~
22 ~~books are to be closed, all of the days including Sunday and legal holidays~~
23 ~~shall be counted.~~

24 ~~(c) The secretary of state shall notify every county election officer of~~
25 ~~the dates when registration shall be closed preceding primary and general~~
26 ~~elections. The days so specified by the secretary of state shall be~~
27 ~~conclusive. Such notice shall be given by the secretary of state by mail at~~
28 ~~least 60 days preceding every primary and general election.~~

29 ~~(d)-(b) The last days before closing of registration books as directed~~
30 ~~by the secretary of state under subsection (c) the state primary and general~~
31 ~~elections, county election officers shall provide for registration of voters~~
32 ~~during regular business hours, during the noon hours and at other than~~
33 ~~regular business hours upon such days as the county election officers deem~~
34 ~~necessary. The last three business days before closing of registration books~~
35 ~~prior to primary and general elections, county election officers may~~
36 ~~provide for registration of voters until 9 p.m. in any city.~~

1 ~~(c)~~ County election officers shall provide for the registration of
2 voters appearing at the county election office who apply for advance
3 voting ballots to be transmitted in person. Such persons shall be permitted
4 to register and vote immediately by regular ballots, and shall not use
5 provisional ballots unless otherwise required by law. At any satellite
6 advance voting sites, and at all polling places on the day of any primary
7 or general election or question submitted election, county election officers
8 shall provide for registration of voters pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2316c, and
9 amendments thereto, throughout voting hours.

10 (d) County election officers shall accept and process applications
11 received by voter registration agencies and the division of motor vehicles
12 not later than the 21st day preceding the date of any election; mailed voter
13 registration applications that are postmarked not later than the 21st day
14 preceding the date of any election; or, if the postmark is illegible or
15 missing, is received in the mail not later than the ninth day preceding the
16 day of any election.

17 ~~(e)~~ The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations
18 interpreting the provisions of this section and specifying the days when
19 registration shall be open, days when registration shall be closed, and days
20 when it is optional with the county election officer for registration to be
21 open or closed.

22 ~~(f)~~ Before each primary and general election held in even-
23 numbered and odd-numbered years, and at times and in a form prescribed
24 by the secretary of state, each county election officer shall certify to the
25 secretary of state the number of registered voters in each precinct of the
26 county as shown by the registration books in the office of such county
27 election officer.

28 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2015 Supp. 25-2316c is hereby amended to read as
29 follows: 25-2316c. (a) When a registered voter changes name by marriage,
30 divorce or legal proceeding, if ~~such~~ the voter is otherwise qualified to vote
31 at such voting place ~~such~~, the voter shall be allowed to vote a provisional
32 ballot at any election, or apply for an advance voting ballot, on the
33 condition that such voter first completes the application for registration
34 prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto. Completion of the
35 application shall authorize the county election officer to update the
36 registration records, if appropriate, for voting in future elections. The
37 county election officer shall send, by nonforwardable mail, a notice of
38 disposition to any voter completing ~~such~~ the application.

39 (b) When a registered voter changes residence, ~~such~~ the voter shall
40 reregister in order to be eligible to vote, except that when a registrant has
41 moved from an address on the registration book to another address within
42 the county and has not reregistered, ~~such~~ the registrant shall be allowed to
43 vote a provisional ballot at any election, or to apply for an advance voting

1 ballot, on the condition that ~~such~~ *the* registrant first completes the
2 application for registration prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2309, and
3 amendments thereto. Completion of the application shall authorize the
4 county election officer to update the registration record, if appropriate, for
5 voting in future elections. The county election officer shall send, by
6 nonforwardable mail, a notice of disposition to any such voter. Whenever
7 the county election officer receives from any other election officer a notice
8 of registration of a voter in a different place than that shown in the records
9 of the county election officer, ~~such~~ *the* officer shall remove the name of
10 such voter from the registration book and party affiliation list.

11 (c) (1) *Any person who appears either on the election day at the*
12 *polling place for the precinct in which the person resides or at a satellite*
13 *advance voting site, and who is not registered but is otherwise qualified to*
14 *vote at the voting place, shall be allowed to register and vote a provisional*
15 *ballot on election day at the precinct polling place where the person*
16 *resides or at the satellite advance voting site during the advance voting*
17 *period. Any such provisional ballot shall be counted, unless the county*
18 *board of canvassers determines that the provisional ballot was not*
19 *properly cast or that the person has otherwise voted at the election.*

20 (2) *In order to vote at the election, the person shall register by*
21 *completing a registration card, making an oath on the form prescribed by*
22 *the secretary of state and providing proof of residence in accordance with*
23 *rules and regulations adopted by the secretary of state. If the person is*
24 *required by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto, to provide proof of*
25 *United States citizenship in order to register to vote, the person may do so*
26 *either by presenting a valid or expired United States passport or by*
27 *including with the provisional ballot a photocopy of any document listed*
28 *in K.S.A. 25-2309(1), and amendments thereto. The form prescribed*
29 *pursuant to this subsection shall include space for a member of the*
30 *election board or the county election officer to indicate, if applicable, that*
31 *the person presented a valid or expired United States passport or has*
32 *included a citizenship document photocopy with the person's provisional*
33 *ballot. No person shall be asked or required to show a photocopy of a*
34 *proof of citizenship document to anyone at a polling place or satellite*
35 *advance voting site.*

36 (3) *If the person chooses to include a photocopy of a document*
37 *proving United States citizenship with the person's provisional ballot, the*
38 *person shall be provided a citizenship document envelope in which to*
39 *place the photocopy. The citizenship document envelope shall be sealed*
40 *and attached to the provisional ballot envelope in such a way that the*
41 *citizenship document envelope can be opened without unsealing the*
42 *envelope containing the ballot. The secretary of state may adopt rules and*
43 *regulations regarding the form of this citizenship document envelope,*

1 including information to be printed and written on it and the manner in
2 which it shall be attached to the provisional ballot envelope. The rules and
3 regulations shall safeguard the privacy of the citizenship document
4 photocopy as well as the privacy of the ballot.

5 (4) If a person is required by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments
6 thereto, to provide proof of citizenship but is unable or unwilling to do so
7 at the polling place or satellite advance voting site as permitted by this
8 section, the person may vote a provisional ballot. The person shall provide
9 a document listed in K.S.A. 25-2309(l), and amendments thereto, to the
10 county election officer in person, or provide a copy of such a document by
11 mail or electronic means before the meeting of the board of canvassers.
12 The person shall be provided written information containing the physical
13 location and business hours of the office at which the person may provide
14 a document in person, the mailing address to which the person may mail a
15 copy of such document, and the electronic address, website or other means
16 by which the person may submit a copy of such document, as well as the
17 deadline before which, by statute, such proof of citizenship must be
18 provided.

19 (5) A person's registration and provisional ballot shall not be
20 rejected for reasons relating to proof of citizenship, unless the county
21 election official determines that:

22 (A) The person is required by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments
23 thereto, to provide proof of citizenship;

24 (B) the person did not present a valid or expired United States
25 passport at the polling place or satellite advance voting site;

26 (C) the person did not include a copy of a document listed in K.S.A.
27 25-2309(l), and amendments thereto, with the person's provisional ballot;

28 (D) the person has not provided a copy of a document listed in K.S.A.
29 25-2309(l), and amendments thereto, in person, by mail or electronic
30 means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers; and

31 (E) the person is not exempt by reason of previous registration to vote
32 within the state of Kansas.

33 (6) The registration card shall authorize the county election officer to
34 register the person, and the county election officer shall send, by non-
35 forwardable first class mail, a certificate of registration to the person.

36 (d) Every application for registration completed under this section
37 shall be returned to the county election officer with the registration books.

38 ~~(d)~~(e) A registrant shall not be removed from the registration list on
39 the ground that the registrant has changed residence unless the registrant:

40 (1) Confirms in writing that the registrant has moved outside the
41 county in which the registrant is registered, or registers to vote in any other
42 jurisdiction; or

43 (2) has failed to respond to the notice described in subsection ~~(e)~~(4)

1 ~~(f)~~(4) and has not appeared to vote in an election during the period
 2 beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the date of
 3 the second federal general election that occurs after the date of the notice.

4 ~~(f)~~(f) A county election officer shall send a confirmation notice upon
 5 which a registrant may state such registrant's current address, within 45
 6 days of the following events:

7 (1) A notice of disposition of an application for voter registration is
 8 returned as undeliverable;

9 (2) change of address information supplied by the national change of
 10 address program identifies a registrant whose address may have changed;

11 (3) if it appears from information provided by the postal service that a
 12 registrant has moved to a different residence address in the county in
 13 which the registrant is currently registered; or

14 (4) if it appears from information provided by the postal service that a
 15 registrant has moved to a different residence address outside the county in
 16 which the registrant is currently registered.

17 The confirmation notice shall be sent by forwardable mail and shall
 18 include a postage prepaid and preaddressed return card in a form
 19 prescribed by the chief state election official.

20 ~~(g)~~(g) Except as otherwise provided by law, when a voter dies or is
 21 disqualified for voting, the registration of the voter shall be void, and the
 22 county election officer shall remove such voter's name from the
 23 registration books and the party affiliation lists. Whenever:

24 (1) An obituary notice appears in a newspaper having general
 25 circulation in the county reports the death of a registered voter~~;~~~~or~~;

26 (2) a registered voter requests in writing that such voter's name be
 27 removed from registration~~;~~~~or~~;

28 (3) a court of competent jurisdiction orders removal of the name of a
 29 registered voter from registration lists~~;~~ or

30 (4) the name of a registered voter appears on a list of deceased
 31 residents compiled by the secretary of health and environment as provided
 32 in K.S.A. 65-2422, and amendments thereto, or appears on a copy of a
 33 death certificate provided by the secretary of health and environment, or
 34 appears in information provided by the social security administration, the
 35 county election officer shall remove from the registration books and the
 36 party affiliation lists in ~~such~~ *the* officer's office the name of any person
 37 shown by ~~such~~ *the* list or death certificate to be deceased.

38 The county election officer shall not use or permit the use of ~~such~~ *the*
 39 lists of deceased residents or copies for any other purpose than provided in
 40 this section.

41 ~~(h)~~(h) When the chief state election official receives written notice of
 42 a felony conviction in a United States district court, such official shall
 43 notify within five days the county election officer of the jurisdiction in

1 which the offender resides. Upon notification of a felony conviction from
2 the chief state election official, or from a county or district attorney or a
3 Kansas district court, the county election officer shall remove the name of
4 the offender from the registration records.

5 ~~(h)~~(i) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person whose
6 name has been removed from the registration books shall be entitled to
7 vote until ~~such~~ *the* person has registered again.

8 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 25-3602 is hereby amended to read as
9 follows: 25-3602. (a) Each petition shall consist of one or more documents
10 pertaining to a single issue or proposition under one distinctive title. The
11 documents shall be filed with the county election officer or other official,
12 if another official is designated in the applicable statutes. The filing shall
13 be made at one time all in one group. Later or successive filings of
14 documents relating to the same issue or proposition shall be deemed to be
15 separate petitions and not a part of any earlier or later filing.

16 (b) Unless otherwise specifically required, each petition shall: (1)
17 State the question which petitioners seek to bring to an election in the form
18 of a question as it should appear upon the ballot in accordance with the
19 requirements of K.S.A. 25-620 and ~~K.S.A.~~ 25-3601, and amendments
20 thereto;

21 (2) name the taxing subdivision or other political subdivision in
22 which an election is sought to be held;

23 (3) contain the following recital above the spaces provided for
24 signatures: "I have personally signed this petition. I am a registered elector
25 of the state of Kansas and of
26

27 _____
(here insert name of political or taxing subdivision)
28 and my residence address is correctly written after my name."

29 The recital shall be followed by blank spaces for the signature,
30 residence address and date of signing for each person signing the petition.

31 When petitioners are required by law to possess qualifications in
32 addition to being registered electors, the form of the petition shall be
33 amended to contain a recital specifying the additional qualifications
34 required and stating that the petitioners possess the qualifications; and

35 (4) contain a recital in substance as follows, at the end of each set of
36 documents carried by each petition circulator as defined in K.S.A. 2016
37 Supp. 25-3608, and amendments thereto: "I am the circulator of this
38 petition and I am qualified to circulate this petition and I personally
39 witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears
40 thereon.

41 _____
42 (Signature of circulator)
43 _____"

1 (Circulator's residence address)

2 The recital of the circulator of each petition shall be verified upon oath
3 or affirmation before a notarial officer in the manner prescribed by K.S.A.
4 53-501 et seq., and amendments thereto.

5 (c) Any person who has signed a petition who desires to withdraw
6 ~~such~~ *the* person's name may do so by giving written notice to the county
7 election officer or other designated official not later than the third day
8 following the date upon which the petition is filed.

9 (d) Any petition shall be null and void unless submitted to the county
10 election officer or other designated official within 180 days of the date of
11 the first signature on the petition.

12 (e) Unless the governing body of the political or taxing subdivision in
13 which the election is sought to be held authorizes a special election, all
14 elections which are called as a result of the filing of a sufficient petition
15 shall be held at the next succeeding primary or general election as defined
16 by K.S.A. 25-2502, and amendments thereto, in which the political or
17 taxing subdivision is participating.

18 (f) When a petition requires signatures equal in number to a
19 percentage of the total number of registered voters, such percentage shall
20 be based on the most recent number of registered voters as certified to the
21 office of the secretary of state pursuant to ~~subsection (g)~~ of K.S.A. 25-
22 2311(e), and amendments thereto.

23 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 25-2311, 25-2316c and 25-3602 are hereby
24 repealed.

25 Sec. 5. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
26 publication in the statute book.