

**As Reported by the Senate Government Oversight and Reform  
Committee**

**131st General Assembly**

**Regular Session  
2015-2016**

**Sub. S. B. No. 63**

**Senator LaRose**

**Cosponsors: Senators Hite, Jones, Gardner, Lehner, Hottinger, Skindell, Tavares,  
Brown, Coley**

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3501.01, 3503.10, 3503.14 ,	1
3503.15, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.23,	2
3505.181, 3513.05, 3513.18, 3513.19, 3513.191,	3
3517.012, 3517.013, 3599.02, and 3599.18; to	4
enact sections 3503.20 and 3503.22; and to	5
repeal sections 3513.20, 3517.014, and 3517.016	6
of the Revised Code to create an online voter	7
registration system, to revise the law	8
concerning electors' political party	9
affiliations, to require the Secretary of State	10
annually to review the Statewide Voter	11
Registration Database to identify registrants	12
who are not United States citizens, and to	13
modify the procedures for maintaining the	14
Statewide Voter Registration Database.	15

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

<b>Section 1.</b> That sections 3501.01, 3503.10, 3503.14,	16
3503.15, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.23, 3505.181, 3513.05,	17
3513.18, 3513.19, 3513.191, 3517.012, 3517.013, 3599.02, and	18

3599.18 be amended and sections 3503.20 and 3503.22 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

**Sec. 3501.01.** As used in the sections of the Revised Code relating to elections and political communications:

(A) "General election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November.

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered year.

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each even-numbered year.

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in February, May, August, or November, or on the day authorized by a particular municipal or county charter for the holding of a primary election, except that in any year in which a presidential primary election is held, no special election shall be held in February or May, except as authorized by a municipal or county charter, but may be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March.

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of political parties and as delegates and alternates to the conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each

year except in years in which a presidential primary election is held. 48  
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(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary election as defined by division (E)(1) of this section at which an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and alternates to the national conventions of the major political parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included in references to primary elections. In years in which a presidential primary election is held, all primary elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county charter. 50  
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(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 61  
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(1) "Major political party" means any political party organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at the most recent regular state election. 64  
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(2) "Minor political party" means any political party organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the following requirements: 69  
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(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the political party's candidate for governor or nominees for presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office at the most recent regular state election. A political party 72  
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that meets the requirements of this division remains a political 77  
party for a period of four years after meeting those 78  
requirements. 79

(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of 80  
state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of 81  
division (F) (2) (a) of this section, a petition that meets the 82  
requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 83

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor 84  
political party until the time of the first election for 85  
governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months 86  
subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election 87  
the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the 88  
office of governor or president. 89

(G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political 90  
party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate 91  
for election to the office of governor at the most recent 92  
regular state election at which a governor was elected received 93  
more votes than any other person received for election to that 94  
office in such precinct at such election. 95

(H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in 96  
accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement 97  
on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special 98  
election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who 99  
claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to 100  
being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a 101  
primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 102

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who ~~claims~~ 103  
is not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name 104  
has been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or 105

special election through the filing of a statement of candidacy 106  
and nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of 107  
the Revised Code. 108

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 109  
is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 110  
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 111  
for judicial office, for member of any board of education, for 112  
municipal or township offices in which primary elections are not 113  
held for nominating candidates by political parties, and for 114  
offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide 115  
for separate ballots for elections for these offices. 116

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who ~~claims to be~~ 117  
~~a member of~~ is affiliated with a political party and who has 118  
been certified to appear on the office-type ballot at a general 119  
or special election as the nominee of a political party because 120  
the candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's 121  
party for the public office the candidate seeks, has been 122  
nominated under section 3517.012, or is selected by party 123  
committee in accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised 124  
Code. 125

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 126  
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 127  
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 128  
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 129  
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 130  
party. 131

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue 132  
certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on 133  
an official ballot at a general or special election to be held 134  
in this state. 135

(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote.	136 137
(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election.	138
(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector may vote.	139 140 141
(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.	142 143 144 145
(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.	146 147 148
(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of the Revised Code.	149 150 151
(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.	152 153
(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of the following:	154 155
(1) Secretary of state;	156
(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the division of elections in the capacity of attorney, administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;	157 158 159 160
(3) Director of a board of elections;	161
(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;	162

(5) Member of a board of elections;	163
(6) Employees of a board of elections;	164
(7) Precinct election officials;	165
(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a temporary or part-time basis.	166 167
(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status of the application; the information necessary to complete or update the application, if any; and if the application is complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.	168 169 170 171 172 173 174
(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current address.	175 176 177 178
(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the state that provides public assistance or that provides state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and that is required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering voters, or any other public or government office or agency that implements a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering voters, including the department of job and family services, the program administered under section 3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the department of mental health and addiction services, the department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for	179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191

Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not include public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, or the office of a county treasurer.

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973gg.

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended.

(AA) "Photo identification" means a document that meets each of the following requirements:

(1) It shows the name of the individual to whom it was issued, which shall conform to the name in the poll list or signature pollbook.

(2) It shows the current address of the individual to whom it was issued, which shall conform to the address in the poll list or signature pollbook, except for a driver's license or a state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code, which may show either the current or former address of the individual to whom it was issued, regardless of whether that address conforms to the address in the poll list or signature pollbook.

(3) It shows a photograph of the individual to whom it was issued.

(4) It includes an expiration date that has not passed.

(5) It was issued by the government of the United States or this state.

**Sec. 3503.10.** (A) Each designated agency shall designate

one person within that agency to serve as coordinator for the 220  
voter registration program within the agency and its 221  
departments, divisions, and programs. The designated person 222  
shall be trained under a program designed by the secretary of 223  
state and shall be responsible for administering all aspects of 224  
the voter registration program for that agency as prescribed by 225  
the secretary of state. The designated person shall receive no 226  
additional compensation for performing such duties. 227

(B) Every designated agency, public high school and 228  
vocational school, public library, and office of a county 229  
treasurer shall provide in each of its offices or locations 230  
voter registration applications and assistance in the 231  
registration of persons qualified to register to vote, in 232  
accordance with this chapter. 233

(C) Every designated agency shall distribute to its 234  
applicants, prior to or in conjunction with distributing a voter 235  
registration application, a form prescribed by the secretary of 236  
state that includes all of the following: 237

(1) The question, "Do you want to register to vote or 238  
update your current voter registration?"--followed by boxes for 239  
the applicant to indicate whether the applicant would like to 240  
register or decline to register to vote, and the statement, 241  
highlighted in bold print, "If you do not check either box, you 242  
will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at 243  
this time."; 244

(2) If the agency provides public assistance, the 245  
statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to 246  
vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be 247  
provided by this agency."; 248

(3) The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private.";

(4) The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the prosecuting attorney of your county or with the secretary of state," with the address and telephone number for each such official's office.

(D) Each designated agency shall distribute a voter registration form prescribed by the secretary of state to each applicant with each application for service or assistance, and with each written application or form for recertification, renewal, or change of address.

(E) Each designated agency shall do all of the following:

(1) Have employees trained to administer the voter registration program in order to provide to each applicant who wishes to register to vote and who accepts assistance, the same degree of assistance with regard to completion of the voter registration application as is provided by the agency with regard to the completion of its own form;

(2) Accept completed voter registration applications, voter registration change of residence forms, and voter registration change of name forms, regardless of whether the application or form was distributed by the designated agency, for transmittal to the office of the board of elections in the

county in which the agency is located. Each designated agency 278  
and the appropriate board of elections shall establish a method 279  
by which the voter registration applications and other voter 280  
registration forms are transmitted to that board of elections 281  
within five days after being accepted by the agency. 282

(3) If the designated agency is one that is primarily 283  
engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities under 284  
a state-funded program, and that agency provides services to a 285  
person with disabilities at a person's home, provide the 286  
services described in divisions (E) (1) and (2) of this section 287  
at the person's home; 288

(4) Keep as confidential, except as required by the 289  
secretary of state for record-keeping purposes, the identity of 290  
an agency through which a person registered to vote or updated 291  
the person's voter registration records, and information 292  
relating to a declination to register to vote made in connection 293  
with a voter registration application issued by a designated 294  
agency. 295

(F) The secretary of state shall prepare and transmit 296  
written instructions on the implementation of the voter 297  
registration program within each designated agency, public high 298  
school and vocational school, public library, and office of a 299  
county treasurer. The instructions shall include directions as 300  
follows: 301

(1) That each person designated to assist with voter 302  
registration maintain strict neutrality with respect to a 303  
person's political philosophies, a person's right to register or 304  
decline to register, and any other matter that may influence a 305  
person's decision to register or not register to vote; 306

(2) That each person designated to assist with voter registration not seek to influence a person's decision to register or not register to vote, not display or demonstrate any political preference or party allegiance, and not make any statement to a person or take any action the purpose or effect of which is to lead a person to believe that a decision to register or not register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits offered, on the grade in a particular class in school, or on credit for a particular class in school;

(3) Regarding when and how to assist a person in completing the voter registration application, what to do with the completed voter registration application or voter registration update form, and when the application must be transmitted to the appropriate board of elections;

(4) Regarding what records must be kept by the agency and where and when those records should be transmitted to satisfy reporting requirements imposed on the secretary of state under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993;

(5) Regarding whom to contact to obtain answers to questions about voter registration forms and procedures.

(G) If the voter registration activity is part of an in-class voter registration program in a public high school or vocational school, whether prescribed by the secretary of state or independent of the secretary of state, the board of education shall do all of the following:

(1) Establish a schedule of school days and hours during these days when the person designated to assist with voter registration shall provide voter registration assistance;

(2) Designate a person to assist with voter registration

from the public high school's or vocational school's staff; 336

(3) Make voter registration applications and materials 337  
available, as outlined in the voter registration program 338  
established by the secretary of state pursuant to section 339  
3501.05 of the Revised Code; 340

(4) Distribute the statement, "applying to register or 341  
declining to register to vote, or registering as affiliated with 342  
a particular political party or registering to vote and 343  
remaining unaffiliated, will not affect or be a condition of 344  
your receiving a particular grade in or credit for a school 345  
course or class, participating in a curricular or 346  
extracurricular activity, receiving a benefit or privilege, or 347  
participating in a program or activity otherwise available to 348  
pupils enrolled in this school district's schools."; 349

(5) Establish a method by which the voter registration 350  
application and other voter registration forms are transmitted 351  
to the board of elections within five days after being accepted 352  
by the public high school or vocational school. 353

(H) Any person employed by the designated agency, public 354  
high school or vocational school, public library, or office of a 355  
county treasurer may be designated to assist with voter 356  
registration pursuant to this section. The designated agency, 357  
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 358  
office of a county treasurer shall provide the designated 359  
person, and make available such space as may be necessary, 360  
without charge to the county or state. 361

(I) The secretary of state shall prepare and cause to be 362  
displayed in a prominent location in each designated agency a 363  
notice that identifies the person designated to assist with 364

voter registration, the nature of that person's duties, and 365  
where and when that person is available for assisting in the 366  
registration of voters. 367

A designated agency may furnish additional supplies and 368  
services to disseminate information to increase public awareness 369  
of the existence of a person designated to assist with voter 370  
registration in every designated agency. 371

(J) This section does not limit any authority a board of 372  
education, superintendent, or principal has to allow, sponsor, 373  
or promote voluntary election registration programs within a 374  
high school or vocational school, including programs in which 375  
pupils serve as persons designated to assist with voter 376  
registration, provided that no pupil is required to participate. 377

(K) Each public library and office of the county treasurer 378  
shall establish a method by which voter registration forms are 379  
transmitted to the board of elections within five days after 380  
being accepted by the public library or office of the county 381  
treasurer. 382

(L) The department of job and family services and its 383  
departments, divisions, and programs shall limit administration 384  
of the aspects of the voter registration program for the 385  
department to the requirements prescribed by the secretary of 386  
state and the requirements of this section and the National 387  
Voter Registration Act of 1993. 388

**Sec. 3503.14.** (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 389  
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 390  
and change of name forms used in this state. ~~The~~ 391

(1) The forms shall meet the requirements of the National 392  
Voter Registration Act of 1993 and shall include spaces for all 393

of the following:	394
<del>(1)</del> <u>(a)</u> The voter's name;	395
<del>(2)</del> <u>(b)</u> The voter's address;	396
<del>(3)</del> <u>(c)</u> The current date;	397
<del>(4)</del> <u>(d)</u> The voter's date of birth;	398
<del>(5)</del> <u>(e)</u> The voter to provide one or more of the following:	399
<del>(a)</del> <u>(i)</u> The voter's driver's license number, if any;	400
<del>(b)</del> <u>(ii)</u> The last four digits of the voter's social security number, if any;	401 402
<del>(c)</del> <u>(iii)</u> A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the voter's name and address.	403 404 405 406 407 408 409
<del>(6)</del> <u>(f)</u> The voter's signature.	410
<u>(2) (a) The registration form shall include a space for the applicant to write the name of a political party, as defined in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code, if the applicant wishes to be affiliated with that party.</u>	411 412 413 414
<u>(b) The form shall state that if the applicant is not currently registered as affiliated with a political party, as defined in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code, and does not write the name of a political party, as defined in that section, the applicant will be recorded as having no party affiliation.</u>	415 416 417 418 419
<u>(c) If any of the following are true, the applicant shall</u>	420

not be registered as affiliated with any political party: 421

(i) The applicant is not currently registered as 422  
affiliated with a political party, as defined in section 3517.01 423  
of the Revised Code, and the applicant does not write the name 424  
of a political party, as defined in that section. 425

(ii) The applicant writes the name of an organization that 426  
is not a political party, as defined in section 3517.01 of the 427  
Revised Code, at the time the form is received by the board of 428  
elections. 429

(iii) The applicant writes the names of two or more 430  
organizations or political parties. 431

(d) If the applicant is currently registered as affiliated 432  
with a political party, as defined in section 3517.01 of the 433  
Revised Code, and the applicant does not write the name of a 434  
political party, as defined in that section, the board shall 435  
retain the political party affiliation from the applicant's 436  
prior registration record. 437

(3) The registration form shall include a space on which 438  
the person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name 439  
and provide the person's address and a space on which the person 440  
registering an applicant shall name the employer who is 441  
employing that person to register the applicant. 442

(4) Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 443  
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 444  
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 445  
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 446  
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 447  
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 448  
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 449

that data to the statewide voter registration database 450  
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 451

(B) None of the following persons who are registering an 452  
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal 453  
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's 454  
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to 455  
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section: 456

(1) An election official; 457

(2) A county treasurer; 458

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 459

(4) An employee of a designated agency; 460

(5) An employee of a public high school; 461

(6) An employee of a public vocational school; 462

(7) An employee of a public library; 463

(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer; 464

(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles; 465

(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 466

(11) An employee of an election official. 467

(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised 468  
Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own 469  
name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by 470  
the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling 471  
out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an 472  
applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate 473  
in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or 474  
to change the applicant's name or residence. The person 475

registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that 476  
the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register 477  
to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence. 478

(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of 479  
name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person 480  
registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or 481  
failed to name the employer who is employing that person to 482  
register the applicant as required under division (A) of this 483  
section. 484

(E) A voter registration application submitted online 485  
through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised 486  
Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered 487  
valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section 488  
shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election 489  
and signature-matching purposes. 490

(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" 491  
includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter 492  
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or 493  
returning those forms. 494

**Sec. 3503.15.** (A) (1) The secretary of state shall 495  
establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database 496  
that shall be administered by the office of the secretary of 497  
state and made continuously available to each board of elections 498  
and to other agencies as authorized by law. 499

(2) (a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the 500  
department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 501  
department of job and family services, the department of 502  
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, 503  
shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state 504

that is collected in the course of normal business and that is 505  
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's 506  
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration 507  
database established pursuant to this section, except where 508  
prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of 509  
health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and 510  
family services, the department of medicaid, and the department 511  
of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information 512  
and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day 513  
of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any 514  
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 515  
confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data 516  
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 517  
state. No public office, and no public official or employee, 518  
shall sell that information or data or use that information or 519  
data for profit. 520

(b) Information provided under this division for 521  
maintenance of the statewide voter registration database shall 522  
not be used to update the name or address of a registered 523  
elector. The name or address of a registered elector shall only 524  
be updated as a result of the elector's actions in filing a 525  
notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 526

(c) A board of elections shall contact a registered 527  
elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D) (7) of 528  
this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the 529  
statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if 530  
that information does not conform with information provided 531  
under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the discrepancy 532  
would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot. 533

(3) (a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 534

to share information or data that is in the possession of the secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the statewide voter registration database established pursuant to this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (3) (b) of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the state providing the data remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of state.

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise confidential information or data to persons or organizations that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or organizations who may receive that information or data. The secretary of state shall not share that information or data with a person or organization not identified in those rules. The secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization that receives confidential information or data under this division keeps the information or data confidential in the person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering into a confidentiality agreement with the person or organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under this division shall include a requirement that the person or organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the event that the person or organization breaches the agreement.

(4) No person or entity that receives information or data under division (A) (3) of this section shall sell the information or data or use the information or data for profit.

(5) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, the information and data the secretary of state receives under divisions (A)(2) and (3) of this section that is necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable state and federal law:

(a) Require the boards of elections to maintain the database in a manner that ensures that the name of each registered elector appears in the database, that only individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are eliminated from the database;

(b) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from the database;

(c) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors are not removed in error from the database.

(B) The statewide voter registration database established under this section shall be the official list of registered voters for all elections conducted in this state.

(C) The statewide voter registration database established under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and with the offices of all other boards of elections;

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records

contained in the database with records maintained by each board 595  
of elections; 596

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to 597  
the records contained in the database by each board of elections 598  
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, 599  
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct 600  
updates of the database; 601

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered 602  
voters and their registration information by name, driver's 603  
license number, birth date, social security number, or current 604  
address; 605

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the 606  
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter 607  
registration information is maintained; 608

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records 609  
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to 610  
record the reason for their cancellation. 611

(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to 612  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following: 613

(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter 614  
registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be 615  
converted to electronic files for inclusion in the statewide 616  
voter registration database; 617

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter 618  
registration records into the statewide voter registration 619  
database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, 620  
if new registration information is received; 621

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled 622

voter registration records from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 623  
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(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter registration database and to make updates of that database; 625  
626  
627

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the information contained in the statewide voter registration database; 628  
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(6) Establishing, by mutual agreement with the bureau of motor vehicles, the content and format of the information and data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide to the secretary of state under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information and data; 631  
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(7) Establishing a uniform method for addressing instances in which records contained in the statewide voter registration database do not conform with records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states described in division (A) (2) (a) or (3) (a) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that the information in the registration record does not conform to records maintained by such an agency. 637  
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(E) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's name and voter registration information from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by the secretary of state under division (D) (3) of this section after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code. 645  
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(F) The secretary of state shall provide training in the 651

operation of the statewide voter registration database to each board of elections and to any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct updates of the database.

(G) (1) The statewide voter registration database established under this section shall be made available on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (1) (b) of this section, the following information from the statewide voter registration database regarding a registered voter shall be made available on the web site:

(i) The voter's name;

(ii) The voter's address;

(iii) The voter's precinct number;

(iv) The voter's political party affiliation, if any;

(v) The voter's voting history.

(b) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter registration database shall permit a voter to search for the polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot.

(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of updating the information made available on the secretary of state's web site under division (G) (1) (b) of this section. Those rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the

secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 680  
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 681

(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 682  
general election, not later than one business day after 683  
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G) 684  
(2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 685  
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 686  
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 687  
of division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 688

(H) The secretary of state shall conduct an annual review 689  
of the statewide voter registration database as follows: 690

(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information 691  
in the statewide voter registration database with the 692  
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of 693  
motor vehicles under division (A) (2) of this section to identify 694  
any person who does all of the following, in the following 695  
order: 696

(a) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 697  
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen; 698

(b) Registers to vote, submits a voter registration change 699  
of residence or change of name form, or votes in this state; 700

(c) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 701  
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen. 702

(2) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to 703  
each person identified under division (H) (1) of this section, 704  
instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a 705  
United States citizen or to submit a completed voter 706  
registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The 707  
secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration 708

cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to 709  
respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in 710  
division (H) (3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty 711  
days after the notice was sent, the secretary of state promptly 712  
shall send the person a second notice and form. 713

(3) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 714  
was sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (H) (2) of 715  
this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that 716  
the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state 717  
shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration. 718

(4) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 719  
was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (H) (2) 720  
of this section sends a completed voter registration 721  
cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of 722  
state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in 723  
which the person is registered to cancel the person's 724  
registration. 725

(5) If a person who was sent a second notice under 726  
division (H) (2) of this section fails to respond to the 727  
secretary of state in the manner described in division (H) (3) or 728  
(4) of this section not later than thirty days after the second 729  
notice was sent, the secretary of state shall refer the matter 730  
to the attorney general for further investigation and possible 731  
prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any 732  
other applicable section of the Revised Code. If, after the 733  
thirtieth day after the second notice was sent, the person sends 734  
a completed voter registration cancellation form to the 735  
secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the 736  
board of elections of the county in which the person is 737  
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify 738

the attorney general of the cancellation. 739

(6) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review 740  
described in division (H) of this section during the ninety days 741  
immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal 742  
office. 743

**Sec. 3503.18.** (A) (1) ~~The~~ Not later than the last day of 744  
each month, the director of health shall file with the secretary 745  
of state, ~~at least once each month,~~ the names, social security 746  
numbers, dates of birth, dates of death, and residences of all 747  
persons, over eighteen years of age, who have died within this 748  
state or another state ~~within such month~~ during the period 749  
beginning on the date of the most recent filing and ending on 750  
the day before the date of the current filing. If the director 751  
is notified of the death of such a person after the director has 752  
filed the report for the ~~month in period during~~ which the person 753  
died, the director shall file with the secretary of state a 754  
supplemental report containing that information concerning the 755  
person not later than one month after the director is notified 756  
of the person's death. 757

(2) The secretary of state and the director of health 758  
shall jointly establish a secure electronic system through which 759  
they shall exchange the information described in division (A) (1) 760  
of this section regarding the death of a registered elector. 761

(B) At least once each month, each probate judge in this 762  
state shall file with the board of elections the names and 763  
residence addresses of all persons over eighteen years of age 764  
who have been adjudicated incompetent for the purpose of voting, 765  
as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code. 766

(C) At least once each month the clerk of the court of 767

common pleas shall file with the board the names and residence 768  
addresses of all persons who have been convicted during the 769  
previous month of crimes that would disfranchise such persons 770  
under existing laws of the state. Reports of conviction of 771  
crimes under the laws of the United States that would 772  
disfranchise an elector and that are provided to the secretary 773  
of state by any United States attorney shall be forwarded by the 774  
secretary of state to the appropriate board of elections. 775

(D) Upon receiving a report required by this section, the 776  
board of elections shall promptly cancel the registration of 777  
each elector named in the report in accordance with section 778  
3503.21 of the Revised Code. If the report contains a residence 779  
address of an elector in a county other than the county in which 780  
the board of elections is located, the director shall promptly 781  
send a copy of the report to the appropriate board of elections, 782  
which shall cancel the registration in accordance with that 783  
section. 784

**Sec. 3503.19.** (A) Persons qualified to register or to 785  
change their registration because of a change of address or 786  
change of name may register or change their registration in 787  
person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at 788  
the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 789  
vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a 790  
public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a 791  
branch office established by the board of elections, or in 792  
person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the 793  
secretary of state or at the office of a board of elections. A 794  
registered elector may also change the elector's registration on 795  
election day at any polling place where the elector is eligible 796  
to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the 797  
Revised Code. 798

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 799  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 800  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 801  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any 802  
voter registration application or change of registration form 803  
that it receives to the board of elections of the county in 804  
which the state or local office is located, within five days 805  
after receiving the voter registration application or change of 806  
registration form. 807

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 808  
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 809  
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 810  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 811  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 812  
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 813  
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 814  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 815  
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 816  
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 817  
registration application received after that day entitles the 818  
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 819

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 820  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 821  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 822  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 823  
registration application or change of name or change of address 824  
form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the 825  
identity of the state or local office that receives the 826  
registration. 827

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 828

are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 829  
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 830  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 831  
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 832  
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 833  
voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 834  
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 835  
valid for that election if received by the office of the 836  
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 837  
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 838  
general election. 839

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 840  
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 841  
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 842  
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 843  
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 844  
1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 845  
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 846  
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 847  
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 848  
Revised Code. 849

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 850  
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 851  
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 852  
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 853  
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 854  
the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 855  
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 856  
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 857  
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 858  
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 859

elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 860  
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 861

(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an 862  
applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 863  
through another person to any board of elections or the office 864  
of the secretary of state. 865

(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a 866  
voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that 867  
person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the 868  
office of the secretary of state. 869

(d) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 870  
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 871  
or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an 872  
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 873  
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 874  
elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 875  
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 876  
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 877  
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 878  
(B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day 879  
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 880  
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 881  
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 882  
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 883  
election. 884

(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter 885  
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 886  
statements made in the registration form shall register the 887  
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 888  
the application, unless that application is received during the 889

thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The 890  
board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of 891  
the following: 892

(a) The applicant's registration; 893

(b) The political party, if any, with which the applicant 894  
is registered as affiliated; 895

(c) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote; 896

~~(e)~~ (d) In bold type as follows: 897

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 898  
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 899  
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 900  
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 901  
paycheck, or other government document, other than this 902  
notification, that shows the voter's name and current address. 903  
Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be 904  
able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not 905  
have any of the above forms of identification, including a 906  
social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an 907  
affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of 908  
election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 909

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 910  
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 911  
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 912

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 913  
(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's 914  
correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official 915  
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 916  
be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned 917  
to the board. 918

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been 919  
so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to 920  
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 921  
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 922  
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) 923  
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 924  
that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 925  
indication that the voter's notification was returned from that 926  
voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll 927  
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 928  
counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of 929  
section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration 930  
shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United 931  
States mail of the cancellation. 932

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid 933  
registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is 934  
returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided 935  
in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation 936  
notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to 937  
the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or 938  
vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of 939  
this section in any election during the period of two federal 940  
elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, 941  
the person's registration shall be canceled. 942

Sec. 3503.20. (A) The secretary of state shall establish a 943  
secure online voter registration system. The system shall 944  
provide for all of the following: 945

(1) An applicant to submit a voter registration 946  
application to the secretary of state online through the 947  
internet; 948

- (2) The online applicant to be registered to vote, if all 949  
of the following apply: 950
- (a) The application contains all of the following 951  
information: 952
- (i) The applicant's name; 953
- (ii) The applicant's address; 954
- (iii) The applicant's date of birth; 955
- (iv) The last four digits of the applicant's social 956  
security number; 957
- (v) The applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the 958  
number of the applicant's state identification card issued under 959  
section 4507.50 of the Revised Code. 960
- (b) The applicant's name, address, and date of birth, the 961  
last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and 962  
the applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of 963  
the applicant's state identification card as they are provided 964  
in the application are not inconsistent with the information on 965  
file with the bureau of motor vehicles; 966
- (c) The applicant is a United States citizen, will have 967  
lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the 968  
next election, will be at least eighteen years of age on or 969  
before the day of the next general election, and is otherwise 970  
eligible to register to vote; 971
- (d) The applicant attests to the truth and accuracy of the 972  
information submitted in the online application under penalty of 973  
election falsification. 974
- (B) The secretary of state may include in the online voter 975

registration application a feature that permits an applicant to 976  
register as affiliated with a political party in the manner 977  
described in section 3503.14 of the Revised Code by selecting 978  
the name of a political party. 979

(C) If an individual registers to vote or a registered 980  
elector updates the elector's name, address, or both under this 981  
section, the secretary of state shall obtain an electronic copy 982  
of the applicant's or elector's signature that is on file with 983  
the bureau of motor vehicles. That electronic signature shall be 984  
used as the applicant's or elector's signature on voter 985  
registration records, for all election and signature-matching 986  
purposes. 987

(D) The secretary of state shall employ whatever security 988  
measures the secretary of state considers necessary to ensure 989  
the integrity and accuracy of voter registration information 990  
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in 991  
processing voter registration applications in the online system 992  
shall not prevent an applicant from becoming registered or from 993  
voting. 994

(E) The online voter registration application established 995  
under division (A) of this section shall include the following 996  
language: 997

"By clicking the box below, I affirm all of the following 998  
under penalty of election falsification, which is a felony of 999  
the fifth degree: 1000

(1) I am the person whose name and identifying information 1001  
is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or 1002  
update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio. 1003

(2) All of the information I have provided on this form is 1004

true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form. 1005

(3) I am a United States citizen. 1006

(4) I will have lived in Ohio for thirty days immediately 1007  
preceding the next election. 1008

(5) I will be at least eighteen years of age on or before 1009  
the day of the next general election. 1010

(6) I authorize the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to transmit 1011  
to the Ohio Secretary of State my signature that is on file with 1012  
the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and I understand and agree that 1013  
the signature transmitted by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles will 1014  
be used by the Secretary of State to validate this electronic 1015  
voter registration application as if I had signed this form 1016  
personally." 1017

In order to register to vote or update a voter 1018  
registration under division (A) of this section, an applicant or 1019  
elector shall be required to mark the box in the online voter 1020  
registration application that appears in conjunction with the 1021  
previous statement. 1022

(F) The online voter registration process established 1023  
under division (A) of this section shall be in operation and 1024  
available for use by individuals who wish to register to vote or 1025  
update their voter registration information online not later 1026  
than the first day of July occurring not fewer than one hundred 1027  
twenty days after the effective date of this section. During the 1028  
period beginning on the first day after the close of voter 1029  
registration before an election and ending on the day of the 1030  
election, the online voter registration system shall display a 1031  
notice indicating that the applicant will not be registered to 1032  
vote for the purposes of that election. 1033

(G) Notwithstanding section 1.50 of the Revised Code, if 1034  
any provision of this section or of division (E) of section 1035  
3503.14 of the Revised Code is held invalid, or if the 1036  
application of any provision of this section or of that division 1037  
to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then this section 1038  
and that division cease to operate. 1039

**Sec. 3503.21.** (A) The registration of a registered elector 1040  
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 1041

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 1042  
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 1043  
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 1044  
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 1045  
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 1046  
reregistering to vote at any time. 1047

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered 1048  
elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code; 1049

(3) The filing with the board of elections of a certified 1050  
copy of the death certificate of a registered elector by the 1051  
deceased elector's spouse, parent, or child, by the 1052  
administrator of the deceased elector's estate, or by the 1053  
executor of the deceased elector's will; 1054

(4) The conviction of the registered elector of a felony 1055  
under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United 1056  
States as provided in section 2961.01 of the Revised Code; 1057

(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered 1058  
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 1059  
5122.301 of the Revised Code; 1060

(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a 1061  
location outside the county of registration in accordance with 1062

division (B) of this section; 1063

(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having 1064  
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the 1065  
following: 1066

(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during 1067  
a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include 1068  
two general federal elections; 1069

(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least 1070  
once during a period of four consecutive years, which period 1071  
shall include two general federal elections. 1072

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 1073  
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 1074  
residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting 1075  
residence to a location outside the registrant's current county 1076  
of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division 1077  
shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with 1078  
the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may 1079  
prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of 1080  
the national change of address service provided by the United 1081  
States postal system through its licensees. Any program so 1082  
prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior 1083  
to the date of any primary or general election for federal 1084  
office. 1085

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having 1086  
changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the 1087  
elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled 1088  
unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form 1089  
prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to 1090  
respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the 1091

registration and fails to vote in any election during the period 1092  
of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the 1093  
confirmation notice. 1094

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 1095  
canceled except as provided in this section, division (Q) of 1096  
section 3501.05 of the Revised Code, division (C) (2) of section 1097  
3503.19 of the Revised Code, or division (C) of section 3503.24 1098  
of the Revised Code. 1099

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter 1100  
registration information to the secretary of state as required 1101  
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 1102  
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 1103  
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 1104  
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 1105  
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 1106  
the information to the national change of address service 1107  
described in division (B) of this section and request that 1108  
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 1109  
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 1110  
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 1111  
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 1112  
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 1113  
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary 1114  
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of 1115  
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return 1116  
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or 1117  
correct the change of address information. 1118

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 1119  
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 1120  
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 1121

general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 1122  
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 1123  
the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or 1124  
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 1125

(F) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 1126  
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 1127  
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 1128  
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 1129  
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 1130  
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 1131  
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 1132  
the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 1133  
error. 1134

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to 1135  
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be 1136  
restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 1137

Sec. 3503.22. (A) (1) An elector's political party 1138  
affiliation shall be determined based on the most recent of the 1139  
following: 1140

(a) The elector's registration form; 1141

(b) The elector's most recent declaration of political 1142  
party affiliation filed under division (B) of this section; 1143

(c) The elector's action in casting the ballot of a 1144  
political party at a primary election. 1145

(2) If the elector was registered before the effective 1146  
date of this section, the elector's registration form shall be 1147  
deemed to indicate an affiliation with the political party whose 1148  
ballot the elector voted at the most recent primary election 1149  
within the year of that effective date and the immediately 1150

preceding two calendar years. 1151

(3) An elector's action in voting only in a special 1152  
election on a question or issue held on the day of a primary 1153  
election shall not affect the elector's political party 1154  
affiliation, as determined under division (A) of this section. 1155

(B) An elector who wishes to change or remove the 1156  
elector's political party affiliation, as determined under 1157  
division (A) of this section, may file a declaration of 1158  
political party affiliation, on a form prescribed by the 1159  
secretary of state, with the board of elections of the county in 1160  
which the elector resides. 1161

**Sec. 3503.23.** (A) Fourteen days before an election, the 1162  
board of elections shall cause to be prepared from the statewide 1163  
voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of 1164  
the Revised Code a complete and official registration list for 1165  
each precinct, containing the names, addresses, and political 1166  
party ~~whose ballot the elector voted in the most recent primary~~ 1167  
~~election within the current year and the immediately preceding~~ 1168  
~~two calendar years,~~ affiliations of all qualified registered 1169  
voters in the precinct, as determined under section 3503.22 of 1170  
the Revised Code. All the names, insofar as practicable, shall 1171  
be arranged in alphabetical order. The lists may be prepared 1172  
either in sheet form on one side of the paper or in electronic 1173  
form, at the discretion of the board. Each precinct list shall 1174  
be headed "Register of Voters," and under the heading shall be 1175  
indicated the district or ward and precinct. 1176

Appended to each precinct list shall be attached the names 1177  
of the members of the board and the name of the director. A 1178  
sufficient number of such lists shall be provided for 1179  
distribution to the candidates, political parties, or organized 1180

groups that apply for them. The board shall have each precinct  
list available at the board for viewing by the public during  
normal business hours. The board shall ensure that, by the  
opening of the polls on the day of a general or primary  
election, each precinct has a paper copy of the registration  
list of voters in that precinct.

(B) On the day of a general or primary election, precinct  
election officials shall do both of the following:

(1) By the time the polls open, conspicuously post and  
display at the polling place one copy of the registration list  
of voters in that precinct in an area of the polling place that  
is easily accessible;

(2) At 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. place a mark, on the official  
registration list posted at the polling place, before the name  
of those registered voters who have voted.

(C) Notwithstanding division (B) of section 3501.35 of the  
Revised Code, any person may enter the polling place for the  
sole purpose of reviewing the official registration list posted  
in accordance with division (B) of this section, provided that  
the person does not engage in conduct that would constitute  
harassment in violation of the election law, as defined in  
section 3501.90 of the Revised Code.

**Sec. 3505.181.** (A) All of the following individuals shall  
be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election:

(1) An individual who declares that the individual is a  
registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires  
to vote and that the individual is eligible to vote in an  
election, but the name of the individual does not appear on the  
official list of eligible voters for the precinct or an election

official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote; 1210

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to 1211  
provide to the election officials any of the forms of 1212  
identification required under division (A)(1) of section 3505.18 1213  
of the Revised Code; 1214

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature 1215  
pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the 1216  
Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a 1217  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that 1218  
election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 1219

(4) An individual whose notification of registration has 1220  
been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose 1221  
name in the official registration list and in the poll list or 1222  
signature pollbook has been marked under division (C)(2) of 1223  
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code; 1224

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged 1225  
under section 3505.20 or ~~3513.20~~ 3513.19 of the Revised Code or 1226  
whose application or challenge hearing has been postponed until 1227  
after the day of the election under division (D)(1) of section 1228  
3503.24 of the Revised Code; 1229

(6) An individual who changes the individual's name and 1230  
remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name 1231  
change under division (B)(1)(b) of section 3503.16 of the 1232  
Revised Code, moves from one precinct to another within a 1233  
county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the 1234  
individual's name, or moves from one county to another within 1235  
the state, and completes and signs the required forms and 1236  
statements under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the 1237  
Revised Code; 1238

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is not that of the person who signed that name in the registration forms.

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot as follows:

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot in that election.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this section, the individual shall complete and execute a written affirmation before an election official at the polling place stating that the individual is both of the following:

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires to vote;

(b) Eligible to vote in that election.

(3) An election official at the polling place shall transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter information contained in the written affirmation executed by the individual under division (B)(2) of this section to an appropriate local election official for verification under division (B)(4) of this section.

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under division (B)(3) of this section determines that the individual is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall be counted as a vote in that election.

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the individual written information that states that any individual who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under the system established under division (B) (5) (b) of this section whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted.

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system established under this division also shall provide to an individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information explaining how that individual may contact the board of elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the individual's voter registration.

The appropriate state or local election official shall establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free access system established under this division. The system shall permit an individual only to gain access to information about the individual's own provisional ballot.

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional ballot, the individual provides identification in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government

document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1297  
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 1298  
that shows the individual's name and current address, or 1299  
provides the individual's driver's license or state 1300  
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1301  
individual's social security number, the individual shall record 1302  
the type of identification provided or the driver's license, 1303  
state identification card, or social security number information 1304  
and include that information on the provisional ballot 1305  
affirmation under division (B) (3) of this section. 1306

(7) During the seven days after the day of an election, an 1307  
individual who casts a provisional ballot because the individual 1308  
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1309  
any of the required forms of identification or because the 1310  
individual has been successfully challenged under section 1311  
3505.20 of the Revised Code shall appear at the office of the 1312  
board of elections and provide to the board any additional 1313  
information necessary to determine the eligibility of the 1314  
individual who cast the provisional ballot. 1315

(a) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who 1316  
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1317  
any of the required forms of identification to be eligible to be 1318  
counted, the individual who cast that ballot, within seven days 1319  
after the day of the election, shall do either of the following: 1320

(i) Provide to the board of elections proof of the 1321  
individual's identity in the form of a current and valid photo 1322  
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1323  
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1324  
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1325  
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 1326

3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the individual's name 1327  
and current address; or 1328

(ii) Provide to the board of elections the individual's 1329  
driver's license or state identification card number or the last 1330  
four digits of the individual's social security number. 1331

(b) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 1332  
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 1333  
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 1334  
cast that ballot, within seven days after the day of that 1335  
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 1336  
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 1337  
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 1338  
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 1339

(C)(1) If an individual declares that the individual is 1340  
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 1341  
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 1342  
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 1343  
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 1344  
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 1345  
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 1346  
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 1347  
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 1348  
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 1349  
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 1350  
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 1351  
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 1352  
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 1353

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 1354  
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 1355  
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 1356

ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this section. If the individual is in the correct polling location for the precinct in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's provisional ballot affirmation:

(a) The name or number of the individual's correct precinct;

(b) A statement that the election official instructed the individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote;

(c) A statement that the election official informed the individual that casting a provisional ballot in the wrong precinct would result in all or a portion of the votes on the ballot being rejected;

(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the individual is casting a provisional ballot; and

(e) The name of the polling location in which the individual is casting a provisional ballot.

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place on the day of each election.

(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 3505.183 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the following:

(a) An electronic or paper record that lists the correct precinct and polling place for either each specific residential

street address in the county or the range of residential street 1385  
addresses located in each neighborhood block in the county; 1386

(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates 1387  
that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is 1388  
at a polling place in that county to determine the correct 1389  
precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides 1390  
in the county. 1391

(2) "Voting information" means all of the following: 1392

(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for 1393  
that election; 1394

(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the 1395  
hours during which polling places will be open; 1396

(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a 1397  
vote and how to cast a provisional ballot; 1398

(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time 1399  
voters under applicable federal and state laws; 1400

(e) General information on voting rights under applicable 1401  
federal and state laws, including information on the right of an 1402  
individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how 1403  
to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged 1404  
to have been violated; 1405

(f) General information on federal and state laws 1406  
regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and 1407  
misrepresentation. 1408

(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the 1409  
Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised 1410  
Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to 1411  
receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two 1412

precinct election officials of different political parties. A 1413  
blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in 1414  
marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the 1415  
required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may 1416  
receive assistance on the day of an election under that section. 1417

**Sec. 3513.05.** Each person desiring to become a candidate 1418  
for a party nomination at a primary election or for election to 1419  
an office or position to be voted for at a primary election, 1420  
except persons desiring to become joint candidates for the 1421  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor and except as 1422  
otherwise provided in section 3513.051 of the Revised Code, 1423  
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 1424  
day of the primary election, file a declaration of candidacy and 1425  
petition and pay the fees required under divisions (A) and (B) 1426  
of section 3513.10 of the Revised Code. The declaration of 1427  
candidacy and all separate petition papers shall be filed at the 1428  
same time as one instrument. When the offices are to be voted 1429  
for at a primary election, persons desiring to become joint 1430  
candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor 1431  
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 1432  
day of the primary election, comply with section 3513.04 of the 1433  
Revised Code. The prospective joint candidates' declaration of 1434  
candidacy and all separate petition papers of candidacies shall 1435  
be filed at the same time as one instrument. The secretary of 1436  
state or a board of elections shall not accept for filing a 1437  
declaration of candidacy and petition of a person seeking to 1438  
become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has 1439  
already filed a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of 1440  
intent to be a write-in candidate, or has become a candidate by 1441  
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised 1442  
Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the 1443

declaration of candidacy is for a state or county office, or for 1444  
any municipal or township office, if the declaration of 1445  
candidacy is for a municipal or township office. 1446

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy which 1447  
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, the 1448  
petition, including a petition for joint candidates for the 1449  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by 1450  
at least one thousand qualified electors who are members of the 1451  
same political party as the candidate or joint candidates, and 1452  
the declaration of candidacy and petition shall be filed with 1453  
the secretary of state; provided that the secretary of state 1454  
shall not accept or file any such petition appearing on its face 1455  
to contain signatures of more than three thousand electors. 1456

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if the 1457  
declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only 1458  
to electors within a district, political subdivision, or portion 1459  
thereof, the petition shall be signed by not less than fifty 1460  
qualified electors who are members of the same political party 1461  
as the political party of which the candidate is a member. If 1462  
the declaration of candidacy is for party nomination as a 1463  
candidate for member of the legislative authority of a municipal 1464  
corporation elected by ward, the petition shall be signed by not 1465  
less than twenty-five qualified electors who are members of the 1466  
political party of which the candidate is a member. 1467

No such petition, except the petition for a candidacy that 1468  
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, 1469  
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain on its 1470  
face signatures of more than three times the minimum number of 1471  
signatures. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for 1472  
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed 1473

invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the 1474  
petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures 1475  
accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures 1476  
required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying 1477  
signatures on petitions when the number of verified signatures 1478  
equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures. 1479

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy for 1480  
party nomination or for election as a candidate of a minor 1481  
party, the minimum number of signatures on such petition is one- 1482  
half the minimum number provided in this section, except that, 1483  
when the candidacy is one for election as a member of the state 1484  
central committee or the county central committee of a political 1485  
party, the minimum number shall be the same for a minor party as 1486  
for a major party. 1487

If a declaration of candidacy is one for election as a 1488  
member of the state central committee or the county central 1489  
committee of a political party, the petition shall be signed by 1490  
five qualified electors of the district, county, ward, township, 1491  
or precinct within which electors may vote for such candidate. 1492  
The electors signing such petition shall be members of the same 1493  
political party as the political party of which the candidate is 1494  
a member. 1495

For purposes of signing or circulating a petition of 1496  
candidacy for party nomination or election, an elector is 1497  
considered to be a member of a political party if the elector 1498  
~~voted in that party's primary election within the preceding two-~~ 1499  
~~calendar years, or if the elector did not vote in any other-~~ 1500  
~~party's primary election within the preceding two calendar-~~ 1501  
~~years~~ is not affiliated with a different political party, as 1502  
determined under section 3503.22 of the Revised Code. 1503

If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be 1504  
submitted only to electors within a county, or within a district 1505  
or subdivision or part thereof smaller than a county, the 1506  
petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the 1507  
county. If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be 1508  
submitted only to electors of a district or subdivision or part 1509  
thereof that is situated in more than one county, the petition 1510  
shall be filed with the board of elections of the county within 1511  
which the major portion of the population thereof, as 1512  
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, is located. 1513

A petition shall consist of separate petition papers, each 1514  
of which shall contain signatures of electors of only one 1515  
county. Petitions or separate petition papers containing 1516  
signatures of electors of more than one county shall not thereby 1517  
be declared invalid. In case petitions or separate petition 1518  
papers containing signatures of electors of more than one county 1519  
are filed, the board shall determine the county from which the 1520  
majority of signatures came, and only signatures from such 1521  
county shall be counted. Signatures from any other county shall 1522  
be invalid. 1523

Each separate petition paper shall be circulated by one 1524  
person only, who shall be the candidate or a joint candidate or 1525  
a member of the same political party as the candidate or joint 1526  
candidates, and each separate petition paper shall be governed 1527  
by the rules set forth in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code. 1528

The secretary of state shall promptly transmit to each 1529  
board such separate petition papers of each petition 1530  
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with the secretary 1531  
of state as purport to contain signatures of electors of the 1532  
county of such board. The board of the most populous county of a 1533

district shall promptly transmit to each board within such 1534  
district such separate petition papers of each petition 1535  
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 1536  
to contain signatures of electors of the county of each such 1537  
board. The board of a county within which the major portion of 1538  
the population of a subdivision, situated in more than one 1539  
county, is located, shall promptly transmit to the board of each 1540  
other county within which a portion of such subdivision is 1541  
located such separate petition papers of each petition 1542  
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 1543  
to contain signatures of electors of the portion of such 1544  
subdivision in the county of each such board. 1545

All petition papers so transmitted to a board and all 1546  
petitions accompanying declarations of candidacy filed with a 1547  
board shall, under proper regulations, be open to public 1548  
inspection until four p.m. of the eightieth day before the day 1549  
of the next primary election. Each board shall, not later than 1550  
the seventy-eighth day before the day of that primary election, 1551  
examine and determine the validity or invalidity of the 1552  
signatures on the petition papers so transmitted to or filed 1553  
with it and shall return to the secretary of state all petition 1554  
papers transmitted to it by the secretary of state, together 1555  
with its certification of its determination as to the validity 1556  
or invalidity of signatures thereon, and shall return to each 1557  
other board all petition papers transmitted to it by such board, 1558  
together with its certification of its determination as to the 1559  
validity or invalidity of the signatures thereon. All other 1560  
matters affecting the validity or invalidity of such petition 1561  
papers shall be determined by the secretary of state or the 1562  
board with whom such petition papers were filed. 1563

Protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 1564

declaration of candidacy for party nomination or for election to 1565  
an office or position, as provided in this section, may be filed 1566  
by any qualified elector who is a member of the same political 1567  
party as the candidate and who is eligible to vote at the 1568  
primary election for the candidate whose declaration of 1569  
candidacy the elector objects to, or by the controlling 1570  
committee of that political party. The protest shall be in 1571  
writing, and shall be filed not later than four p.m. of the 1572  
seventy-fourth day before the day of the primary election. The 1573  
protest shall be filed with the election officials with whom the 1574  
declaration of candidacy and petition was filed. Upon the filing 1575  
of the protest, the election officials with whom it is filed 1576  
shall promptly fix the time for hearing it, and shall forthwith 1577  
mail notice of the filing of the protest and the time fixed for 1578  
hearing to the person whose candidacy is so protested. They 1579  
shall also forthwith mail notice of the time fixed for such 1580  
hearing to the person who filed the protest. At the time fixed, 1581  
such election officials shall hear the protest and determine the 1582  
validity or invalidity of the declaration of candidacy and 1583  
petition. If they find that such candidate is not an elector of 1584  
the state, district, county, or political subdivision in which 1585  
the candidate seeks a party nomination or election to an office 1586  
or position, or has not fully complied with this chapter, the 1587  
candidate's declaration of candidacy and petition shall be 1588  
determined to be invalid and shall be rejected; otherwise, it 1589  
shall be determined to be valid. That determination shall be 1590  
final. 1591

A protest against the candidacy of any persons filing a 1592  
declaration of candidacy for joint party nomination to the 1593  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall be filed, 1594  
heard, and determined in the same manner as a protest against 1595

the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy 1596  
singly. 1597

The secretary of state shall, on the seventieth day before 1598  
the day of a primary election, certify to each board in the 1599  
state the forms of the official ballots to be used at the 1600  
primary election, together with the names of the candidates to 1601  
be printed on the ballots whose nomination or election is to be 1602  
determined by electors throughout the entire state and who filed 1603  
valid declarations of candidacy and petitions. 1604

The board of the most populous county in a district 1605  
comprised of more than one county but less than all of the 1606  
counties of the state shall, on the seventieth day before the 1607  
day of a primary election, certify to the board of each county 1608  
in the district the names of the candidates to be printed on the 1609  
official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 1610  
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 1611  
within the district and who filed valid declarations of 1612  
candidacy and petitions. 1613

The board of a county within which the major portion of 1614  
the population of a subdivision smaller than the county and 1615  
situated in more than one county is located shall, on the 1616  
seventieth day before the day of a primary election, certify to 1617  
the board of each county in which a portion of that subdivision 1618  
is located the names of the candidates to be printed on the 1619  
official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 1620  
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 1621  
within that subdivision and who filed valid declarations of 1622  
candidacy and petitions. 1623

**Sec. 3513.18.** (A) Party primaries shall be held at the 1624  
same place and time, ~~but and~~ there shall be ~~separate pollbooks a~~ 1625

~~single pollbook and tally sheets~~ sheet provided ~~at for~~ each 1626  
~~polling place precinct~~ for each party participating in the 1627  
primary election. The pollbook shall include the political party 1628  
affiliation, if any, of each registered elector in the precinct. 1629

(B) When an elector appears in a polling place to vote at 1630  
a primary election, the elector shall announce to the precinct 1631  
election officials the political party with which the elector 1632  
wishes to be affiliated and whose ballot the elector wishes to 1633  
cast. 1634

(C) If a special election on a question or issue is held 1635  
on the day of a primary election, ~~there shall be provided in the~~ 1636  
~~pollbooks pages on which shall be recorded the names of all~~ 1637  
~~electors voting on said question or issue and not voting in such~~ 1638  
~~primary. It~~ it shall not be necessary for electors desiring to 1639  
vote only on the question or issue to ~~declare their be~~ 1640  
affiliated with a political affiliation ~~party.~~ 1641

**Sec. 3513.19.** ~~(A)~~ It is the duty of any precinct election 1642  
official, whenever any such official doubts that a person 1643  
attempting to vote at a primary election is legally entitled to 1644  
vote at that election, to challenge the right of that person to 1645  
vote. The right of a person to vote at a primary election may be 1646  
challenged upon the following grounds: 1647

~~(1)~~ (A) That the person whose right to vote is challenged 1648  
is not a legally qualified elector; 1649

~~(2)~~ (B) That the person has received or has been promised 1650  
some valuable reward or consideration for the person's vote; 1651

~~(3)~~ That the person is not affiliated with or is not a 1652  
member of the political party whose ballot the person desires to 1653  
vote. Such party affiliation shall be determined by examining 1654

~~the elector's voting record for the current year and the~~ 1655  
~~immediately preceding two calendar years as shown on the voter's~~ 1656  
~~registration card, using the standards of affiliation specified~~ 1657  
~~in the seventh paragraph of section 3513.05 of the Revised Code.~~ 1658  
~~Division (A) (3) of this section and the seventh paragraph of~~ 1659  
~~section 3513.05 of the Revised Code do not prohibit a person who~~ 1660  
~~holds an elective office for which candidates are nominated at a~~ 1661  
~~party primary election from doing any of the following:~~ 1662

~~(a) If the person voted as a member of a different~~ 1663  
~~political party at any primary election within the current year~~ 1664  
~~and the immediately preceding two calendar years, being a~~ 1665  
~~candidate for nomination at a party primary held during the~~ 1666  
~~times specified in division (C) (2) of section 3513.191 of the~~ 1667  
~~Revised Code provided that the person complies with the~~ 1668  
~~requirements of that section;~~ 1669

~~(b) Circulating the person's own petition of candidacy for~~ 1670  
~~party nomination in the primary election.~~ 1671

~~(B) When the right of a person to vote is challenged upon~~ 1672  
~~the ground set forth in division (A) (3) of this section,~~ 1673  
~~membership in or political affiliation with a political party~~ 1674  
~~shall be determined by the person's statement, made under~~ 1675  
~~penalty of election falsification, that the person desires to be~~ 1676  
~~affiliated with and supports the principles of the political~~ 1677  
~~party whose primary ballot the person desires to vote.~~ 1678

**Sec. 3513.191.** (A) No person shall be a candidate for 1679  
nomination or election at a party primary if the person ~~voted as~~ 1680  
~~a member of a different political party at any primary election~~ 1681  
~~within the current year and the immediately preceding two~~ 1682  
~~calendar years~~ is not affiliated with that political party, as 1683  
determined under section 3503.22 of the Revised Code, as of the 1684

date the person files the person's declaration of candidacy. 1685

~~(B) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, either~~ 1686  
~~of the following persons may be candidates for nomination of any~~ 1687  
~~political party at a party primary:~~ 1688

~~(1) A person who does not hold an elective office;~~ 1689

~~(2) A person who holds an elective office other than one~~ 1690  
~~for which candidates are nominated at a party primary.~~ 1691

~~(C)(1) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, a~~ 1692  
A 1693  
person who holds an elective office for which candidates are 1694  
nominated at a party primary may be a candidate at a primary 1695  
election held during the times specified in division ~~(C)(2)~~ (B) 1696  
(3) of this section for nomination as a candidate of a political 1697  
party ~~of which the person is prohibited from being a candidate~~ 1698  
~~for nomination under division (A) of this section other than the~~ 1699  
party that most recently nominated the person as a candidate for 1700  
the office the person currently holds, only if the person files 1701  
:

(a) Is affiliated with the person's new political party, 1702  
as determined under section 3503.22 of the Revised Code; 1703

(b) Files a declaration of intent to seek the nomination 1704  
~~of that the person's new party and if, by filing the~~ 1705  
~~declaration, the person has~~ ; and 1706

(c) Has not violated division ~~(C)(3)~~ (B)(4) of this 1707  
~~section. The~~ 1708

(2) The declaration of intent shall: 1709

(a) Be filed not later than four p.m. of the thirtieth day 1710  
before a declaration of candidacy and petition is required to be 1711  
filed under section 3513.05 of the Revised Code; 1712

(b) Be filed with the same official with whom the person 1713  
filing the declaration of intent is required to file a 1714  
declaration of candidacy and petition; 1715

(c) Indicate the political party whose nomination in the 1716  
primary election the person seeks; 1717

(d) Be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. 1718

~~(2)~~ (3) No person filing a declaration of intent under 1719  
division ~~(C)~~ (B) (1) of this section shall be a candidate at any 1720  
primary election for nomination for an elective office for which 1721  
candidates are nominated at a party primary during the calendar 1722  
year in which the person files the declaration or during the 1723  
next calendar year except as a candidate of the party indicated 1724  
under division ~~(C)~~ (1) (B) (2) (c) of this section. 1725

~~(3)~~ (4) No person who files a declaration of intent under 1726  
division ~~(C)~~ (B) (1) of this section shall file another such 1727  
declaration for a period of ten years after the declaration is 1728  
filed. 1729

~~(4) Notwithstanding the seventh paragraph of section 1730  
3513.05 of the Revised Code, a person who complies with this 1731  
section may circulate that person's own petition of candidacy 1732  
for party nomination at the party primary at which the person 1733  
seeks nomination under this section. 1734~~

**Sec. 3517.012.** (A) (1) When a party formation petition 1735  
meeting the requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code 1736  
declaring the intention to organize a political party is filed 1737  
with the secretary of state, the new party comes into legal 1738  
existence on the date of filing and is entitled to nominate 1739  
candidates to appear on the ballot at the general election held 1740  
in even-numbered years that occurs more than one hundred twenty- 1741

five days after the date of filing. 1742

(2) (a) Upon receiving a party formation petition filed 1743  
under division (A) (1) of this section, the secretary of state 1744  
shall promptly transmit to each board of elections the separate 1745  
petition papers that purport to contain signatures of electors 1746  
of that board's county. 1747

(b) Not later than the one hundred eighteenth day before 1748  
the day of the general election, each board shall examine and 1749  
determine the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition 1750  
papers and shall return them to the secretary of state, together 1751  
with the board's certification of its determination as to the 1752  
validity or invalidity of the signatures on the petition. 1753

(c) Any qualified elector may file a written protest 1754  
against the petition with the secretary of state not later than 1755  
the one hundred fourteenth day before the day of the general 1756  
election. Any such protest shall be resolved in the manner 1757  
specified under section 3501.39 of the Revised Code. 1758

(d) Not later than the ninety-fifth day before the day of 1759  
the general election, the secretary of state shall determine 1760  
whether the party formation petition is sufficient and shall 1761  
notify the committee designated in the petition of that 1762  
determination. 1763

(B) (1) Not later than one hundred ten days before the day 1764  
of that general election and not earlier than the day the 1765  
applicable party formation petition is filed, each candidate or 1766  
pair of joint candidates wishing to appear on the ballot at the 1767  
general election as the nominee or nominees of the party that 1768  
filed the party formation petition shall file a nominating 1769  
petition, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, that 1770

includes the name of the political party that submitted the 1771  
party formation petition. Except as otherwise provided in this 1772  
section and sections 3505.03, 3505.08, 3506.11, 3513.31, 1773  
3513.311, and 3513.312 of the Revised Code, the provisions of 1774  
the Revised Code concerning independent candidates who file 1775  
nominating petitions apply to candidates who file nominating 1776  
petitions under this section. 1777

(2) (a) If the candidacy is to be submitted to electors 1778  
throughout the entire state, the nominating petition, including 1779  
a petition for joint candidates for the offices of governor and 1780  
lieutenant governor, shall be signed by at least fifty qualified 1781  
electors who ~~have not voted as a member of~~ are not affiliated 1782  
with a different political party at any primary election within 1783  
the current year or the immediately preceding two calendar 1784  
years, as determined under section 3503.22 of the Revised Code. 1785

(b) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this division, if~~ If 1786  
the candidacy is to be submitted only to electors within a 1787  
district, political subdivision, or portion thereof, the 1788  
nominating petition shall be signed by not less than five 1789  
qualified electors who ~~have not voted as a member of~~ are not 1790  
affiliated with a different political party at any primary 1791  
election within the current year or the immediately preceding 1792  
two calendar years, as determined under section 3503.22 of the 1793  
Revised Code. 1794

(3) (a) Each board of elections that is responsible to 1795  
verify signatures on the nominating petition shall examine and 1796  
determine the sufficiency of those signatures not later than the 1797  
one hundred fifth day before the day of the general election ~~and~~ 1798  
~~shall be resolved as specified in that section.~~ 1799

(b) Written protests against the petition may be filed in 1800

the manner specified under section 3513.263 of the Revised Code 1801  
not later than the one hundredth day before the general election 1802  
and shall be resolved as specified in that section. 1803

(c) Not later than the ninety-fifth day before the day of 1804  
the general election, the secretary of state or the board of 1805  
elections, as applicable, shall determine whether the nominating 1806  
petition is sufficient and shall notify the candidate and the 1807  
committee designated in the party formation petition of that 1808  
determination. 1809

(C) (1) After being notified that the political party has 1810  
submitted a sufficient party formation petition under division 1811  
(A) of this section, the committee designated in a party 1812  
formation petition shall, not later than the seventy-fifth day 1813  
before the day of the general election, certify to the secretary 1814  
of state a slate of candidates consisting of candidates or joint 1815  
candidates who submitted sufficient nominating petitions under 1816  
division (B) of this section. The slate certifying the 1817  
candidates shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of 1818  
state and signed by all of the individuals of the committee 1819  
designated in the party formation petition. In no event shall 1820  
the slate of candidates include more than one candidate for any 1821  
public office or more than one set of joint candidates for the 1822  
offices of governor and lieutenant governor. The names of the 1823  
candidates or joint candidates so certified shall appear on the 1824  
ballot at the general election as that party's nominees for 1825  
those offices. For purposes of this division, "joint candidates" 1826  
means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and 1827  
lieutenant governor. 1828

(2) If a candidate's nominating petition is insufficient 1829  
or if the committee does not certify the candidate's name under 1830

division (C) (1) of this section, the candidate shall not appear 1831  
on the ballot in the general election. 1832

(3) If a party formation petition is insufficient, no 1833  
candidate shall appear on the ballot in the general election as 1834  
that political party's nominee, regardless of whether any 1835  
candidate's nominating petition is sufficient. 1836

**Sec. 3517.013.** ~~Section~~ Division (B) of section 3513.191 of 1837  
the Revised Code does not apply to persons desiring to become 1838  
candidates for party nomination of a newly formed political 1839  
party meeting the requirements of sections 3517.011 and 3517.012 1840  
of the Revised Code for a period of four calendar years from the 1841  
date of the party formation. 1842

**Sec. 3599.02.** No person shall before, during, or after any 1843  
primary, general, or special election or convention solicit, 1844  
request, demand, receive, or contract for any money, gift, loan, 1845  
property, influence, position, employment, or other thing of 1846  
value for that person or for another person for doing any of the 1847  
following: 1848

(A) Registering or refraining from registering to vote; 1849

(B) Agreeing to register or to refrain from registering to 1850  
vote; 1851

(C) Agreeing to vote or to refrain from voting; 1852

(D) Voting or refraining from voting at any primary, 1853  
general, or special election or convention for a particular 1854  
person, question, or issue; 1855

(E) Registering or voting, or refraining from registering 1856  
or voting, or voting or refraining from voting for a particular 1857  
person, question, or issue; 1858

(F) Becoming, or refraining from becoming, affiliated with 1859  
a political party, as determined under section 3503.22 of the 1860  
Revised Code. 1861

Whoever violates this section is guilty of bribery, a 1862  
felony of the fourth degree, and shall be disfranchised and 1863  
excluded from holding any public office for five years 1864  
immediately following such conviction. 1865

**Sec. 3599.18.** (A) No election official, person assisting 1866  
in the registration of electors, or police officer shall 1867  
knowingly do any of the following: 1868

(1) Refuse, neglect, or unnecessarily delay, hinder, or 1869  
prevent the registration of a qualified elector, who in a lawful 1870  
manner applies for registration; 1871

(2) Enter or consent to the entry of a fictitious name on 1872  
a voter registration list; 1873

(3) Alter the name, political party affiliation, or lack 1874  
of political party affiliation on, or remove or destroy, the 1875  
registration card or form of any qualified elector; 1876

(4) Neglect, unlawfully execute, or fail to execute any 1877  
duty enjoined upon that person as an election official, person 1878  
assisting in the registration of electors, or police officer. 1879

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 1880  
guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 1881

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3501.01, 3503.10, 1882  
3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.23, 3505.181, 1883  
3513.05, 3513.18, 3513.19, 3513.191, 3517.012, 3517.013, 1884  
3599.02, and 3599.18 and sections 3513.20, 3517.014, and 1885  
3517.016 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1886

**Section 3.** Section 3501.01 of the Revised Code is 1887  
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 1888  
by Am. Sub. H.B. 59, Am. Sub. S.B. 109, and Am. Sub. S.B. 193, 1889  
all of the 130th General Assembly. The General Assembly, 1890  
applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of 1891  
the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if 1892  
reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the 1893  
composite is the resulting version of the section in effect 1894  
prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this 1895  
act. 1896