

2010 -- S 2453

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LC01769
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2010

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS - REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Introduced By: Senators Lanzi, DiPalma, Miller, Gallo, and Tassoni

Date Introduced: February 11, 2010

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-9.1-27 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-9.1 entitled
2 "Registration of Voters" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-9.1-27. Periodic updating of voter registration records.** -- (a) In every odd-
4 numbered year, the secretary of state shall update the central voter register using the United States
5 Postal Service National Change of Address (NCOA) Program. The office of the Secretary of
6 State shall be responsible for obtaining the NCOA data and providing each local board of
7 canvassers with their data; provided, that the updating shall be performed by each local board.
8 The NCOA list of address changes shall be compared by the local board with lists of registered
9 voters, and if address changes are detected for any voter, the local board shall institute the
10 confirmation process described in section 17-9.1-26.

11 (b) Each local board of canvassers in each city or town shall send annually, a notice
12 prescribed by the secretary of state and marked "Do Not Forward – Return if Undeliverable", to
13 every active registered voter who has not voted in the past five (5) calendar years and has not
14 otherwise communicated with the board during that period of time, advising them of their current
15 polling place and voting eligibility, and informing them that mail that is returned as undeliverable
16 will initiate the confirmation process described in section 17-9.1-26; provided, however, that the
17 local boards shall not be obligated to send such notice if the state or federal government fails to
18 appropriate the necessary funds. The mailing shall take place in all municipalities and be
19 performed in a uniform manner, in accordance with standards adopted by the secretary of state

1 [and the list maintenance procedures provided by the National Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.](#)
2 [section 1973gg.](#)

3 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO ELECTIONS - REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

1 This act would require local boards of canvassers to advise voters who have not voted in
2 the last five (5) years of their current polling places and eligibility.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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