

State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 245

HOUSE BILL NO. 672

By Representatives Carr, Favors, Hardaway, Turner

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 616

By Senator Yager

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-106; Section 2-2-112; Section 2-6-201; Section 2-6-202 and Section 2-6-204, relative to elections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-106, is amended by deleting subsection (b) and substituting instead the following:

(b) It is the responsibility of the county election commission to implement an address verification program to identify any voter who has changed the voter's address of residence without notifying the election commission. The address verification program shall conform to the intent of this section and this part and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, compiled in 52 U.S.C. § 20501 et seq. (formerly 42 U.S.C. § 1973gg et seq.). The county election commission shall complete the address verification process at least on a biennial basis, but may do so annually. The county election commission shall complete any such process no later than ninety (90) days before a federal election.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-106, is further amended by deleting subsection (c) and substituting instead the following:

(C)

(1) To identify any voter who has changed the voter's address of residence without notifying the county election commission, the address verification program implemented by the county election commission under subsection (b) may use any of the following, or any combination of the following, sources:

(A) The return of mail sent by the county election commission to the voter at the voter's address of registration. The mail sent to the voter may include, without limitation, a non-forwardable verification card, a non-forwardable voter registration card, or a notice mailed pursuant to § 2-3-105 or § 2-5-211;

(B) The United States postal service's national change of address service; and

(C) Information received from the coordinator of elections as a result of a comparison of voter registration addresses with the residential addresses of record with the department of safety. To conduct the comparison of residential addresses, the department of safety and the coordinator of elections may retrieve the data applicable to the voter's address of residence and match the voter's registration address with data applicable to the voter's matching record with the department of safety. The coordinator of elections may obtain from the department of safety a list of all persons who have surrendered their Tennessee driver license while obtaining a driver license from another state.

(2) If, as a result of the address verification program, the county election commission determines that a voter may have changed the voter's address of

residence, the administrator of elections shall mail a forwardable confirmation notice to the voter at the address of registration with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form on which the voter may verify or correct the new address information.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-112(a), is amended by deleting the language "Beginning July 1, 2017" and substituting instead "Beginning as soon as practicable but no later than September 1, 2017".

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-201(5)(A), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting instead the following:

(A) A person sixty (60) years of age or older when the person requests to vote absentee;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-6-204(a), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision (4):

(4) If a county election commission receives an application for an absentee ballot by email with an attached document that includes a scanned signature, the administrator may send a notice of rejection by email with an attached document advising the voter of the reason for the rejection.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: _____ April 19, 2017

Seth Harvel

BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RANDY MCMULLY SPEAKER OF THE SENATE d.

APPROVED this 2nd day of May 2017

BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR