

# *State of Tennessee*

## **PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 871**

### **SENATE BILL NO. 2586**

**By Taylor, Jackson, White**

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1955

By Rudd, McCalmon, Moody, Hazlewood

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2, relative to voter registration.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-142(e), is amended by adding the following sentence to the end of the subsection:

The date on which an applicant signs a voter registration application is presumed to be the date on which the person or organization received or collected the voter registration application.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-142, is amended by deleting subsection (g), substituting the following, and redesignating the remaining subsections accordingly:

(g) A person or organization shall not:

(1) Mail or otherwise provide a voter registration application upon which any information about an applicant has been filled in before it is provided to the applicant. This subdivision (g)(1) does not apply to government agencies providing voter registration as authorized under this chapter; or

(2) Allow an individual convicted of a felony violation under this title, § 39-15-502, or § 39-16-703 to collect or handle a voter registration application from another person.

(h) A person or organization collecting voter registrations shall not alter the voter registration form of any person without the person's knowledge and consent.

(i)(1) The state election commission may impose a maximum civil penalty up to:

(A) Fifty dollars (\$50.00) for each violation of subsection (c), (d), (e), or (f) or subdivision (g)(1); and

(B) Five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each violation of subdivision (g)(2) or subsection (h).

(2) For any violation or violations, the state election commission shall send, by return mail, receipt requested, an assessment letter to the person or organization in a form sufficient to advise the person or organization of the factual basis of the violation or violations, the total civil penalty, and the date a response to the letter must be filed. Refusal of or failure to timely claim an assessment letter sent by return mail, receipt requested, constitutes acceptance of the assessment letter for purposes of service.

(3) To request a waiver of reduction in, or to contest, a penalty imposed by the state election commission, a person or organization shall file a petition with the state election commission. Such petition may be considered as commencing a contested case proceeding under the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end, the provisions of this act are severable.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.


SENATE BILL NO. 2586

PASSED: April 17, 2024

  
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RANDY McNALLY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

  
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CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2024

  
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BILL LEE, GOVERNOR