

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2840

To amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each State to ensure that each individual who provides identifying information to the State motor vehicle authority is automatically registered to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State unless the individual does not meet the eligibility requirements for registering to vote in such elections or declines to be registered to vote in such elections, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2017

Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. HASTINGS, Ms. ADAMS, Mr. BROWN of Maryland, Ms. LEE, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. HIGGINS of New York, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. KILMER, Mr. BEYER, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. MOORE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. COOPER, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. YARMUTH, Mr. SERRANO, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Ms. BASS, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. POCAN, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Ms. TSONGAS, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. TONKO, Mr. AGUILAR, Mr. WELCH, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. COHEN, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Ms. DELBENE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. DEUTCH, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. PINGREE, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. MENG, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. DESAULNIER, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. KIND, Ms. ESTY of Connecticut, Ms. LOFGREN, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. NEAL, and Mr. PANETTA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Administration

# A BILL

To amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each State to ensure that each individual who provides identifying information to the State motor vehicle authority is automatically registered to vote in elections for Federal office held in the State unless the individual does not meet the eligibility requirements for registering to vote in such elections or declines to be registered to vote in such elections, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Automatic Voter Reg-  
5 istration Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION THROUGH**  
7 **STATE MOTOR VEHICLE AUTHORITIES.**

8       (a) AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION.—Section 5  
9 of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C.  
10 20504) is amended to read as follows:

11 **“SEC. 5. AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION THROUGH**  
12 **MOTOR VEHICLE AUTHORITY.**

13       “(a) TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION TO ELECTION  
14 OFFICIALS.—

15               “(1) TRANSMISSION.—Each State’s motor vehi-  
16 cle authority, upon receiving the identifying informa-  
17 tion described in paragraph (2) with respect to any

1 individual who requests services from the authority,  
2 shall transmit the identifying information to the ap-  
3 propriate State election official.

4 “(2) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION DESCRIBED.—  
5 The identifying information described in this para-  
6 graph with respect to any individual is as follows:

7 “(A) The individual’s legal name.

8 “(B) The individual’s age.

9 “(C) The individual’s residence.

10 “(D) The individual’s citizenship status.

11 “(E) The individual’s electronic signature.

12 “(3) RESTRICTION ON USE OF INFORMATION  
13 ON CITIZENSHIP STATUS.—A State may not use any  
14 identifying information regarding an individual’s  
15 citizenship status which is transmitted under this  
16 subsection for any purpose other than determining  
17 whether the individual is eligible to vote in elections  
18 for Federal office.

19 “(b) NOTIFICATION TO INDIVIDUALS.—Upon receiv-  
20 ing the identifying information with respect to an indi-  
21 vidual under subsection (a), the appropriate State election  
22 official shall issue a notification to the individual con-  
23 taining—

24 “(1) a statement that, unless the individual no-  
25 tifies the election official prior to the expiration of

1 the 21-calendar-day period which begins on the date  
2 the official issued the notification that the individual  
3 declines to be registered to vote in elections for Fed-  
4 eral office held in the State, the individual shall be  
5 considered to have completed and submitted a voter  
6 registration application for purposes of this Act; and

7 “(2) a description of the process by which the  
8 individual may decline to be registered to vote in  
9 elections for Federal office in the State.

10 “(c) AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OF ELIGIBLE INDI-  
11 VIDUALS.—Upon the expiration of the 21-calendar-day pe-  
12 riod which begins on the date the appropriate State elec-  
13 tion official issues a notification to an individual under  
14 subsection (b)(1), the official shall ensure that the indi-  
15 vidual is registered to vote in elections for Federal office  
16 held in the State unless—

17 “(1) the official determines that the individual  
18 does not meet the eligibility requirements for reg-  
19 istering to vote in such elections;

20 “(2) prior to the expiration of such 21-cal-  
21 endar-day period, the individual notifies the official  
22 that the individual declines to be registered to vote  
23 in such elections; or

24 “(3) the individual is already registered to vote  
25 in such elections.”.

1 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT RELATING TO TIM-  
2 ING OF REGISTRATION PRIOR TO ELECTIONS.—Section  
3 8(a)(1)(A) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20507(a)(1)(A)) is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 “(A) in the case of registration through a  
6 motor vehicle authority under section 5, if the  
7 identifying information with respect to the indi-  
8 vidual is transmitted by the authority to the ap-  
9 propriate State election official under section  
10 5(a)(1) not later than the lesser of 30 days, or  
11 the period provided by State law, before the  
12 date of the election;”.

13 (c) OTHER CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section  
14 4(a)(1) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 20503(a)(1)) is amended  
15 to read as follows:

16 “(1) through the State motor vehicle authority  
17 pursuant to section 5;”.

18 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

19 (a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
20 this Act shall take effect upon the expiration of the 180-  
21 day period which begins on the date of the enactment of  
22 this Act.

23 (b) TIMING OF AUTOMATIC REGISTRATION OF INDI-  
24 VIDUALS PROVIDING IDENTIFYING INFORMATION TO  
25 MOTOR VEHICLE AUTHORITY PRIOR TO EFFECTIVE

1 DATE.—For purposes of section 5 of the National Voter  
2 Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20504), as amended  
3 by section 2(a), if an individual provided identifying infor-  
4 mation (as described in section 5(a)(2) of such Act) to  
5 a State motor vehicle authority prior to the effective date  
6 described in subsection (a), the authority shall transmit  
7 such information to the appropriate State election official  
8 pursuant to section 5(a)(1) of such Act not later than such  
9 effective date, unless the motor vehicle authority deter-  
10 mines that the information is no longer valid with respect  
11 to the individual.

○