

1 S.279

2 Introduced by Senator Zuckerman

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; registration of voters; application forms; delivery

6 or mailing

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that
8 voter registration forms collected by someone other than the voter are
9 delivered or mailed to the town clerk within seven days of the
10 voter's signature.

11 An act relating to voter registration forms

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2144a is amended to read:

14 § 2144a. REGISTRATION

15 A person who desires to register to vote may apply in any of the
16 following ways:

17 (1) Simultaneously with his or her application for, or renewal of, a
18 motor vehicle driver's license as provided in section 2145a of this title.

19 (2) By completing a voter registration application at a voter
20 registration agency.

1 (3) By the person who desires to register delivering, during regular
2 hours, or mailing a completed application form to the office of the clerk of the
3 town in which the applicant claims to be a resident. If the completed
4 application form is delivered or mailed by a person other than the person who
5 desires to register, the form shall be delivered to or received by the office of
6 the clerk of the town in which the applicant claims to be a resident within
7 seven days of the date the application form was signed by the voter.

8 Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2145a is amended to read:

9 § 2145a. REGISTRATIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR

10 VEHICLES

11 (a) An application for, or renewal of, a motor vehicle driver's license shall
12 serve as a simultaneous application to register to vote unless the applicant
13 declines to sign the voter registration portion of the application.

14 (b) The voter registration portion of the motor vehicle driver's license
15 application shall provide and request the information required to be provided
16 under section 2145 of this title and shall be in the form approved by the
17 ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State.

18 (c) An application for voter registration under this section shall update any
19 previous voter registration by the applicant. Any change of address form
20 submitted to the ~~department of motor vehicles~~ Department of Motor Vehicles
21 in connection with an application for a motor vehicle driver's license shall

1 serve to update voter registration information previously provided by the voter,
2 unless the voter states on the form that the change of address is not for voter
3 registration purposes.

4 (d) The ~~department of motor vehicles~~ Department of Motor Vehicles shall
5 transmit voter registration applications received under this section to the
6 ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State not later than ~~40~~ seven days after the date
7 the application was accepted by the ~~department~~ Department. In the case of a
8 voter registration application accepted within five days before the checklist is
9 closed under section 2144 of this title for a primary or general election, the
10 application shall be transmitted to the ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State not
11 later than five days after the date of acceptance.

12 (e) The ~~secretary~~ Secretary shall promptly transmit applications received
13 under this section to the clerks of the appropriate municipalities.

14 Sec. 3. 17 V.S.A. § 2145b is amended to read:

15 § 2145b. VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCIES

16 (a) Each voter registration agency shall:

17 * * *

18 (3) Accept completed voter registration applications and transmit
19 completed applications to the ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State not later than
20 ~~40~~ seven days after the date of acceptance. In the case of an application
21 accepted within five days before the checklist is closed under section 2144 of

1 this title for a primary or general election, the application shall be transmitted
2 to the ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State not later than five days after the date
3 of acceptance.

4 (b) The ~~secretary~~ Secretary shall promptly transmit applications received
5 under this section to the clerks of the appropriate municipalities.

6 * * *

7 (d) A voter registration agency that provides services or assistance in
8 addition to conducting voter registration shall distribute a voter registration
9 application with each application for the services or assistance provided by the
10 agency, and with each recertification, renewal or change of address form
11 relating to those services or assistance. In addition to the voter registration
12 application form, the agency shall distribute a separate form that includes the
13 following:

14 * * *

15 (5) The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your
16 right to register or to decline to register to vote, you may file a complaint with
17 the ~~secretary of state~~ Secretary of State (~~secretary of state's~~ Secretary of State's
18 office address and telephone number)."

19 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

20 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.