
SENATE BILL 5469

State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Senators Fain and Sheldon; by request of Secretary of State

1 AN ACT Relating to automatic voter registration of certain
2 licensees; amending RCW 29A.08.110 and 29A.08.350; adding new
3 sections to chapter 29A.08 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 46.20
4 RCW; and providing an effective date.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.08.110 and 2009 c 369 s 10 are each amended to
7 read as follows:

8 (1) For persons registering under RCW 29A.08.120, 29A.08.123,
9 29A.08.330, and 29A.08.340, an application is considered complete
10 only if it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The
11 applicant is considered to be registered to vote as of the original
12 date of mailing or date of delivery, whichever is applicable. The
13 auditor shall record the appropriate precinct identification, taxing
14 district identification, and date of registration on the voter's
15 record in the state voter registration list. Any mailing address
16 provided shall be used only for mail delivery purposes, and not for
17 precinct assignment or residency purposes. Within sixty days after
18 the receipt of an application or transfer, the auditor shall send to
19 the applicant, by first-class nonforwardable mail, an acknowledgment
20 notice identifying the registrant's precinct and containing such
21 other information as may be required by the secretary of state. The

1 postal service shall be instructed not to forward a voter
2 registration card to any other address and to return to the auditor
3 any card which is not deliverable.

4 (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly
5 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice
6 shall require the applicant to provide the missing information. If
7 the applicant provides the required information within forty-five
8 days, the applicant shall be registered to vote as of the original
9 date of application. The applicant shall not be placed on the
10 official list of registered voters until the application is complete.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08
12 RCW to read as follows:

13 A person age eighteen years or older who is a citizen of the
14 United States applying for or renewing an enhanced driver's license
15 or identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202 may be registered to vote or
16 update voter registration information at the time of registration or
17 renewal, by automated process if the department of licensing record
18 associated with the applicant verifies United States citizenship,
19 contains the data required for voter registration under RCW
20 29A.08.010, and includes a signature image. The person must be
21 informed that his or her record will be used for voter registration,
22 and offered an opportunity to decline to register.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08
24 RCW to read as follows:

25 (1) If the applicant in section 2 of this act does not decline
26 registration, the application is submitted pursuant to RCW
27 29A.08.340.

28 (2) For each such application, the secretary of state must obtain
29 a digital copy of the applicant's signature image from the department
30 of licensing.

31 (3) The secretary of state may employ additional security
32 measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of voter registration
33 applications submitted electronically.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08
35 RCW to read as follows:

36 (1) For persons age eighteen years and older registering under
37 section 2 of this act, an application is considered complete only if

1 it contains the information required by RCW 29A.08.010 and
2 citizenship information. The applicant is considered to be registered
3 to vote as of the original date of application or renewal of a
4 driver's license, identicard, enhanced driver's license, or enhanced
5 identicard issued under RCW 46.20.202. The auditor shall record the
6 appropriate precinct identification, taxing district identification,
7 and date of registration on the voter's record in the state voter
8 registration list. Any mailing address provided shall be used only
9 for mail delivery purposes, and not for precinct assignment or
10 residency purposes. Within sixty days after the receipt of an
11 application or transfer, the auditor shall send to the applicant, by
12 first-class nonforwardable mail, an acknowledgment notice identifying
13 the registrant's precinct and containing such other information as
14 may be required by the secretary of state. The United States postal
15 service shall be instructed not to forward a voter registration card
16 to any other address and to return to the auditor any card which is
17 not deliverable.

18 (2) If an application is not complete, the auditor shall promptly
19 mail a verification notice to the applicant. The verification notice
20 shall require the applicant to provide the missing information. If
21 the applicant provides the required information within forty-five
22 days, the applicant shall be registered to vote as of the original
23 date of application. The applicant shall not be placed on the
24 official list of registered voters until the application is complete.

25 (3) If the prospective registration applicant declines to
26 register to vote or the information provided by the department of
27 licensing does not indicate citizenship, the information shall not be
28 included on the list of registered voters.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 46.20
30 RCW to read as follows:

31 For persons eighteen years of age or older who the department has
32 determined are citizens of the United States and who are applying for
33 or renewing an enhanced driver's license or identicard under RCW
34 46.20.202, and have not declined to register to vote, the department
35 shall produce and transmit to the secretary of state the following
36 information from the records of each individual: The name, address,
37 date of birth, gender of the applicant, the driver's license number,
38 signature image, citizenship, and the date on which the application

1 was submitted. The department and the secretary of state shall
2 process information as an automated application on a daily basis.

3 **Sec. 6.** RCW 29A.08.350 and 2013 c 11 s 18 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 The department of licensing shall produce and transmit to the
6 secretary of state the following information from the records of each
7 individual who requested a voter registration or update at a driver's
8 license facility: The name, address, date of birth, gender of the
9 applicant, the driver's license number, signature image, citizenship,
10 and the date on which the application for voter registration or
11 update was submitted. The secretary of state shall process the
12 registrations and updates as an electronic application.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** This act takes effect July 1, 2018.

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