2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 998

February 16, 2022 – Introduced by Representatives KNODL, ARMSTRONG, BEHNKE, BRANDTJEN, BROOKS, CABRAL-GUEVARA, DITTRICH, GUNDRUM, HORLACHER, KRUG, KUGLITSCH, MAGNAFICI, PENTERMAN, PETERSEN, PRONSCHINSKE, ROZAR, SANFELIPPO, SCHRAA, TITTL, WICHGERS, NEYLON and MURPHY, cosponsored by Senators DARLING, FELZKOWSKI, NASS, ROTH, WIMBERGER, STROEBEL and BALLWEG. Referred to Committee on State Affairs.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1   AN ACT *to amend* 5.056; and *to create* 5.057 and 343.17 (3) (a) 16. of the statutes;

2   **relating to:** verifying citizenship of individuals on the official voter

3   registration list and contents of operator's licenses and identification cards.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Current law requires the administrator of the Elections Commission to enter into an agreement with the secretary of transportation to match personally identifiable information on the official voter registration list with the information maintained by DOT. Under the bill, the agreement with DOT must also provide for the commission to review the information maintained by DOT to verify that individuals on the registration list are U.S. citizens. The bill also requires the commission to verify that individuals on the official registration list are U.S. citizens by using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements database maintained by the federal Department of Homeland Security. Under the bill, the commission must conduct the verifications 60 days before the distribution of absentee ballots to voters before an election.

The bill also requires DOT to place on the face of an operator's license or identification card issued to a person who is not a U.S. citizen, the words "Not valid for voting purposes" or another readily recognizable indication that the license may not be accepted for voter identification purposes.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1   **SECTION 1.** 5.056 of the statutes is amended to read:

2   **5.056   Matching program with secretary of transportation.**   The

3   commission administrator shall enter into the agreement with the secretary of

4   transportation specified under s. 85.61 (1) to match personally identifiable

5   information on the official registration list maintained by the commission under s.

6   6.36 (1) and the information specified in s. 6.34 (2m) with personally identifiable

7   information maintained by the department of transportation. The agreement shall

8   also provide that the commission review the personally identifiable information

9   maintained by the department of transportation 60 days before the distribution of

10   absentee ballots to electors before an election to verify that individuals on the official

11   registration list are U.S. citizens.

12   **SECTION 2.** 5.057 of the statutes is created to read:

13   **5.057   Verification by the Department of Homeland Security.**   The

14   commission shall verify that individuals on the official registration list maintained

15   by the commission under s. 6.36 (1) are U.S. citizens by using the systematic alien

16   verification for entitlements database maintained by the federal Department of

17   Homeland Security.   The commission shall conduct the verification under this

18   section 60 days before the distribution of absentee ballots to electors before an

19   election.

20   **SECTION 3.** 343.17 (3) (a) 16. of the statutes is created to read:

1   343.17 **(3)** (a) 16. If the person is not a U.S. citizen, the legend "Not valid for

2   voting purposes" or another readily recognizable indication that the license may not

3   be accepted for voter identification purposes.

4   **SECTION 4. Initial applicability.**

5   (1) The treatment of s. 343.17 (3) (a) 16. first applies to operator's licenses and

6   identification cards issued by the department of transportation on the effective date

7   of this subsection.

8   **(END)**