

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

H. B. No. 540

Representative Manning, G.

A BILL

To amend sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 3501.38, 1
3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.15, 3503.16, 2
3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3
3505.183, 3509.02, 3509.04, 3509.08, 3513.05, 4
3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 5
3513.257, 3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 6
3599.18; to enact new section 3503.11; and to 7
repeal section 3503.11 of the Revised Code to 8
create an automated voter registration and 9
verification system. 10

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 3501.38, 11
3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 12
3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.183, 3509.02, 3509.04, 3509.08, 13
3513.05, 3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 3513.257, 14
3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 3599.18 be amended and new 15
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 16
follows: 17

Sec. 3501.01. As used in the sections of the Revised Code 18
relating to elections and political communications: 19

(A) "General election" means the election held on the 20
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November. 21

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held 22
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 23
odd-numbered year. 24

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on 25
the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 26
even-numbered year. 27

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those 28
elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 29
election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 30
Monday in May, August, or November, or on the day authorized by 31
a particular municipal or county charter for the holding of a 32
primary election, except that in any year in which a 33
presidential primary election is held, no special election shall 34
be held in May, except as authorized by a municipal or county 35
charter, but may be held on the third Tuesday after the first 36
Monday in March. 37

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 38
held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 39
political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 40
of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 41
political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 42
conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 43
held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 44
year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 45
held. 46

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 47
election as defined by division (E) (1) of this section at which 48

an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 49
alternates to the national conventions of the major political 50
parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 51
otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 52
in references to primary elections. In years in which a 53
presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 54
shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in 55
March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county 56
charter. 57

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting 58
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised 59
Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 60

(1) "Major political party" means any political party 61
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for 62
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less 63
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at 64
the most recent regular state election. 65

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party 66
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the 67
following requirements: 68

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 69
political party's candidate for governor or nominees for 70
presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not 71
less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office 72
at the most recent regular state election. A political party 73
that meets the requirements of this division remains a political 74
party for a period of four years after meeting those 75
requirements. 76

(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of 77

state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of 78
division (F) (2) (a) of this section, a petition that meets the 79
requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 80

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor 81
political party until the time of the first election for 82
governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months 83
subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election 84
the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the 85
office of governor or president. 86

(G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political 87
party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate 88
for election to the office of governor at the most recent 89
regular state election at which a governor was elected received 90
more votes than any other person received for election to that 91
office in such precinct at such election. 92

(H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in 93
accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement 94
on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special 95
election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who 96
claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to 97
being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a 98
primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 99

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims 100
not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has 101
been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special 102
election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and 103
nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the 104
Revised Code. 105

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 106

is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 107
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 108
for judicial office, for member of any board of education, for 109
municipal or township offices in which primary elections are not 110
held for nominating candidates by political parties, and for 111
offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide 112
for separate ballots for elections for these offices. 113

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be 114
a member of a political party and who has been certified to 115
appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special 116
election as the nominee of a political party because the 117
candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party 118
for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated 119
under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in 120
accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code. 121

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 122
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 123
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 124
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 125
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 126
party. 127

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue 128
certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on 129
an official ballot at a general or special election to be held 130
in this state. 131

(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having 132
the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote. 133

(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election. 134

(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an 135

elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector may vote.	136 137
(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.	138 139 140 141
(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.	142 143 144
(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of the Revised Code.	145 146 147
(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.	148 149
(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of the following:	150 151
(1) Secretary of state;	152
(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the division of elections in the capacity of attorney, administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;	153 154 155 156
(3) Director of a board of elections;	157
(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;	158
(5) Member of a board of elections;	159
(6) Employees of a board of elections;	160
(7) Precinct election officials;	161

(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a 162
temporary or part-time basis. 163

(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board 164
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, 165
informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who 166
wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status 167
of the application; the information necessary to complete or 168
update the application, if any; and if the application is 169
complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote. 170

(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board 171
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, by 172
forwardable mail and with return postage prepaid, to a 173
registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current 174
address. The notice shall comply with all applicable 175
requirements of the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993." 176

(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the 177
state that provides public assistance or that provides state- 178
funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to 179
persons with disabilities and that is required by the National 180
Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed 181
and administered by the secretary of state for registering 182
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that 183
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary 184
of state for registering voters, including the department of job 185
and family services, the program administered under section 186
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the 187
department of mental health and addiction services, the 188
department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for 189
Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the 190
secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not 191

include public high schools and vocational schools, public 192
libraries, or the office of a county treasurer. 193

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the 194
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, ~~42-~~ 195
~~U.S.C.A. 1973~~52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq. 196

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights 197
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, ~~42 U.S.C.A. 1973~~52 U.S.C. 10301 et 198
seq., as amended. 199

(AA) "Photo identification" means a document that meets 200
each of the following requirements: 201

(1) It shows the name of the individual to whom it was 202
issued, which shall conform to the name in the poll list or 203
signature pollbook. 204

(2) It shows the current address of the individual to whom 205
it was issued, which shall conform to the address in the poll 206
list or signature pollbook, except for a driver's license or a 207
state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the 208
Revised Code, which may show either the current or former 209
address of the individual to whom it was issued, regardless of 210
whether that address conforms to the address in the poll list or 211
signature pollbook. 212

(3) It shows a photograph of the individual to whom it was 213
issued. 214

(4) It includes an expiration date that has not passed. 215

(5) It was issued by the government of the United States 216
or this state. 217

Sec. 3501.05. The secretary of state shall do all of the 218
following: 219

(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;	220
(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections.	221 222 223
(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of elections;	224 225
(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in force;	226 227 228
(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;	229 230
(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and records;	231 232
(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards;	233 234 235 236
(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution to be submitted to the voters of the state;	237 238 239
(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall appear on the ballot;	240 241 242 243 244
(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) (2) (b) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to ballot language for any local question or issue approved and	245 246 247

transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the Revised Code;	248 249
(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on state questions and issues and determine and certify to the sufficiency of those petitions;	250 251 252
(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers necessary;	253 254 255
(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the several counties of the requirements of the election laws;	256 257
(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of this section, investigate the administration of election laws, frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and report violations of election laws to the attorney general or prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution;	258 259 260 261 262
(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the Revised Code.	263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270
(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the results of elections, the cost of elections in the various counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative to elections the secretary of state considers desirable;	271 272 273 274 275
(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list	276

of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition	277
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32	278
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code;	279
(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised	280
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters	281
from the statewide voter registration database and, if	282
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in	283
each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the	284
following:	285
(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed	286
residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in	287
compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National	288
Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses	289
the national change of address service provided by the United	290
States postal system through its licensees;	291
(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under	292
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;	293
(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a	294
voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter	295
registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or	296
signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason	297
for that mark or removal.	298
(R) <u>(1)</u> Prescribe a general program for registering voters	299
or updating voter registration information, such as name and	300
residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies,	301
offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high	302
schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of	303
county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section	304
3503.09 of the Revised Code;	305

(2) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to develop, implement, and administer the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, including rules prescribing all of the following: 306
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(a) The manner and format in which the bureau of motor vehicles must transmit information to the secretary of state under that section; 311
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(b) An earlier deadline for the bureau of motor vehicles to transmit information to the secretary of state than the deadline described in division (B) of that section, if the bureau obtains that information during the period immediately preceding the close of voter registration before an election; 314
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(c) Procedures for the bureau of motor vehicles, the office of the secretary of state, and boards of elections to follow to ensure that information transmitted under that section that is not considered a public record remains confidential. 319
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(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter registration forms through boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public highschools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers; 323
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(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in this state; 328
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(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles 331
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consistent with this chapter;	335
(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with	336
Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary	337
of state to do all of the following:	338
(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there	339
is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities;	340
(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each	341
voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the	342
same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy	343
and independence, as for other voters;	344
(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of	345
standards for the certification of voting machines, marking	346
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment.	347
(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide	348
database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15	349
of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the	350
"Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat.	351
1666, and provide training in the operation of that system;	352
(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other	353
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result	354
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of	355
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for	356
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections,	357
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or	358
other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted	359
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as	360
is practicable after the completion of the conference or	361
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on	362
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes	363

place. 364

(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the 365
secretary of state not later than one month after the completion 366
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and 367
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent 368
voter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were 369
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the 370
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election. 371
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web 372
site in an archive format for each subsequent election. 373

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter 374
identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and 375
other voting requirements; 376

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 377
may make available to a board of elections a more recent 378
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 379
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 380
elector resides; 381

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 382
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 383
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 384
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 385
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 386
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 387
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 388
or referendum; 389

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 390
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 391
Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 392

1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of 393
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities 394
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities 395
arising from amendments to that act made by the "Military and 396
Overseas Voter Empowerment Act," Subtitle H of the "National 397
Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010," Pub. L. No. 398
111-84, 123 Stat. 3190. 399

(DD) Adopt rules, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 400
to establish procedures and standards for determining when a 401
board of elections shall be placed under the official oversight 402
of the secretary of state, placing a board of elections under 403
the official oversight of the secretary of state, a board that 404
is under official oversight to transition out of official 405
oversight, and the secretary of state to supervise a board of 406
elections that is under official oversight of the secretary of 407
state. 408

(EE) Perform other duties required by law. 409

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 410
of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 411
3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of 412
representative to congress, the secretary of state shall 413
establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline 414
required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the 415
following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy 416
and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating 417
petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of 418
protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 419
declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a 420
declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of 421
campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of 422

corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 423
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 424
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 425
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 426
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 427
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 428
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 429
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 430

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 431
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 432
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 433
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 434
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 435
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 436

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 437
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 438
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 439
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 440
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 441
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 442

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 443
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 444
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 445
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 446
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 447
state's motion, be made a party. 448

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 449
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 450
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 451
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 452

pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 453
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 454
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 455
Franklin county. 456

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 457
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 458
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 459
state pursuant to this section. 460

The secretary of state may mail unsolicited applications 461
for absent voter's ballots to individuals only for a general 462
election and only if the general assembly has made an 463
appropriation for that particular mailing. Under no other 464
circumstance shall a public office, or a public official or 465
employee who is acting in an official capacity, mail unsolicited 466
applications for absent voter's ballots to any individuals. 467

Upon the request of the secretary of state, a state agency 468
shall provide any information or assistance the secretary of 469
state requires to carry out the secretary of state's powers and 470
duties under Title XXXV of the Revised Code. 471

Sec. 3501.38. All declarations of candidacy, nominating 472
petitions, or other petitions presented to or filed with the 473
secretary of state or a board of elections or with any other 474
public office for the purpose of becoming a candidate for any 475
nomination or office or for the holding of an election on any 476
issue shall, in addition to meeting the other specific 477
requirements prescribed in the sections of the Revised Code 478
relating to them, be governed by the following rules: 479

(A) Only electors qualified to vote on the candidacy or 480
issue which is the subject of the petition shall sign a 481

petition. Each signer shall be a registered elector pursuant to 482
section 3503.01 of the Revised Code. The facts of qualification 483
shall be determined as of the date when the petition is filed. 484

(B) Signatures shall be affixed in ink. Each signer may 485
also print the signer's name, so as to clearly identify the 486
signer's signature. 487

(C) Each signer shall place on the petition after the 488
signer's name the date of signing and the location of the 489
signer's voting residence, including the street and number if in 490
a municipal corporation or the rural route number, post office 491
address, or township if outside a municipal corporation. The 492
voting address given on the petition shall be the address 493
appearing in the registration records at the board of elections. 494

(D) Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of 495
the Revised Code, no person shall write any name other than the 496
person's own on any petition. Except as otherwise provided in 497
section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, no person may authorize 498
another to sign for the person. If a petition contains the 499
signature of an elector two or more times, only the first 500
signature shall be counted. 501

(E) (1) On each petition paper, the circulator shall 502
indicate the number of signatures contained on it, and shall 503
sign a statement made under penalty of election falsification 504
that the circulator witnessed the affixing of every signature, 505
that all signers were to the best of the circulator's knowledge 506
and belief qualified to sign, and that every signature is to the 507
best of the circulator's knowledge and belief the signature of 508
the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney 509
in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. 510
On the circulator's statement for a declaration of candidacy or 511

nominating petition for a person seeking to become a statewide 512
candidate or for a statewide initiative or a statewide 513
referendum petition, the circulator shall identify the 514
circulator's name, the address of the circulator's permanent 515
residence, and the name and address of the person employing the 516
circulator to circulate the petition, if any. 517

(2) As used in division (E) of this section, "statewide 518
candidate" means the joint candidates for the offices of 519
governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the office 520
of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, or 521
attorney general. 522

(F) Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of 523
the Revised Code, if a circulator knowingly permits an 524
unqualified person to sign a petition paper or permits a person 525
to write a name other than the person's own on a petition paper, 526
that petition paper is invalid; otherwise, the signature of a 527
person not qualified to sign shall be rejected but shall not 528
invalidate the other valid signatures on the paper. 529

(G) The circulator of a petition may, before filing it in 530
a public office, strike from it any signature the circulator 531
does not wish to present as a part of the petition. 532

(H) Any signer of a petition or an attorney in fact acting 533
pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code on behalf of a 534
signer may remove the signer's signature from that petition at 535
any time before the petition is filed in a public office by 536
striking the signer's name from the petition; no signature may 537
be removed after the petition is filed in any public office. 538

(I) (1) No alterations, corrections, or additions may be 539
made to a petition after it is filed in a public office. 540

(2) (a) No declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, 541
or other petition for the purpose of becoming a candidate may be 542
withdrawn after it is filed in a public office. Nothing in this 543
division prohibits a person from withdrawing as a candidate as 544
otherwise provided by law. 545

(b) No petition presented to or filed with the secretary 546
of state, a board of elections, or any other public office for 547
the purpose of the holding of an election on any question or 548
issue may be resubmitted after it is withdrawn from a public 549
office or rejected as containing insufficient signatures. 550
Nothing in this division prevents a question or issue petition 551
from being withdrawn by the filing of a written notice of the 552
withdrawal by a majority of the members of the petitioning 553
committee with the same public office with which the petition 554
was filed prior to the sixtieth day before the election at which 555
the question or issue is scheduled to appear on the ballot. 556

(J) All declarations of candidacy, nominating petitions, 557
or other petitions under this section shall be accompanied by 558
the following statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER 559
COMMITTS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE 560
FIFTH DEGREE. 561

(K) All separate petition papers shall be filed at the 562
same time, as one instrument. 563

(L) If a board of elections distributes for use a petition 564
form for a declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or any 565
type of question or issue petition that does not satisfy the 566
requirements of law as of the date of that distribution, the 567
board shall not invalidate the petition on the basis that the 568
petition form does not satisfy the requirements of law, if the 569
petition otherwise is valid. Division (L) of this section 570

applies only if the candidate received the petition from the 571
board within ninety days of when the petition is required to be 572
filed. 573

(M) (1) Upon receiving an initiative petition, or a 574
petition filed under section 307.94 or 307.95 of the Revised 575
Code, concerning a ballot issue that is to be submitted to the 576
electors of a county or municipal political subdivision, the 577
board of elections shall examine the petition to determine: 578

(a) Whether the petition falls within the scope of a 579
municipal political subdivision's authority to enact via 580
initiative, including, if applicable, the limitations placed by 581
Sections 3 and 7 of Article XVIII of the Ohio Constitution on 582
the authority of municipal corporations to adopt local police, 583
sanitary, and other similar regulations as are not in conflict 584
with general laws, and whether the petition satisfies the 585
statutory prerequisites to place the issue on the ballot. The 586
petition shall be invalid if any portion of the petition is not 587
within the initiative power; or 588

(b) Whether the petition falls within the scope of a 589
county's authority to enact via initiative, including whether 590
the petition conforms to the requirements set forth in Section 3 591
of Article X of the Ohio Constitution, including the exercise of 592
only those powers that have vested in, and the performance of 593
all duties imposed upon counties and county officers by law, and 594
whether the petition satisfies the statutory prerequisites to 595
place the issue on the ballot. The finding of the board shall be 596
subject to challenge by a protest filed pursuant to division (B) 597
of section 307.95 of the Revised Code. 598

(2) After making a determination under division (M) (1) (a) 599
or (b) of this section, the board of elections shall promptly 600

transmit a copy of the petition and a notice of the board's 601
determination to the office of the secretary of state. Notice of 602
the board's determination shall be given to the petitioners and 603
the political subdivision. 604

(3) If multiple substantially similar initiative petitions 605
are submitted to multiple boards of elections and the 606
determinations of the boards under division (M) (1) (a) or (b) of 607
this section concerning those petitions differ, the secretary of 608
state shall make a single determination under division (M) (1) (a) 609
or (b) of this section that shall apply to each such initiative 610
petition. 611

(N) A board of elections shall continue to verify every 612
signature on a petition after the number of signatures found to 613
be valid equals the minimum required number of valid signatures. 614
When the board determines that an elector has signed a petition 615
and that the signature is valid, the board shall note that fact 616
in the elector's registration record. 617

Sec. 3503.09. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt 618
rules for the electronic transmission by boards of elections, 619
designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor 620
vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public 621
libraries, and offices of county treasurers, where applicable, 622
of change of name and change of residence~~changes forms~~ for 623
voter registration ~~records in the statewide voter registration~~
database. 624
625

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 626
purpose of improving the speed of processing new voter 627
registrations that permit information from a voter registration 628
application received by a designated agency or an office of 629
deputy registrar of motor vehicles to be made available 630

electronically, in addition to requiring the original voter 631
registration application to be transmitted to the applicable 632
board of elections under division (E) (2) of section 3503.10 ~~or~~ 633
~~section 3503.11~~ of the Revised Code. 634

(B) Rules adopted under division (A) of this section shall 635
do all of the following: 636

(1) Prohibit any direct electronic connection between a 637
designated agency, office of deputy registrar of motor vehicles, 638
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 639
office of a county treasurer and the statewide voter 640
registration database; 641

(2) Require any updated voter registration information to 642
be verified by the secretary of state or a board of elections 643
before the information is added to the statewide voter 644
registration database for the purpose of modifying an existing 645
voter registration; 646

(3) Require each designated agency or office of deputy 647
registrar of motor vehicles that transmits voter registration 648
information electronically to transmit an identifier for data 649
relating to each new voter registration that shall be used by 650
the secretary of state or a board of elections to match the 651
electronic data to the original voter registration application. 652

(C) This section does not apply to information transmitted 653
to the secretary of state under section 3503.11 of the Revised 654
Code. 655

Sec. 3503.11. (A) When a person applies to receive or 656
renew a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or state 657
identification card, or to receive a duplicate or replacement of 658
one of those items, the registrar or deputy registrar shall 659

attempt to obtain all of the following from that person, unless 660
the registrar or deputy registrar has information indicating 661
that the person is not eligible to vote in this state: 662

(1) The person's legal name; 663

(2) The person's residence address; 664

(3) The person's date of birth; 665

(4) The number of the person's driver's license or state 666
identification card; 667

(5) The last four digits of the person's social security 668
number; 669

(6) Documentation indicating that the person is a United 670
States citizen. 671

(B) (1) Not later than seven days after the registrar or 672
deputy registrar obtains all of the information and 673
documentation described in division (A) of this section 674
concerning a person, the registrar or deputy registrar shall 675
transmit the information, along with an electronic image of the 676
person's signature and any telephone number or electronic mail 677
address the person has provided, to the secretary of state 678
electronically in the manner prescribed by the secretary of 679
state. 680

(2) Not later than seven days after the bureau of motor 681
vehicles receives a notice of change of residence address from a 682
registered elector, the bureau shall transmit the elector's 683
updated information to the secretary of state electronically in 684
the manner prescribed by the secretary of state. 685

(C) (1) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (2) 686
of this section, when the secretary of state receives 687

information concerning a person under division (B) of this 688
section, the secretary of state shall consult the statewide 689
voter registration database to determine whether the person is 690
registered to vote at the person's current address and under the 691
person's current name, and if not, promptly shall transmit the 692
person's information electronically to the appropriate board of 693
elections. 694

(b) If the person is registered to vote at the person's 695
current address and under the person's current name, the 696
secretary of state promptly shall transmit an electronic notice 697
of that fact to the appropriate board of elections. The notice 698
shall include the date of the person's transaction with the 699
registrar or deputy registrar. 700

(2) If the secretary of state determines that a person 701
concerning whom the secretary of state receives information 702
under division (B) of this section is not registered to vote at 703
the person's current address or under the person's current name, 704
but is a participant in the address confidentiality program 705
described in sections 111.41 to 111.48 of the Revised Code, the 706
secretary of state shall not transmit that information to the 707
board of elections. Instead, the secretary of state shall send a 708
notice to the person explaining the process to register to vote 709
or to update the person's confidential registration under 710
section 111.44 of the Revised Code. 711

(D) (1) (a) Subject to divisions (D) (1) (b) and (c) of this 712
section, if the board of elections determines that a person 713
whose information is sent to the board under division (C) (1) (a) 714
of this section is eligible to register to vote or to update the 715
person's voter registration, the board promptly shall register 716
the person to vote or update the person's voter registration, as 717

applicable, and send the person a notice in accordance with 718
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, which shall include 719
information concerning the procedure to decline to be registered 720
to vote or to have the person's registration updated by signing 721
and returning the notice to the secretary of state or the board 722
of elections. The electronic record transmitted to the board of 723
elections under this division shall be considered to be the 724
person's voter registration form. 725

(b) If a person who has been registered to vote under this 726
section declines in writing to be registered, the board of 727
elections shall treat the declination as a request to cancel the 728
person's voter registration. 729

(c) If an elector whose voter registration has been 730
updated under this section declines in writing to have the 731
elector's voter registration updated, the board of elections 732
shall correct the elector's voter registration to reflect the 733
name, address, and signature that it contained before the board 734
updated the elector's voter registration under this section. 735

(2) Upon receiving a notice under division (C) (1) (b) of 736
this section concerning an elector, the board of elections shall 737
record the date of the elector's transaction with the registrar 738
or deputy registrar in the elector's registration record. 739

(E) The secretary of state and the registrar of motor 740
vehicles shall ensure that the procedures implemented under this 741
section maintain the integrity, security, and confidentiality of 742
information contained in the statewide voter registration 743
database. 744

(F) The secretary of state may adopt rules under Chapter 745
119. of the Revised Code to evaluate the information maintained 746

by state agencies other than the bureau of motor vehicles, to 747
identify state agencies that feasibly could participate in the 748
automated voter registration and verification system described 749
in this section, and to require the directors of those agencies 750
to coordinate with the secretary of state to establish 751
participation by those agencies in the system in the same manner 752
and in accordance with the same requirements as the bureau of 753
motor vehicles participates in the system. 754

Sec. 3503.12. All registrations shall be carefully 755
checked, and in case any person is found to have ~~registered~~ more 756
than ~~once~~ one registration form, ~~the additional~~ all registration 757
forms other than the most recent registration form shall be 758
canceled by the board of elections. 759

Six weeks prior to the day of a special, primary, or 760
general election, the board shall publish notices in one or more 761
newspapers of general circulation advertising the places, dates, 762
times, methods of registration, and voter qualifications for 763
registration. 764

The board shall establish a schedule or program to assure 765
to the extent reasonably possible that, ~~on or before November 1,~~ 766
~~1980,~~ all registration places shall be free of barriers that 767
would impede the ingress and egress of handicapped persons. 768
Entrances shall be level or shall be provided with a nonskid 769
ramp of not over eight per cent gradient, and doors shall be a 770
minimum of thirty-two inches wide. Registration places located 771
at polling places shall, however, comply with the requirements 772
of section 3501.29 of the Revised Code for the elimination of 773
barriers. 774

As used in this section, "handicapped" means having lost 775
the use of one or both legs, one or both arms, or any 776

combination thereof, or being blind or so severely disabled as 777
to be unable to move about without the aid of crutches or a 778
wheelchair. 779

Sec. 3503.13. (A) Except as otherwise provided in section 780
111.44 of the Revised Code or by state or federal law, 781
registration forms ~~submitted by applicants~~ and the statewide 782
voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of 783
the Revised Code shall be open to public inspection at all times 784
when the office of the board of elections is open for business, 785
under such regulations as the board adopts, provided that no 786
person shall be permitted to inspect voter registration forms 787
except in the presence of an employee of the board. 788

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized 789
signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures 790
on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the 791
secretary of state, provided that the board includes the 792
required voter registration information in the statewide voter 793
registration database established under section 3503.15 of the 794
Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials 795
have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner 796
required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code. 797

Sec. 3503.15. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall 798
establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database 799
that shall be administered by the office of the secretary of 800
state and made continuously available to each board of elections 801
and to other agencies as authorized by law. 802

(2) (a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the 803
department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 804
department of job and family services, the department of 805
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, 806

shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state 807
that is collected in the course of normal business and that is 808
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's 809
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration 810
database established pursuant to this section, except where 811
prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of 812
health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and 813
family services, the department of medicaid, and the department 814
of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information 815
and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day 816
of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any 817
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 818
confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data 819
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 820
state. No public office, and no public official or employee, 821
shall sell that information or data or use that information or 822
data for profit. 823

(b) Information provided under this division for 824
maintenance of the statewide voter registration database shall 825
not be used to update the name or address of a registered 826
elector. The Except for cases in which an elector's registration 827
is updated through the system described in section 3503.11 of 828
the Revised Code, the name or address of a registered elector 829
shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in 830
filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 831

(c) A board of elections shall contact a registered 832
elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D) (7) of 833
this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the 834
statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if 835
that information does not conform with information provided 836
under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the discrepancy 837

would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot. 838

(3) (a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 839
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 840
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 841
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 842
statewide voter registration database established pursuant to 843
this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (3) (b) 844
of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any 845
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 846
confidential in the possession of the state providing the data 847
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 848
state. 849

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 850
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 851
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 852
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 853
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 854
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 855
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 856
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 857
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 858
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 859
that receives confidential information or data under this 860
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 861
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 862
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 863
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 864
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 865
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 866
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 867

(4) No person or entity that receives information or data 868
under division (A) (3) of this section shall sell the information 869
or data or use the information or data for profit. 870

(5) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the 871
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and 872
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state 873
receives under divisions (A) (2) and (3) of this section that is 874
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the 875
accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is 876
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable 877
state and federal law: 878

(a) Require the boards of elections to maintain the 879
database in a manner that ensures that the name of each 880
registered elector appears in the database, that only 881
individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are 882
removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are 883
eliminated from the database; 884

(b) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable 885
effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from 886
the database; 887

(c) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors 888
are not removed in error from the database. 889

(B) The statewide voter registration database established 890
under this section shall be the official list of registered 891
voters for all elections conducted in this state. 892

(C) The statewide voter registration database established 893
under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the 894
following: 895

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of 896

elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and	897
with the offices of all other boards of elections;	898
(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records	899
contained in the database with records maintained by each board	900
of elections;	901
(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to	902
the records contained in the database by each board of elections	903
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add,	904
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct	905
updates of the database;	906
(4) A search program capable of verifying registered	907
voters and their registration information by name, driver's	908
license number, birth date, social security number, or current	909
address;	910
(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the	911
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter	912
registration information is maintained;	913
(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records	914
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to	915
record the reason for their cancellation.	916
(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to	917
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following:	918
(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter	919
registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be	920
converted to electronic files for inclusion in the statewide	921
voter registration database;	922
(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter	923
registration records into the statewide voter registration	924

database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day,	925
if new registration information is received;	926
(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled	927
voter registration records from the statewide voter registration	928
database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;	929
(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete,	930
modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter	931
registration database and to make updates of that database;	932
(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the	933
information contained in the statewide voter registration	934
database;	935
(6) Establishing, by mutual agreement with the bureau of	936
motor vehicles, the content and format of the information and	937
data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide to the secretary	938
of state under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the	939
frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information	940
and data;	941
(7) Establishing a uniform method for addressing instances	942
in which records contained in the statewide voter registration	943
database do not conform with records maintained by an agency,	944
state, or group of states described in division (A) (2) (a) or (3)	945
(a) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's	946
voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that	947
the information in the registration record does not conform to	948
records maintained by such an agency.	949
(E) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's	950
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter	951
registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by	952
the secretary of state under division (D) (3) of this section	953

after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 954
3503.21 of the Revised Code. 955

(F) The secretary of state shall provide training in the 956
operation of the statewide voter registration database to each 957
board of elections and to any persons authorized by the 958
secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database 959
records, and to conduct updates of the database. 960

(G) (1) The statewide voter registration database 961
established under this section shall be made available on a web 962
site of the office of the secretary of state as follows: 963

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (1) (b) of 964
this section, the following information from the statewide voter 965
registration database regarding a registered voter shall be made 966
available on the web site: 967

(i) The voter's name; 968

(ii) The voter's address; 969

(iii) The voter's precinct number; 970

(iv) The voter's voting history. 971

(b) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 972
general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter 973
registration database shall permit a voter to search for the 974
polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot. 975

(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule 976
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for 977
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes 978
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of 979
updating the information made available on the secretary of 980
state's web site under division (G) (1) (b) of this section. Those 981

rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days 982
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the 983
secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 984
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 985

(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 986
general election, not later than one business day after 987
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G) 988
(2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 989
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 990
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 991
of division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 992

(H) The secretary of state shall conduct an annual review 993
of the statewide voter registration database as follows: 994

(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information 995
in the statewide voter registration database with the 996
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of 997
motor vehicles under division (A) (2) of this section to identify 998
any person who does all of the following, in the following 999
order: 1000

(a) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 1001
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen; 1002

(b) ~~Registers~~ Is registered to vote, submits a has the 1003
person's voter registration change of residence or change of 1004
name form updated, or votes in this state; 1005

(c) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 1006
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen. 1007

(2) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to 1008
each person identified under division (H) (1) of this section, 1009
instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a 1010

United States citizen or to submit a completed voter 1011
registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The 1012
secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration 1013
cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to 1014
respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in 1015
division (H) (3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty 1016
days after the notice was sent, the secretary of state promptly 1017
shall send the person a second notice and form. 1018

(3) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 1019
was sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (H) (2) of 1020
this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that 1021
the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state 1022
shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration. 1023

(4) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 1024
was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (H) (2) 1025
of this section sends a completed voter registration 1026
cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of 1027
state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in 1028
which the person is registered to cancel the person's 1029
registration. 1030

(5) If a person who was sent a second notice under 1031
division (H) (2) of this section fails to respond to the 1032
secretary of state in the manner described in division (H) (3) or 1033
(4) of this section not later than thirty days after the second 1034
notice was sent, the secretary of state shall refer the matter 1035
to the attorney general for further investigation and possible 1036
prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any 1037
other applicable section of the Revised Code. If, after the 1038
thirtieth day after the second notice was sent, the person sends 1039
a completed voter registration cancellation form to the 1040

secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the 1041
board of elections of the county in which the person is 1042
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify 1043
the attorney general of the cancellation. 1044

(6) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review 1045
described in division (H) of this section during the ninety days 1046
immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal 1047
office. 1048

Sec. 3503.16. (A) ~~Except as otherwise provided in division~~ 1049
~~(E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever~~ Whenever a 1050
registered elector changes the place of residence of that 1051
registered elector from one precinct to another within a county 1052
or from one county to another, or has a change of name, that 1053
registered elector shall report the change by ~~delivering a~~ 1054
~~change of residence or change of name form, whichever is~~ 1055
~~appropriate, as prescribed by the secretary of state under~~ 1056
~~section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to the state or local office~~ 1057
~~of a designated agency, a public high school or vocational~~ 1058
~~school, a public library, the office of the county treasurer,~~ 1059
~~the office of the secretary of state, any office of the~~ 1060
~~registrar or deputy registrar of motor vehicles, or any office~~ 1061
~~of a board of elections in person or by a third person. Any~~ 1062
~~voter registration, change of address, or change of name~~ 1063
~~application, returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary~~ 1064
~~of state or the board of elections.~~ 1065

~~A registered elector also may update the registration of~~ 1066
~~that registered elector by filing a change of residence or~~ 1067
~~change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general~~ 1068
~~election at the polling place in the precinct in which that~~ 1069
~~registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at~~ 1070

~~another site designated by the board, one of the methods~~ 1071
~~described in section 3503.19 of the Revised Code.~~ 1072

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 1073
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 1074
special election and has not ~~filed a notice of reported the~~ 1075
change of residence in accordance with the board of elections- 1076
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election by 1077
going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, 1078
completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing 1079
identification in the form of a current and valid photo 1080
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1081
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1082
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1083
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 1084
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current 1085
address of the elector, and casting a ballot. 1086

(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that 1087
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to 1088
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 1089
~~filed a notice of reported the~~ change of name in accordance with 1090
~~the board of elections-section 3503.19 of the Revised Code~~ may 1091
vote in that election by going to that registered elector's 1092
assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a 1093
change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section 1094
3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides 1095
to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change, 1096
such as a marriage license or court order that includes the 1097
elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and 1098
sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot. 1099

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 1100

another within a county or moves from one precinct to another 1101
and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to 1102
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 1103
~~filed a notice of~~ reported the change of residence or change of 1104
name, whichever is appropriate, in accordance with ~~the board of~~ 1105
~~elections~~ section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that 1106
election if that registered elector complies with division ~~(G)~~ 1107
(E) of this section or does all of the following: 1108

(a) Appears at ~~anytime~~ any time during regular business 1109
hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in 1110
which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election 1111
is held on the day of a presidential primary election, the 1112
twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the 1113
Saturday prior to the election at the office of the board of 1114
elections, appears at any time during regular business hours on 1115
the Monday prior to the election at the office of the board of 1116
elections, or appears on the day of the election at either of 1117
the following locations: 1118

(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that 1119
registered elector resides; 1120

(ii) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1121
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1122
has designated another location in the county at which 1123
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1124
the office of the board of elections. 1125

(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1126
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1127
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence 1128
or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1129

(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1130
the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the 1131
board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 1132
3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another 1133
location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at 1134
that other location instead of the office of the board of 1135
elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which 1136
that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered 1137
elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 1138

(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1139
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1140
elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, 1141
on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional 1142
ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that 1143
registered elector resides, at the office of the board of 1144
elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of 1145
the Revised Code the board has designated another location in 1146
the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 1147
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1148
whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 1149
at any other location for that particular election. 1150

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 1151
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 1152
general, primary, or special election and has not ~~registered to~~ 1153
~~vote in the county to which that registered elector moved~~ 1154
reported the change of residence in accordance with section 1155
3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election if that 1156
registered elector complies with division ~~(G)~~ (E) of this 1157
section or does all of the following: 1158

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 1159

or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 1160
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 1161
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 1162
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 1163
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 1164
or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 1165
Revised Code the board has designated another location in the 1166
county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 1167
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1168
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1169
election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1170
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1171
has designated another location in the county at which 1172
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1173
the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of 1174
the election at the office of the board of elections or, if 1175
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1176
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1177
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1178
the office of the board of elections; 1179

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1180
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1181
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1182

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1183
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 1184
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1185
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1186
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1187
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 1188
that registered elector has moved; 1189

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1190
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1191
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1192
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1193
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 1194
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 1195
another location in the county at which registered electors may 1196
vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 1197
of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1198
location for that particular election. 1199

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1200
to division ~~(G)~~(E) of this section shall not make written 1201
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 1202
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division ~~(G)~~(E) of this 1203
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 1204
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 1205
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 1206
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 1207
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 1208
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 1209
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1210
to division ~~(G)~~(E) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 1211
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 1212
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 1213

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 1214
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 1215
different from the office of the board at which registered 1216
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 1217
section. 1218

~~(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or~~ 1219

~~change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send- 1220
the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of- 1221
residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall- 1222
update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is- 1223
incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the- 1224
acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the- 1225
information necessary to complete or update that registrant's- 1226
registration. 1227~~

~~(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be- 1228
available at each polling place, and when these forms are- 1229
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate,- 1230
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling- 1231
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together- 1232
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1233~~

~~The board of elections shall provide change of residence- 1234
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of- 1235
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person- 1236
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order- 1237
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court- 1238
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections- 1239
within five days after receiving them. 1240~~

~~(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1241
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1242
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1243
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1244
has designated another location in the county at which 1245
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 1246
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1247
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1248
of the following: 1249~~

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a change of name;

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity;

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice of change of name, whichever is appropriate;

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other location or address for that particular election.

Sec. 3503.19. (A) ~~Persons~~ (1) Except as otherwise provided 1280
in division (E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, persons 1281
qualified to register or to change their registration because of 1282
a change of address or change of name may register or change 1283
their registration ~~in~~ by doing any of the following: 1284

(a) Submitting a voter registration or change of address 1285
or change of name form in person or through another person at 1286
any state or local office of a designated agency, at the office 1287
of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, at a 1288
public high school or vocational school, at a public library, at 1289
the office of a county treasurer, or at a branch office 1290
established by the board of elections, ~~or in;~~ 1291

(b) Submitting a voter registration or change of address 1292
or change of name form in person or through another person at a 1293
probate court or a court of common pleas. The board of elections 1294
shall provide the forms to the courts, and the courts shall 1295
provide the forms to any person eighteen years of age or older 1296
who has a change of name by order of the court or who applies 1297
for a marriage license. 1298

(c) Submitting a voter registration or change of address 1299
or change of name form in person, through another person, or by 1300
mail at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of 1301
~~a any~~ board of elections. ~~A registered elector may also change~~ 1302
~~the elector's registration on;~~ 1303

(d) Being registered or having the elector's registration 1304
updated through the automated voter registration and 1305
verification system under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code; 1306

(e) Submitting an application through the online voter 1307
registration system under section 3503.20 of the Revised Code; 1308

(f) Submitting a voter registration or change of address 1309
or change of name form in person to the election officials on 1310
election day at any polling place ~~where the elector is eligible~~ 1311
~~to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the~~ 1312
Revised Code. Voter registration and change of address or change 1313
of name forms shall be available at each polling place, and the 1314
election officials shall return all completed forms, together 1315
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1316

(g) In the case of a person who is eligible to vote as a 1317
uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 1318
the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 1319
U.S.C. 20301, et seq., returning the person's completed voter 1320
registration or change of address or change of name form 1321
electronically to the office of the secretary of state or to the 1322
board of elections of the county in which the person's voting 1323
residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised 1324
Code. 1325

(2) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1326
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1327
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1328
library, a probate court or court of common pleas, or the office 1329
of a county treasurer shall transmit any voter registration 1330
application or change of registration form that it receives to 1331
the board of elections of the county in which the state or local 1332
office is located, within five days after receiving the voter 1333
registration application or change of registration form. 1334

~~An~~ (3) (a) Except as provided in division (A) (3) (b) of this 1335
section, an otherwise valid voter registration application that 1336
is returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1337
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1338

office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1339
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1340
library, the office of a county treasurer, a probate court or 1341
court of common pleas, the office of the secretary of state, or 1342
the office of a board of elections no later than the thirtieth 1343
day preceding a primary, special, or general election for the 1344
person to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that 1345
election. An otherwise valid registration application received 1346
after that day entitles the elector to vote at all subsequent 1347
elections. 1348

(b) Information transmitted to the secretary of state by 1349
the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.11 of the 1350
Revised Code concerning a person who is eligible to register to 1351
vote must have been submitted to the bureau by the person not 1352
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1353
general election for the person to be registered to vote and to 1354
qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. 1355
Otherwise valid information transmitted under that division that 1356
was submitted after that day entitles the person to be 1357
registered to vote and to vote at all subsequent elections. 1358

(4) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1359
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1360
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1361
library, a probate court or court of common pleas, or the office 1362
of a county treasurer shall date stamp a registration 1363
application or change of name or change of address form it 1364
receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the identity 1365
of the state or local office that receives the registration. 1366

(5) Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, 1367
that are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of 1368

state or to the office of a board of elections must be 1369
postmarked no later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, 1370
special, or general election in order for the person to qualify 1371
as an elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise 1372
valid voter registration application that is returned by mail 1373
does not bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration 1374
shall be valid for that election if received by the office of 1375
the secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1376
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1377
general election. 1378

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1379
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1380
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1381
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1382
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42-52 1383
U.S.C. ~~1973ff-6-20310~~ also may apply for voter registration 1384
forms by electronic means to the office of the secretary of 1385
state or to the board of elections of the county in which the 1386
person's voting residence is located pursuant to section 1387
3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1388

~~(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed~~ 1389
~~registration form in person or by mail to any state or local~~ 1390
~~office of a designated agency, to a public high school or~~ 1391
~~vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a~~ 1392
~~county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to~~ 1393
~~the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible~~ 1394
~~to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in~~ 1395
~~accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the~~ 1396
~~applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to~~ 1397
~~the office of the secretary of state or to the board of~~ 1398
~~elections of the county in which the person's voting residence~~ 1399

~~is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code.~~ 1400

~~(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form through another person to any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state.~~ 1401
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~~(c)~~ A person who receives compensation for registering a voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the office of the secretary of state. 1405
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~~(d) (3)~~ If a board of elections or the office of the secretary of state receives a registration form ~~under division (B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section~~ before the thirtieth day before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to register to vote within ten days after receiving the application. If a board of elections or the office of the secretary of state receives a registration form ~~under division (B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section~~ on or after the thirtieth day before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that election. 1409
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(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter registration application or change of address or change of name form and is satisfied as to the truth of the statements made in the ~~registration~~ form shall register the applicant or update the elector's registration, as applicable, not later than twenty business days after receiving the application, unless that 1424
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application is received during the thirty days immediately 1430
preceding the day of an election. The board shall promptly 1431
notify the applicant in writing of each of the following: 1432

(a) The ~~applicant's registration~~ fact that the person has 1433
been registered to vote or had the person's registration 1434
updated, as applicable; 1435

(b) The precinct in which the ~~applicant~~ person is to vote; 1436

(c) In bold type as follows: 1437

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1438
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1439
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1440
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1441
paycheck, or other government document, other than this 1442
notification, that shows the voter's name and current address. 1443
Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be 1444
able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not 1445
have any of the above forms of identification, including a 1446
social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an 1447
affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of 1448
election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1449

(d) If the person was registered to vote or had the 1450
person's registration updated through the automated voter 1451
registration and verification system described in section 1452
3503.11 of the Revised Code, all of the following: 1453

(i) The process to decline the registration or update or 1454
to submit corrected registration information by signing and 1455
returning the notice to the secretary of state or the board of 1456
elections; 1457

(ii) A statement that in order to register to vote, the 1458

person must be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years 1459
of age at the time of the next general election, and have lived 1460
in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the next 1461
election; 1462

(iii) A statement that election falsification is a felony 1463
of the fifth degree; 1464

(iv) A statement instructing the person to decline to be 1465
registered to vote if the person is not eligible to register; 1466

(v) A statement that if the person declines to be 1467
registered to vote or to have the person's registration updated, 1468
that fact will remain confidential and will only be used for 1469
voter registration purposes; 1470

(vi) A statement that if the person wishes to be 1471
registered to vote or to have the person's registration updated, 1472
the office at which the person submitted the person's 1473
information will remain confidential and will only be used for 1474
voter registration purposes. 1475

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 1476
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 1477
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 1478

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 1479
(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's 1480
correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official 1481
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1482
be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned 1483
to the board. 1484

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been 1485
so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to 1486
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 1487

provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1488
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) 1489
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 1490
that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 1491
indication that the voter's notification was returned from that 1492
voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll 1493
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 1494
counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of 1495
section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration 1496
shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United 1497
States mail of the cancellation. 1498

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid 1499
registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is 1500
returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided 1501
in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation 1502
~~notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to~~ 1503
~~the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or~~ 1504
~~vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of~~ 1505
~~this section in any election during the period of two federal~~ 1506
~~elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice,~~ 1507
~~the person's registration shall be canceled.~~ 1508

Sec. 3503.21. (A) The registration of a registered elector 1509
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 1510

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 1511
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 1512
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 1513
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 1514
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 1515
reregistering to vote at any time. 1516

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered 1517

elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code; 1518

(3) The filing with the board of elections of a certified 1519
copy of the death certificate of a registered elector by the 1520
deceased elector's spouse, parent, or child, by the 1521
administrator of the deceased elector's estate, or by the 1522
executor of the deceased elector's will; 1523

(4) The conviction of the registered elector of a felony 1524
under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United 1525
States as provided in section 2961.01 of the Revised Code; 1526

(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered 1527
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 1528
5122.301 of the Revised Code; 1529

~~(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a 1530
location outside the county of registration in accordance with 1531
division (B) of this section; 1532~~

~~(7)(a) The failure of the registered elector, after having 1533
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either one or more of 1534
the following at least once during a period of four consecutive 1535
years, which period shall include two federal general elections: 1536~~

~~(a)(i) Respond to such a confirmation notice and vote at 1537
least once during a period of four consecutive years, which 1538
period shall include two general federal elections; 1539~~

~~(b)(ii) Update the elector's registration and vote at 1540
least once during a period of four consecutive years, which 1541
period shall include two general federal elections; 1542~~

(iii) Have the elector's registration updated under 1543
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code; 1544

(iv) Conduct a transaction with the registrar of motor 1545

vehicles or a deputy registrar, as described in division (D) (2) 1546
of section 3503.11 of the Revised Code; 1547

(v) Vote in an election; 1548

(vi) Sign any petition that is filed with a public office 1549
for the purpose of becoming a candidate for any nomination or 1550
office or for the purpose of holding an election on any issue, 1551
so long as the board of elections verifies the signatures on the 1552
petition and determines that the elector's signature is valid. 1553

~~(8)~~(b) The registration of a registered elector described 1554
in division (A) (6) (a) of this section shall be canceled not 1555
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 1556
federal general election occurring after the elector is mailed a 1557
confirmation notice or not later than one hundred twenty days 1558
after the expiration of the four-year period described in that 1559
division, whichever is later, provided that the registration 1560
shall not be canceled during the ninety days immediately 1561
preceding a federal primary or general election. 1562

(7) The declination of an elector who has been registered 1563
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code to register to vote, 1564
as described in division (D) (1) (b) of that section. 1565

(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a 1566
cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the 1567
Revised Code. 1568

(B) ~~(1)~~ The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 1569
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 1570
residence of send a confirmation notice to any registrant who 1571
changes the registrant's voting residence to a location outside 1572
the registrant's current county of registration. Any procedures 1573
prescribed in this division shall be uniform and 1574

nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with the Voting Rights Act 1575
of 1965. The secretary of state may prescribe procedures under 1576
this division that include the use of the national change of 1577
address service provided by the United States postal system 1578
through its licensees. Any program so prescribed shall be 1579
completed not later than ninety days prior to the date of any 1580
primary or general election for federal office. 1581

~~(2) The registration of any elector identified as having 1582
changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the 1583
elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled 1584
unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form 1585
prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to 1586
respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the 1587
registration and fails to vote in any election during the period 1588
of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the 1589
confirmation notice. 1590~~

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 1591
canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 of 1592
the Revised Code, division (Q) of section 3501.05 of the Revised 1593
Code, division (D)(1)(b) of section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, 1594
division (C)(2) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, or 1595
division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code. 1596

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter 1597
registration information to the secretary of state as required 1598
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 1599
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 1600
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 1601
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 1602
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 1603
the information to the national change of address service 1604

described in division (B) of this section and request that 1605
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 1606
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 1607
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 1608
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 1609
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 1610
confirmation notice to each person on the list transmitted by 1611
the secretary of state ~~requesting confirmation of the person's~~ 1612
~~change of address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed~~ 1613
~~return envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify~~ 1614
~~or correct the change of address information.~~ 1615

~~(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 1616
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 1617
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 1618
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 1619
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 1620
the four year period in which the elector fails to vote or 1621
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later.~~ 1622

~~(F)~~(1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 1623
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 1624
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 1625
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 1626
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 1627
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 1628
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 1629
the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 1630
error. 1631

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to 1632
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be 1633
restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 1634

Sec. 3503.28. (A) The secretary of state shall develop an information brochure regarding voter registration. The brochure shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following information:

(1) The applicable deadlines for registering to vote or for ~~returning~~ submitting an applicant's completed registration ~~form~~ application;

(2) The applicable deadline for returning an applicant's completed registration form if the person returning the form is being compensated for registering voters;

(3) The locations ~~to~~ and manner in which a person may ~~return an applicant's completed registration form~~ register or be registered to vote;

(4) The location to which a person who is compensated for registering voters may return an applicant's completed registration form;

(5) The registration and affirmation requirements applicable to persons who are compensated for registering voters under section 3503.29 of the Revised Code;

(6) The manner in which a person may decline in writing to be registered to vote under the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;

(7) A notice, which shall be written in bold type, stating as follows:

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a

current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1663
paycheck, or other government document, other than a voter 1664
registration notification sent by a board of elections, that 1665
shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not 1666
provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by 1667
casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the 1668
above forms of identification, including a social security 1669
number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation 1670
swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election 1671
falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1672

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this 1673
section, a board of elections, designated agency, public high 1674
school, public vocational school, public library, office of a 1675
county treasurer, or deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall 1676
distribute a copy of the brochure developed under division (A) 1677
of this section to any person who requests more than two voter 1678
registration forms at one time. 1679

(C) (1) The secretary of state shall provide the 1680
information required to be included in the brochure developed 1681
under division (A) of this section to any person who prints a 1682
voter registration form that is made available on a web site of 1683
the office of the secretary of state. 1684

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web 1685
site, the board shall provide the information required to be 1686
included in the brochure developed under division (A) of this 1687
section to any person who prints a voter registration form that 1688
is made available on that web site. 1689

(D) A board of elections shall not be required to 1690
distribute a copy of a brochure under division (B) of this 1691
section to any of the following officials or employees who are 1692

requesting more than two voter registration forms at one time in	1693
the course of the official's or employee's normal duties:	1694
(1) An election official;	1695
(2) A county treasurer;	1696
(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	1697
(4) An employee of a designated agency;	1698
(5) An employee of a public high school;	1699
(6) An employee of a public vocational school;	1700
(7) An employee of a public library;	1701
(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;	1702
(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;	1703
(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	1704
(11) An employee of an election official.	1705
(E) As used in this section, "registering voters" includes	1706
any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration	1707
forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those	1708
forms.	1709
Sec. 3503.30. (A) When by mistake a qualified elector has	1710
caused himself the elector to be registered in a precinct which	1711
was that is not his the elector's place of residence, the board	1712
of elections, on full and satisfactory proof that such error was	1713
committed by mistake, may, on his the elector's personal	1714
application and proof of his the elector's true residence,	1715
correct his the elector's registration form. The board may	1716
correct all errors occurring in the registration of electors	1717
when it finds that the errors subject to correction were not of	1718

fraudulent intent. 1719

(B) When by mistake a qualified elector has been 1720
registered under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code in a 1721
precinct or under a name that is not the elector's place of 1722
residence or name, the board of elections, upon application of 1723
the elector and proof of the elector's true residence or name, 1724
as applicable, shall correct the elector's registration form. If 1725
the elector casts a provisional ballot because the elector's 1726
registration has been updated erroneously under those sections, 1727
the elector's provisional ballot shall be eligible to be 1728
counted, as described in division (E) of section 3505.183 of the 1729
Revised Code. 1730

Sec. 3503.33. (A) If an elector applying for registration 1731
is already registered in another state or in another county 1732
within this state, the elector shall declare this fact to the 1733
registration officer and shall sign on the registration form, 1734
which shall operate as an authorization to cancel the previous 1735
registration on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. 1736

(B) When the board of elections registers a person to vote 1737
or updates a person's registration under section 3503.11 of the 1738
Revised Code, if the board is aware of the person's previous 1739
residence address and that address is located in another state 1740
or in another county within this state, the board shall create a 1741
notice to cancel the previous registration for the purpose of 1742
complying with division (C) of this section. 1743

(C) The director of the board of elections shall mail all 1744
such authorizations and notices described in division (A) or (B) 1745
of this section to the board of elections or comparable agency 1746
of the proper state and county. In the case of a notice 1747
described in division (B) of this section, the board shall 1748

include with the notice a copy of the elector's most recent 1749
registration form. Upon the receipt of this authorization from 1750
the forwarding county, the director of a board of elections in 1751
Ohio, upon a comparison of the elector's signature with the 1752
elector's signature as it appears on the registration files, 1753
shall remove the elector's registration from the files, and 1754
place it with the cancellation authorization in a separate file 1755
which shall be kept for a period of two calendar years. 1756

The board shall notify the elector at the present address 1757
~~as shown on the cancellation authorization or notice that his~~ 1758
the elector's prior registration has been canceled. 1759

(D) If, after the cancellation of an elector's prior 1760
registration under division (C) (1) of this section, the board of 1761
elections that sent the notice under division (B) of this 1762
section receives a declination to register or to update the 1763
elector's registration under section 3503.11 of the Revised 1764
Code, the board shall notify the board of elections or 1765
comparable agency to which the board sent the notice under 1766
division (B) of this section to restore the elector's previous 1767
registration and treat it as though it were never canceled. 1768

Sec. 3505.183. (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to 1769
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall 1770
separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the 1771
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one 1772
member of each major political party shall place the sealed 1773
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the 1774
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes 1775
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those 1776
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 1777
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 1778

prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 1779
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 1780
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 1781
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 1782
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 1783

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 1784
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 1785
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 1786
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 1787
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 1788
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 1789
provisional ballot under division (B) (2) of section 3505.181 of 1790
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in 1791
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to 1792
be eligible to be counted: 1793

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of 1794
birth, and current address; 1795

(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter 1796
in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted; 1797

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in 1798
the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted. 1799

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 1800
in an affirmation under division (B) (1) of this section, in 1801
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 1802
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 1803
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 1804
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 1805
provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 1806
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 1807

during the seven days after the day of the election under 1808
division (B) (7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, to 1809
assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility to 1810
vote. 1811

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 1812
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 1813
section and comparing the information required under division 1814
(B) (1) of this section with the elector's information in the 1815
statewide voter registration database, the board determines that 1816
all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope 1817
shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box 1818
to be counted: 1819

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 1820
registered to vote. 1821

(b) ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided in divisions (D) and 1822
(E) of this section, the individual named on the affirmation is 1823
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election 1824
in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1825

(c) The individual provided all of the information 1826
required under division (B) (1) of this section in the 1827
affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 1828
individual cast the provisional ballot. 1829

(d) The last four digits of the elector's social security 1830
number or the elector's driver's license number or state 1831
identification card number are not different from the last four 1832
digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's 1833
driver's license number or state identification card number 1834
contained in the statewide voter registration database. 1835

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 1836

month and day of the elector's date of birth are not different 1837
from the day and month of the elector's date of birth contained 1838
in the statewide voter registration database. 1839

This division does not apply to an elector's provisional 1840
ballot if either of the following is true: 1841

(i) The elector's date of birth contained in the statewide 1842
voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 1843

(ii) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 1844
least three of its members, that the elector has met all other 1845
requirements of division (B) (3) of this section. 1846

(f) The elector's current address is not different from 1847
the elector's address contained in the statewide voter 1848
registration database, unless the elector indicated that the 1849
elector is casting a provisional ballot because the elector has 1850
moved and has not submitted a notice of change of address, as 1851
described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised 1852
Code, and except as otherwise provided in division (E) of this 1853
section. 1854

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional 1855
information required under division (B) (7) of section 3505.181 1856
of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of the 1857
election. 1858

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in ~~division~~ divisions 1859
(D) and (E) of this section, if, in examining a provisional 1860
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions 1861
(B) (1) and (2) of this section and comparing the information 1862
required under division (B) (1) of this section with the 1863
elector's information in the statewide voter registration 1864
database, the board determines that any of the following 1865

applies, the provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, 1866
and the ballot shall not be counted: 1867

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not 1868
qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 1869

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not 1870
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 1871
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1872

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the 1873
information required under division (B) (1) of this section in 1874
the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 1875
individual cast the provisional ballot. 1876

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the 1877
election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1878

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any 1879
additional information required under division (B) (7) of section 1880
3505.181 of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of 1881
the election. 1882

(vi) The individual failed to provide a current and valid 1883
photo identification, a military identification, a copy of a 1884
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1885
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1886
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 1887
3503.19 of the Revised Code, with the voter's name and current 1888
address, the individual's driver's license or state 1889
identification card number, or the last four digits of the 1890
individual's social security number or to execute an affirmation 1891
under division (B) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1892

(vii) The last four digits of the elector's social 1893
security number or the elector's driver's license number or 1894

state identification card number are different from the last 1895
four digits of the elector's social security number or the 1896
elector's driver's license number or state identification card 1897
number contained in the statewide voter registration database. 1898

(viii) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 1899
month and day of the elector's date of birth are different from 1900
the day and month of the elector's date of birth contained in 1901
the statewide voter registration database. 1902

This division does not apply to an elector's provisional 1903
ballot if either of the following is true: 1904

(I) The elector's date of birth contained in the statewide 1905
voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 1906

(II) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 1907
least three of its members, that the elector has met all of the 1908
requirements of division (B) (3) of this section, other than the 1909
requirements of division (B) (3) (e) of this section. 1910

(ix) The elector's current address is different from the 1911
elector's address contained in the statewide voter registration 1912
database, unless the elector indicated that the elector is 1913
casting a provisional ballot because the elector has moved and 1914
has not submitted a notice of change of address, as described in 1915
division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1916

(b) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 1917
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 1918
section and comparing the information required under division 1919
(B) (1) of this section with the elector's information in the 1920
statewide voter registration database, the board is unable to 1921
determine either of the following, the provisional ballot 1922
envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be 1923

counted: 1924

(i) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 1925
qualified or properly registered to vote; 1926

(ii) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 1927
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 1928
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1929

(C) For each provisional ballot rejected under division 1930
(B) (4) of this section, the board shall record the name of the 1931
provisional voter who cast the ballot, the identification number 1932
of the provisional ballot envelope, the names of the election 1933
officials who determined the validity of that ballot, the date 1934
and time that the determination was made, and the reason that 1935
the ballot was not counted, unless the board has already 1936
recorded that information in another database. 1937

(D) (1) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 1938
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 1939
to vote, but in the correct polling location for the precinct in 1940
which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, and the 1941
election official failed to direct the individual to the correct 1942
precinct, the individual's ballot shall be remade under division 1943
(D) (2) of this section. The election official shall be deemed to 1944
have directed the individual to the correct precinct if the 1945
election official correctly completed the form described in 1946
division (C) (2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1947

(2) A board of elections that remakes a provisional ballot 1948
under division (D) (1) of this section shall remake the 1949
provisional ballot on a ballot for the appropriate precinct to 1950
reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the 1951
individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 1952

individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 1953
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 1954
which the individual was eligible to vote. 1955

(3) ~~If~~ Except as otherwise provided in division (E) (2) of 1956
this section, if an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 1957
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 1958
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 1959
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 1960
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 1961
shall not be counted. 1962

(E) ~~Provisional~~ (1) If the board determines that a 1963
provisional ballot is not eligible to be counted under this 1964
section because the individual's address provided on the 1965
provisional ballot affirmation is different from the address 1966
contained in the statewide voter registration database, because 1967
the individual's name and signature provided on the provisional 1968
ballot affirmation are different from the name and signature 1969
contained in the statewide voter registration database, or both, 1970
and both of the following are true, the board shall correct the 1971
individual's voter registration record to reflect the 1972
information provided in the provisional ballot affirmation, and 1973
the provisional ballot nonetheless shall be eligible to be 1974
counted: 1975

(a) The individual's voter registration was most recently 1976
updated through the automated voter registration and 1977
verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised 1978
Code and not at the request of the individual or using 1979
information the individual submitted to the board of elections 1980
or the secretary of state; 1981

(b) The individual's voter registration correctly 1982

reflected the individual's address, name, and signature, as 1983
provided on the provisional ballot affirmation, immediately 1984
before that update occurred. 1985

(2) If an individual who cast a provisional ballot that is 1986
eligible to be counted under division (E)(1) of this section 1987
cast that ballot in the precinct indicated by the individual's 1988
voter registration record as updated through the automated voter 1989
registration and verification system, and not in the precinct in 1990
which the individual resides, the board shall remake the 1991
provisional ballot on a ballot for the precinct in which the 1992
individual resides to reflect the offices, questions, and issues 1993
for which the individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for 1994
which the individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The 1995
remade ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and 1996
issue for which the individual was eligible to vote. 1997

(F) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division 1998
(B)(4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be 1999
preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until 2000
the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 2001
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 2002
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 2003

~~(F)~~ (G) Provisional ballots that the board determines are 2004
eligible to be counted under ~~division (B)(3) or (D) of this~~ 2005
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 2006
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 2007
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 2008
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 2009
provisional ballots cast in that county under ~~division (B) of~~ 2010
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 2011
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 2012

that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 2013
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 2014
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 2015
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 2016
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 2017
ballot. 2018

~~(G)(H)~~ (1) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(G)(H)~~ 2019
(2) of this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a 2020
board of elections from examining provisional ballot 2021
affirmations and additional information under ~~divisions (B)(1)~~ 2022
~~and (2)~~ of this section to determine the eligibility of 2023
provisional ballots to be counted during the ten days after the 2024
day of an election. 2025

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional 2026
ballot affirmation and additional information under ~~divisions~~ 2027
~~(B)(1) and (2)~~ of this section of any provisional ballot cast by 2028
an individual who must provide additional information to the 2029
board of elections under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of 2030
the Revised Code for the board to determine the individual's 2031
eligibility until the individual provides that information or 2032
until the eleventh day after the day of the election, whichever 2033
is earlier. 2034

Sec. 3509.02. (A) Any qualified elector may vote by absent 2035
voter's ballots at an election. 2036

(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the 2037
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 2038
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 2039
another location in the county at which registered electors may 2040
vote, at that other location on account of personal illness, 2041
physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one 2042

precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name 2043
and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves 2044
from one county to another county within the state, on or prior 2045
to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has 2046
not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name may 2047
vote by absent voter's ballots in that election as specified in 2048
division ~~(G)~~(E) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 2049

Sec. 3509.04. (A) If a director of a board of elections 2050
receives an application for absent voter's ballots that does not 2051
contain all of the required information, the director promptly 2052
shall notify the applicant of the additional information 2053
required to be provided by the applicant to complete that 2054
application. 2055

(B) Upon receipt by the director of elections of an 2056
application for absent voter's ballots that contains all of the 2057
required information, as provided by section 3509.03 and 2058
division ~~(G)~~(E) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code, the 2059
director, if the director finds that the applicant is a 2060
qualified elector, shall deliver to the applicant in person or 2061
mail directly to the applicant by special delivery mail, air 2062
mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, proper absent voter's 2063
ballots. The director shall deliver or mail with the ballots an 2064
unsealed identification envelope upon the face of which shall be 2065
printed a form substantially as follows: 2066

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter 2067

I, _____ (Name of voter), declare under 2068
penalty of election falsification that the within ballot or 2069
ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received 2070
them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed 2071
in the identification envelope, and sealed in that envelope. 2072

My voting residence in Ohio is _____ 2073
_____ 2074
(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number) 2075
of _____ (City, Village, or Township) 2076
Ohio, which is in Ward _____ Precinct _____ 2077
in that city, village, or township. 2078

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am 2079
providing my program participant identification number instead 2080
of my residence address: _____ 2081

The primary election ballots, if any, within this envelope 2082
are primary election ballots of the _____ Party. 2083

Ballots contained within this envelope are to be voted at 2084
the _____ (general, special, or primary) election to be 2085
held on the _____ day of 2086
_____, _____. 2087

My date of birth is _____ (Month and Day), 2088
_____ (Year). 2089

(Voter must provide one of the following:) 2090

My driver's license number is _____ (Driver's 2091
license number). 2092

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are 2093
_____ (Last four digits of Social Security Number). 2094

_____ In lieu of providing a driver's license number or 2095
the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am 2096
enclosing a copy of one of the following in the return envelope 2097
in which this identification envelope will be mailed: a current 2098
and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a 2099

current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2100
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2101
voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows my 2102
name and address. 2103

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2104
that the statements above are true, as I verily believe. 2105

_____ 2106

(Signature of Voter) 2107

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF 2108
THE FIFTH DEGREE." 2109

The director shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed 2110
identification envelope an unsealed return envelope upon the 2111
face of which shall be printed the official title and post- 2112
office address of the director. In the upper left corner on the 2113
face of the return envelope, several blank lines shall be 2114
printed upon which the voter may write the voter's name and 2115
return address. The return envelope shall be of such size that 2116
the identification envelope can be conveniently placed within it 2117
for returning the identification envelope to the director. 2118

A board of elections that mails or otherwise delivers 2119
absent voter's ballots to an elector under this section shall 2120
not prepay the return postage for those ballots. 2121

Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2122
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 2123
official shall not fill out any portion of an identification 2124
envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on 2125
behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an 2126
elector's name and address on an identification envelope 2127
statement of voter before mailing absent voter's ballots to the 2128

elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter 2129
registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the 2130
Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the 2131
elector's address on the identification envelope statement of 2132
voter. 2133

Sec. 3509.08. (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account 2134
of the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or 2135
infirmity, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail 2136
or workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial 2137
on a felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the 2138
elector's home or place of confinement to the voting booth in 2139
the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or 2140
primary election may make application in writing for an absent 2141
voter's ballot to the director of the board of elections of the 2142
elector's county. The application shall include all of the 2143
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 2144
and shall state the nature of the elector's illness, physical 2145
disability, or infirmity, or the fact that the elector is 2146
confined in a jail or workhouse and the elector's resultant 2147
inability to travel to the election booth in the elector's 2148
precinct on election day. The application shall not be valid if 2149
it is delivered to the director before the ninetieth day or 2150
after twelve noon of the third day before the day of the 2151
election at which the ballot is to be voted. 2152

The absent voter's ballot may be mailed directly to the 2153
applicant at the applicant's voting residence or place of 2154
confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or the 2155
board may designate two board employees belonging to the two 2156
major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot 2157
to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the 2158
board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or private 2159

institution within the county, in which case the board shall 2160
designate two board employees belonging to the two major 2161
political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to 2162
the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board. 2163
In all other instances, the ballot shall be returned to the 2164
office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05 2165
of the Revised Code. 2166

Any disabled or confined elector who declares to the two 2167
board employees belonging to the two major political parties 2168
that the elector is unable to mark the elector's ballot by 2169
reason of physical infirmity that is apparent to the employees 2170
to be sufficient to incapacitate the voter from marking the 2171
elector's ballot properly, may receive, upon request, the 2172
assistance of the employees in marking the elector's ballot, and 2173
they shall thereafter give no information in regard to this 2174
matter. Such assistance shall not be rendered for any other 2175
cause. 2176

When two board employees belonging to the two major 2177
political parties deliver a ballot to a disabled or confined 2178
elector, each of the employees shall be present when the ballot 2179
is delivered, when assistance is given, and when the ballot is 2180
returned to the office of the board, and shall subscribe to the 2181
declaration on the identification envelope. 2182

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 2183
application for absent voter's ballots under this division. 2184

This chapter applies to disabled and confined absent 2185
voter's ballots except as otherwise provided in this section. 2186

(B) (1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to 2187
the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any 2188

general, special, or primary election may apply to the director 2189
of the board of elections of the county where the elector is a 2190
qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's 2191
ballot if either of the following apply: 2192

(a) The elector is confined in a hospital as a result of 2193
an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency occurring before 2194
the election; 2195

(b) The elector's minor child is confined in a hospital as 2196
a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency 2197
occurring before the election. 2198

(2) The application authorized under division (B) (1) of 2199
this section shall be made in writing, shall include all of the 2200
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, 2201
and shall be delivered to the director not later than three p.m. 2202
on the day of the election. The application shall indicate the 2203
hospital where the applicant or the applicant's child is 2204
confined, the date of the applicant's or the applicant's child's 2205
admission to the hospital, and the offices for which the 2206
applicant is qualified to vote. The applicant may also request 2207
that a member of the applicant's family, as listed in section 2208
3509.05 of the Revised Code, deliver the absent voter's ballot 2209
to the applicant. The director, after establishing to the 2210
director's satisfaction the validity of the circumstances 2211
claimed by the applicant, shall supply an absent voter's ballot 2212
to be delivered to the applicant. When the applicant or the 2213
applicant's child is in a hospital in the county where the 2214
applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a 2215
member of the family to deliver the ballot, the director shall 2216
arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the 2217
applicant, and for its return to the office of the board, by two 2218

board employees belonging to the two major political parties 2219
according to the procedures prescribed in division (A) of this 2220
section. When the applicant or the applicant's child is in a 2221
hospital outside the county where the applicant is a qualified 2222
elector and no request is made for a member of the family to 2223
deliver the ballot, the director shall arrange for the delivery 2224
of an absent voter's ballot to the applicant by mail, and the 2225
ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the 2226
manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code. 2227

(3) Any qualified elector who is eligible to vote under 2228
division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code but 2229
is unable to do so because of the circumstances described in 2230
division (B)(2) of this section may vote in accordance with 2231
division (B)(1) of this section if that qualified elector states 2232
in the application for absent voter's ballots that that 2233
qualified elector moved or had a change of name under the 2234
circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of section 2235
3503.16 of the Revised Code and if that qualified elector 2236
complies with divisions ~~(G)~~(E) (1) to (4) of section 3503.16 of 2237
the Revised Code. 2238

(C) Any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B) 2239
(1) of this section who needs no assistance to vote or to return 2240
absent voter's ballots to the board of elections may apply for 2241
absent voter's ballots under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 2242
instead of applying for them under this section. 2243

Sec. 3513.05. Each person desiring to become a candidate 2244
for a party nomination at a primary election or for election to 2245
an office or position to be voted for at a primary election, 2246
except persons desiring to become joint candidates for the 2247
offices of governor and lieutenant governor and except as 2248

otherwise provided in section 3513.051 of the Revised Code, 2249
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 2250
day of the primary election, file a declaration of candidacy and 2251
petition and pay the fees required under divisions (A) and (B) 2252
of section 3513.10 of the Revised Code. The declaration of 2253
candidacy and all separate petition papers shall be filed at the 2254
same time as one instrument. When the offices are to be voted 2255
for at a primary election, persons desiring to become joint 2256
candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor 2257
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 2258
day of the primary election, comply with section 3513.04 of the 2259
Revised Code. The prospective joint candidates' declaration of 2260
candidacy and all separate petition papers of candidacies shall 2261
be filed at the same time as one instrument. The secretary of 2262
state or a board of elections shall not accept for filing a 2263
declaration of candidacy and petition of a person seeking to 2264
become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has 2265
already filed a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of 2266
intent to be a write-in candidate, or has become a candidate by 2267
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised 2268
Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the 2269
declaration of candidacy is for a state or county office, or for 2270
any municipal or township office, if the declaration of 2271
candidacy is for a municipal or township office. 2272

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy which 2273
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, the 2274
petition, including a petition for joint candidates for the 2275
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by 2276
at least one thousand qualified electors who are members of the 2277
same political party as the candidate or joint candidates, and 2278
the declaration of candidacy and petition shall be filed with 2279

the secretary of state; provided that the secretary of state 2280
shall not accept or file any such petition appearing on its face 2281
to contain signatures of more than three thousand electors. 2282

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if the 2283
declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only 2284
to electors within a district, political subdivision, or portion 2285
thereof, the petition shall be signed by not less than fifty 2286
qualified electors who are members of the same political party 2287
as the political party of which the candidate is a member. If 2288
the declaration of candidacy is for party nomination as a 2289
candidate for member of the legislative authority of a municipal 2290
corporation elected by ward, the petition shall be signed by not 2291
less than twenty-five qualified electors who are members of the 2292
political party of which the candidate is a member. 2293

No such petition, except the petition for a candidacy that 2294
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, 2295
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain on its 2296
face signatures of more than three times the minimum number of 2297
signatures. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for 2298
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed 2299
invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the 2300
petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures 2301
accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures 2302
required. ~~A board of elections may discontinue verifying~~ 2303
~~signatures on petitions when the number of verified signatures~~ 2304
~~equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.~~ 2305

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy for 2306
party nomination or for election as a candidate of a minor 2307
party, the minimum number of signatures on such petition is one- 2308
half the minimum number provided in this section, except that, 2309

when the candidacy is one for election as a member of the state
central committee or the county central committee of a political
party, the minimum number shall be the same for a minor party as
for a major party.

If a declaration of candidacy is one for election as a
member of the state central committee or the county central
committee of a political party, the petition shall be signed by
five qualified electors of the district, county, ward, township,
or precinct within which electors may vote for such candidate.
The electors signing such petition shall be members of the same
political party as the political party of which the candidate is
a member.

For purposes of signing or circulating a petition of
candidacy for party nomination or election, an elector is
considered to be a member of a political party if the elector
voted in that party's primary election within the preceding two
calendar years, or if the elector did not vote in any other
party's primary election within the preceding two calendar
years.

If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be
submitted only to electors within a county, or within a district
or subdivision or part thereof smaller than a county, the
petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the
county. If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be
submitted only to electors of a district or subdivision or part
thereof that is situated in more than one county, the petition
shall be filed with the board of elections of the county within
which the major portion of the population thereof, as
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, is located.

A petition shall consist of separate petition papers, each

of which shall contain signatures of electors of only one 2340
county. Petitions or separate petition papers containing 2341
signatures of electors of more than one county shall not thereby 2342
be declared invalid. In case petitions or separate petition 2343
papers containing signatures of electors of more than one county 2344
are filed, the board shall determine the county from which the 2345
majority of signatures came, and only signatures from such 2346
county shall be counted. Signatures from any other county shall 2347
be invalid. 2348

Each separate petition paper shall be circulated by one 2349
person only, who shall be the candidate or a joint candidate or 2350
a member of the same political party as the candidate or joint 2351
candidates, and each separate petition paper shall be governed 2352
by the rules set forth in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code. 2353

The secretary of state shall promptly transmit to each 2354
board such separate petition papers of each petition 2355
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with the secretary 2356
of state as purport to contain signatures of electors of the 2357
county of such board. The board of the most populous county of a 2358
district shall promptly transmit to each board within such 2359
district such separate petition papers of each petition 2360
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 2361
to contain signatures of electors of the county of each such 2362
board. The board of a county within which the major portion of 2363
the population of a subdivision, situated in more than one 2364
county, is located, shall promptly transmit to the board of each 2365
other county within which a portion of such subdivision is 2366
located such separate petition papers of each petition 2367
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 2368
to contain signatures of electors of the portion of such 2369
subdivision in the county of each such board. 2370

All petition papers so transmitted to a board and all 2371
petitions accompanying declarations of candidacy filed with a 2372
board shall, under proper regulations, be open to public 2373
inspection until four p.m. of the eightieth day before the day 2374
of the next primary election. Each board shall, not later than 2375
the seventy-eighth day before the day of that primary election, 2376
examine and determine the validity or invalidity of the 2377
signatures on the petition papers so transmitted to or filed 2378
with it and shall return to the secretary of state all petition 2379
papers transmitted to it by the secretary of state, together 2380
with its certification of its determination as to the validity 2381
or invalidity of signatures thereon, and shall return to each 2382
other board all petition papers transmitted to it by such board, 2383
together with its certification of its determination as to the 2384
validity or invalidity of the signatures thereon. All other 2385
matters affecting the validity or invalidity of such petition 2386
papers shall be determined by the secretary of state or the 2387
board with whom such petition papers were filed. 2388

Protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 2389
declaration of candidacy for party nomination or for election to 2390
an office or position, as provided in this section, may be filed 2391
by any qualified elector who is a member of the same political 2392
party as the candidate and who is eligible to vote at the 2393
primary election for the candidate whose declaration of 2394
candidacy the elector objects to, or by the controlling 2395
committee of that political party. The protest shall be in 2396
writing, and shall be filed not later than four p.m. of the 2397
seventy-fourth day before the day of the primary election. The 2398
protest shall be filed with the election officials with whom the 2399
declaration of candidacy and petition was filed. Upon the filing 2400
of the protest, the election officials with whom it is filed 2401

shall promptly fix the time for hearing it, and shall forthwith 2402
mail notice of the filing of the protest and the time fixed for 2403
hearing to the person whose candidacy is so protested. They 2404
shall also forthwith mail notice of the time fixed for such 2405
hearing to the person who filed the protest. At the time fixed, 2406
such election officials shall hear the protest and determine the 2407
validity or invalidity of the declaration of candidacy and 2408
petition. If they find that such candidate is not an elector of 2409
the state, district, county, or political subdivision in which 2410
the candidate seeks a party nomination or election to an office 2411
or position, or has not fully complied with this chapter, the 2412
candidate's declaration of candidacy and petition shall be 2413
determined to be invalid and shall be rejected; otherwise, it 2414
shall be determined to be valid. That determination shall be 2415
final. 2416

A protest against the candidacy of any persons filing a 2417
declaration of candidacy for joint party nomination to the 2418
offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall be filed, 2419
heard, and determined in the same manner as a protest against 2420
the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy 2421
singly. 2422

The secretary of state shall, on the seventieth day before 2423
the day of a primary election, certify to each board in the 2424
state the forms of the official ballots to be used at the 2425
primary election, together with the names of the candidates to 2426
be printed on the ballots whose nomination or election is to be 2427
determined by electors throughout the entire state and who filed 2428
valid declarations of candidacy and petitions. 2429

The board of the most populous county in a district 2430
comprised of more than one county but less than all of the 2431

counties of the state shall, on the seventieth day before the 2432
day of a primary election, certify to the board of each county 2433
in the district the names of the candidates to be printed on the 2434
official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 2435
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 2436
within the district and who filed valid declarations of 2437
candidacy and petitions. 2438

The board of a county within which the major portion of 2439
the population of a subdivision smaller than the county and 2440
situated in more than one county is located shall, on the 2441
seventieth day before the day of a primary election, certify to 2442
the board of each county in which a portion of that subdivision 2443
is located the names of the candidates to be printed on the 2444
official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 2445
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 2446
within that subdivision and who filed valid declarations of 2447
candidacy and petitions. 2448

Sec. 3513.251. Nominations of candidates for election as 2449
officers of a municipal corporation having a population of less 2450
than two thousand as ascertained by the next preceding federal 2451
census shall be made only by nominating petition and their 2452
election shall occur only in nonpartisan elections, unless a 2453
majority of the electors of such municipal corporation have 2454
petitioned for a primary election. Nominations of candidates for 2455
election as officers of a municipal corporation having a 2456
population of two thousand or more shall be made either by 2457
primary election in conjunction with a partisan general election 2458
or by nominating petition in conjunction with a nonpartisan 2459
general election, as determined under section 3513.01 of the 2460
Revised Code. 2461

The nominating petitions of nonpartisan candidates for 2462
election as officers of a municipal corporation having a 2463
population of less than two thousand, as ascertained by the most 2464
recent federal census, shall be signed by not less than ten 2465
qualified electors of the municipal corporation. Any nominating 2466
petition filed under this section shall be filed with the board 2467
of elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day 2468
before the day of the general election, provided that no such 2469
nominating petition shall be accepted for filing if it appears 2470
to contain signatures aggregating in number more than three 2471
times the minimum number of signatures required by this section. 2472
A board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating 2473
petition of a person if that person, for the same election, has 2474
already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of 2475
intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or 2476
has become a candidate through party nomination at a primary 2477
election or by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 2478
3513.31 of the Revised Code for any other municipal office, or 2479
for a township office, for member of a city, local, or exempted 2480
village board of education, or for member of a governing board 2481
of an educational service center. When a petition of a candidate 2482
has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the 2483
petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of 2484
signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections 2485
finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the 2486
minimum number of signatures required. ~~A board of elections may~~ 2487
~~discontinue verifying signatures when the number of verified~~ 2488
~~signatures on a petition equals the minimum required number of~~ 2489
~~qualified signatures.~~ 2490

Nomination of nonpartisan candidates for election as 2491
officers of a municipal corporation having a population of two 2492

thousand or more, as ascertained by the next preceding federal 2493
census, shall be made only by nominating petition. Nominating 2494
petitions of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of 2495
a municipal corporation having a population of two thousand or 2496
more but less than five thousand, as ascertained by the next 2497
preceding federal census, shall be signed by not less than fifty 2498
qualified electors of the municipal corporation or ward thereof 2499
in the case of the nominating petition of a candidate for 2500
election as councilperson from such ward. Nominating petitions 2501
of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of a 2502
municipal corporation having a population of five thousand or 2503
more, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall 2504
be signed by not less than fifty qualified electors of the 2505
municipal corporation or ward thereof in the case of the 2506
nominating petition of a candidate for election as councilperson 2507
from such ward. 2508

Sec. 3513.253. Nominations of candidates for election as 2509
officers of a township shall be made only by nominating 2510
petitions, unless a majority of the electors of such township 2511
have petitioned for a primary election. The nominating petitions 2512
of nonpartisan candidates for township trustee and township 2513
fiscal officer shall be signed by not less than twenty-five 2514
qualified electors of the township. Such petition shall be filed 2515
with the board of elections not later than four p.m. of the 2516
ninetieth day before the day of the general election, provided 2517
that no such nominating petition shall be accepted for filing if 2518
it appears to contain signatures aggregating in number more than 2519
three times the minimum number of signatures required by this 2520
section. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a 2521
nominating petition of a person if that person, for the same 2522
election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a 2523

declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a 2524
nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party 2525
nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy 2526
under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code for any 2527
other township office, or for a municipal office, for member of 2528
a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for 2529
member of a governing board of an educational service center. 2530
When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for filing by a 2531
board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, 2532
upon verification of signatures contained in the petition, the 2533
board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted 2534
exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures required. ~~A~~ 2535
~~board of elections may discontinue verifying signatures when the~~ 2536
~~number of verified signatures on a petition equals the minimum~~ 2537
~~required number of qualified signatures.~~ 2538

Sec. 3513.254. (A) The name of each candidate for member 2539
of a city, local, or exempted village board of education shall 2540
appear on the nonpartisan ballot. Nominating petitions of 2541
candidates for member of a board of education of a local or 2542
exempted village school district shall be signed by twenty-five 2543
qualified electors of the school district. Nominating petitions 2544
for candidates for member of a board of education of a city 2545
school district having a population of less than twenty 2546
thousand, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, 2547
shall be signed by twenty-five qualified electors of the school 2548
district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a 2549
board of education of a city school district having a population 2550
of twenty thousand or more but less than fifty thousand, as 2551
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be 2552
signed by seventy-five qualified electors of the school 2553
district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a 2554

board of education of a city school district having a population 2555
of fifty thousand or more but less than one hundred thousand, as 2556
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be 2557
signed by one hundred fifty qualified electors of the school 2558
district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a 2559
board of education of a city school district having a population 2560
of one hundred thousand or more, as ascertained by the next 2561
preceding federal census, shall be signed by three hundred 2562
qualified electors of the school district. 2563

(B) Nominating petitions shall be filed with the board of 2564
elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before 2565
the day of the general election, provided that no such petition 2566
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures 2567
aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number 2568
of signatures required by this section. A board of elections 2569
shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if 2570
that person, for the same election, has already filed a 2571
declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write- 2572
in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a 2573
candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by 2574
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the 2575
Revised Code for any other position as a member of a city, 2576
local, or exempted village board of education or position as a 2577
member of a governing board of an educational service center, or 2578
for a municipal or township office. When a petition of a 2579
candidate has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, 2580
the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification 2581
of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections 2582
finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the 2583
minimum number of signatures required. ~~A board of elections may~~ 2584
~~discontinue verifying petitions when the number of verified~~ 2585

~~signatures equals the minimum required number of qualified~~ 2586

~~signatures.~~ 2587

(C) This section is subject to section 3513.256 of the 2588

Revised Code. 2589

Sec. 3513.255. This section is subject to section 3513.256 2590

of the Revised Code. The name of each candidate for election as 2591

a member of a governing board of an educational service center 2592

shall appear on the nonpartisan ballot. Each nominating petition 2593

shall be signed by fifty qualified electors who reside in one of 2594

the following, as applicable: 2595

(A) The school districts over which the educational 2596

service center governing board has jurisdiction, in the case of 2597

any candidate running for a position on any educational service 2598

center governing board other than a governing board established 2599

in accordance with section 3311.054 of the Revised Code; 2600

(B) The subdistrict in which the candidate is running, in 2601

the case of a position on a governing board of an educational 2602

service center established in accordance with section 3311.054 2603

of the Revised Code. 2604

Each nominating petition shall be filed with the board of 2605

elections of the county in which the central administrative 2606

offices of the educational service center governing board are 2607

located not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 2608

day of the general election, provided that no such petition 2609

shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures 2610

aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number 2611

of signatures required by this section. A board of elections 2612

shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if 2613

that person, for the same election, has already filed a 2614

declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write- 2615
in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a 2616
candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by 2617
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the 2618
Revised Code for any other position as a member of a governing 2619
board of an educational service center or position as a member 2620
of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for 2621
a municipal or township office. When a petition of a candidate 2622
has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the 2623
petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of 2624
signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections 2625
finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the 2626
minimum signatures required. ~~A board of elections may~~ 2627
~~discontinue verifying petitions when the number of verified~~ 2628
~~signatures equals the minimum required number of qualified~~ 2629
~~signatures.~~ 2630

Sec. 3513.257. Each person desiring to become an 2631
independent candidate for an office for which candidates may be 2632
nominated at a primary election, except persons desiring to 2633
become independent joint candidates for the offices of governor 2634
and lieutenant governor and for the offices of president and 2635
vice-president of the United States, shall file no later than 2636
four p.m. of the day before the day of the primary election 2637
immediately preceding the general election at which such 2638
candidacy is to be voted for by the voters, a statement of 2639
candidacy and nominating petition as provided in section 2640
3513.261 of the Revised Code. Persons desiring to become 2641
independent joint candidates for the offices of governor and 2642
lieutenant governor shall file, not later than four p.m. of the 2643
day before the day of the primary election, one statement of 2644
candidacy and one nominating petition for the two of them. 2645

Persons desiring to become independent joint candidates for the 2646
offices of president and vice-president of the United States 2647
shall file, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before 2648
the day of the general election at which the president and vice- 2649
president are to be elected, one statement of candidacy and one 2650
nominating petition for the two of them. The prospective 2651
independent joint candidates' statement of candidacy shall be 2652
filed with the nominating petition as one instrument. 2653

The statement of candidacy and separate petition papers of 2654
each candidate or pair of joint candidates shall be filed at the 2655
same time as one instrument. 2656

The nominating petition shall contain signatures of 2657
qualified electors of the district, political subdivision, or 2658
portion of a political subdivision in which the candidacy is to 2659
be voted on in an amount to be determined as follows: 2660

(A) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors 2661
throughout the entire state, the nominating petition, including 2662
the nominating petition of independent joint candidates for the 2663
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by 2664
no less than five thousand qualified electors, provided that no 2665
petition shall be accepted for filing if it purports to contain 2666
more than fifteen thousand signatures. 2667

(B) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors in any 2668
district, political subdivision, or part thereof in which less 2669
than five thousand electors voted for the office of governor at 2670
the most recent election for that office, the nominating 2671
petition shall contain signatures of not less than twenty-five 2672
qualified electors of the district, political subdivision, or 2673
part thereof, or a number of qualified signatures equal to at 2674
least five per cent of that vote, if this number is less than 2675

twenty-five. 2676

(C) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors in any 2677
district, political subdivision, or part thereof in which five 2678
thousand or more electors voted for the office of governor at 2679
the most recent election for that office, the nominating 2680
petition shall contain a number of signatures equal to at least 2681
one per cent of those electors. 2682

All nominating petitions of candidates for offices to be 2683
voted on by electors throughout the entire state shall be filed 2684
in the office of the secretary of state. No nominating petition 2685
for the offices of president and vice-president of the United 2686
States shall be accepted for filing unless there is submitted to 2687
the secretary of state, at the time of filing the petition, a 2688
slate of presidential electors sufficient in number to satisfy 2689
the requirement of the United States Constitution. The secretary 2690
of state shall not accept for filing the statement of candidacy 2691
of a person who desires to be an independent candidate for the 2692
office of governor unless it also shows the joint candidacy of a 2693
person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office 2694
of lieutenant governor, shall not accept for filing the 2695
statement of candidacy of a person who desires to be an 2696
independent candidate for the office of lieutenant governor 2697
unless it also shows the joint candidacy of a person who desires 2698
to be an independent candidate for the office of governor, and 2699
shall not accept for filing the statement of candidacy of a 2700
person who desires to be an independent candidate to the office 2701
of governor or lieutenant governor who, for the same election, 2702
has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of 2703
intent to be a write-in candidate, or a statement of candidacy, 2704
or has become a candidate by the filling of a vacancy under 2705
section 3513.30 of the Revised Code for any other state office 2706

or any federal or county office. 2707

Nominating petitions of candidates for offices to be voted 2708
on by electors within a district or political subdivision 2709
comprised of more than one county but less than all counties of 2710
the state shall be filed with the boards of elections of that 2711
county or part of a county within the district or political 2712
subdivision which had a population greater than that of any 2713
other county or part of a county within the district or 2714
political subdivision according to the last federal decennial 2715
census. 2716

Nominating petitions for offices to be voted on by 2717
electors within a county or district smaller than a county shall 2718
be filed with the board of elections for such county. 2719

No petition other than the petition of a candidate whose 2720
candidacy is to be considered by electors throughout the entire 2721
state shall be accepted for filing if it appears on its face to 2722
contain more than three times the minimum required number of 2723
signatures. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a 2724
nominating petition of a person seeking to become a candidate if 2725
that person, for the same election, has already filed a 2726
declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write- 2727
in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a 2728
candidate by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of 2729
the Revised Code for any federal, state, or county office, if 2730
the nominating petition is for a state or county office, or for 2731
any municipal or township office, for member of a city, local, 2732
or exempted village board of education, or for member of a 2733
governing board of an educational service center, if the 2734
nominating petition is for a municipal or township office, or 2735
for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of 2736

education, or for member of a governing board of an educational 2737
service center. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted 2738
for filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be 2739
deemed invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in 2740
the petition, the board of elections finds the number of 2741
signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of 2742
signatures required. ~~A board of elections may discontinue~~ 2743
~~verifying signatures when the number of verified signatures on a~~ 2744
~~petition equals the minimum required number of qualified~~ 2745
~~signatures.~~ 2746

Any nonjudicial candidate who files a nominating petition 2747
may request, at the time of filing, that the candidate be 2748
designated on the ballot as a nonparty candidate or as an other- 2749
party candidate, or may request that the candidate's name be 2750
placed on the ballot without any designation. Any such candidate 2751
who fails to request a designation either as a nonparty 2752
candidate or as an other-party candidate shall have the 2753
candidate's name placed on the ballot without any designation. 2754

The purpose of establishing a filing deadline for 2755
independent candidates prior to the primary election immediately 2756
preceding the general election at which the candidacy is to be 2757
voted on by the voters is to recognize that the state has a 2758
substantial and compelling interest in protecting its electoral 2759
process by encouraging political stability, ensuring that the 2760
winner of the election will represent a majority of the 2761
community, providing the electorate with an understandable 2762
ballot, and enhancing voter education, thus fostering informed 2763
and educated expressions of the popular will in a general 2764
election. The filing deadline for independent candidates 2765
required in this section prevents splintered parties and 2766
unrestrained factionalism, avoids political fragmentation, and 2767

maintains the integrity of the ballot. The deadline, one day 2768
prior to the primary election, is the least drastic or 2769
restrictive means of protecting these state interests. The 2770
general assembly finds that the filing deadline for independent 2771
candidates in primary elections required in this section is 2772
reasonably related to the state's purpose of ensuring fair and 2773
honest elections while leaving unimpaired the political, voting, 2774
and associational rights secured by the first and fourteenth 2775
amendments to the United States Constitution. 2776

Sec. 3513.259. Nominations of candidates for the office of 2777
member of the state board of education shall be made only by 2778
nominating petition. The nominating petition of a candidate for 2779
the office of member of the state board of education shall be 2780
signed by not less than one hundred qualified electors. 2781

No such nominating petition shall be accepted for filing 2782
if it appears on its face to contain signatures aggregating in 2783
number more than three times the minimum number of signatures 2784
required by this section. A board of elections shall not accept 2785
for filing a nominating petition of a person if that person, for 2786
the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, 2787
a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a 2788
nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party 2789
nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy 2790
under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code, to be a 2791
candidate for any other state office or any federal or county 2792
office. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for 2793
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed 2794
invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the 2795
petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures 2796
accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures 2797
required. ~~A board of elections may discontinue verifying~~ 2798

~~signatures when the number of verified signatures equals the~~ 2799
~~minimum required number of signatures.~~ Such petition shall be 2800
filed with the board of elections of the most populous county in 2801
such district not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day 2802
before the day of the general election at which state board of 2803
education members are elected. 2804

Each nominating petition shall be signed by qualified 2805
electors residing in the district in which the candidate 2806
designated therein would be a candidate for election to the 2807
office of member of the state board of education. Each candidate 2808
shall be a qualified elector residing in the district in which 2809
the candidate seeks election to such office. 2810

As the word "district" is used in this section, it refers 2811
to a district created under section 3301.01 of the Revised Code. 2812

Sec. 3599.11. (A) ~~No~~ (1) Subject to division (A) (2) of 2813
this section, no person shall knowingly do any of the following: 2814

(a) Knowingly register or make application or attempt to 2815
register in a precinct in which the person is not a qualified 2816
voter; ~~or knowingly~~ 2817

(b) Knowingly aid or abet any person to so register; ~~or~~ 2818
attempt 2819

(c) Knowingly attempt to register or knowingly induce or 2820
attempt to induce any person to so register; ~~or knowingly~~ 2821

(d) Knowingly impersonate another or write or assume the 2822
name of another, real or fictitious, in registering or 2823
attempting to register; ~~or by~~ 2824

(e) By false statement or other unlawful means, knowingly 2825
procure, aid, or attempt to procure the erasure or striking out 2826

on the register or duplicate list of the name of a qualified 2827
elector therein; ~~or knowingly~~ 2828

(f) Knowingly induce or attempt to induce a registrar or 2829
other election authority to refuse registration in a precinct to 2830
an elector thereof; ~~or knowingly~~ 2831

(g) Knowingly swear or affirm falsely upon a lawful 2832
examination by or before any registering officer; ~~or make~~ 2833

(h) Knowingly make, print, or issue any false or 2834
counterfeit certificate of registration or knowingly alter any 2835
certificate of registration. 2836

~~No person shall knowingly;~~ 2837

(i) Knowingly register under more than one name or 2838
knowingly induce any person to so register. 2839

~~No person shall knowingly;~~ 2840

(j) Knowingly make any false statement on any form for 2841
registration or change of registration or upon any application 2842
or return envelope for an absent voter's ballot. 2843

(2) (a) A person whose voter registration or voter 2844
registration update is processed through the automated voter 2845
registration and verification system described in section 2846
3503.11 of the Revised Code and who is not a qualified voter in 2847
the precinct or under the name indicated violates division (A) 2848
(1) of this section only if the person knowingly provides or 2849
attempts to provide false information with the intention of 2850
registering or submitting a registration update using that 2851
information. 2852

(b) A person who aids, abets, induces, or attempts to 2853
induce another person to have the other person's voter 2854

registration or voter registration update processed through the 2855
automated voter registration and verification system described 2856
in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code when the other person is 2857
not a qualified voter in the precinct or under the name 2858
indicated violates division (A) (1) of this section only if the 2859
person knowingly causes or attempts to cause the other person to 2860
be registered to vote or to have the other person's registration 2861
updated using information the person knows is false. 2862

(3) Whoever violates ~~this~~ division (A) (1) of this section 2863
is guilty of a felony of the fifth degree. 2864

(B) (1) No person who helps another person register outside 2865
an official voter registration place shall knowingly destroy, or 2866
knowingly help another person to destroy, any completed 2867
registration form. 2868

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2869
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree. 2870

(2) (a) No person who helps another person register outside 2871
an official voter registration place shall knowingly fail to 2872
return any registration form entrusted to that person to any 2873
board of elections or the office of the secretary of state 2874
within ten days after that ~~registration~~ registration form is 2875
completed, or on or before the thirtieth day before the 2876
election, whichever day is earlier, unless the registration form 2877
is received by the person within twenty-four hours of the 2878
thirtieth day before the election, in which case the person 2879
shall return the registration form to any board of elections or 2880
the office of the secretary of state within ten days of its 2881
receipt. 2882

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2883

falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2884
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B) 2885
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the 2886
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any 2887
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the 2888
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed 2889
to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the 2890
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2891

(b) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, no person 2892
who helps another person register outside an official 2893
registration place shall knowingly return any registration form 2894
entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of 2895
elections or the office of the secretary of state. 2896

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2897
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2898
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B) 2899
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the 2900
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any 2901
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the 2902
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed 2903
to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the 2904
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2905

(C) (1) No person who receives compensation for registering 2906
a voter shall knowingly fail to return any registration form 2907
entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office 2908
of the secretary of state within ten days after that voter 2909
registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth 2910
day before the election, whichever is earlier, unless the 2911
registration form is received by the person within twenty-four 2912
hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case 2913

the person shall return the registration form to any board of 2914
elections or the office of the ~~secretary~~secretary of state 2915
within ten days of its receipt. 2916

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2917
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2918
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B) 2919
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the 2920
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any 2921
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the 2922
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed 2923
to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the 2924
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2925

(2) No person who receives compensation for registering a 2926
voter shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to 2927
that person to any location other than any board of elections or 2928
the office of the secretary of state. 2929

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2930
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2931
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B) 2932
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the 2933
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any 2934
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the 2935
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed 2936
to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the 2937
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2938

(D) As used in division (C) of this section, "registering 2939
a voter" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter 2940
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or 2941
returning those forms. 2942

Sec. 3599.12. (A) No person shall do any of the following:	2943
(1) Vote or attempt to vote in any primary, special, or	2944
general election in a precinct in which that person is not a	2945
legally qualified elector;	2946
(2) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at the same	2947
election by any means, including voting or attempting to vote	2948
both by absent voter's ballots under division (G) <u>(E)</u> of section	2949
3503.16 of the Revised Code and by regular ballot at the polls	2950
at the same election, or voting or attempting to vote both by	2951
absent voter's ballots under division (G) <u>(E)</u> of section 3503.16	2952
of the Revised Code and by absent voter's ballots under Chapter	2953
3509. or armed service absent voter's ballots under Chapter	2954
3511. of the Revised Code at the same election;	2955
(3) Impersonate or sign the name of another person, real	2956
or fictitious, living or dead, and vote or attempt to vote as	2957
that other person in any such election;	2958
(4) Cast a ballot at any such election after objection has	2959
been made and sustained to that person's vote;	2960
(5) Knowingly vote or attempt to vote a ballot other than	2961
the official ballot.	2962
(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is	2963
guilty of a felony of the fourth degree.	2964
Sec. 3599.18. (A) No election official, person assisting	2965
in the registration of electors, or police officer shall	2966
knowingly do any of the following:	2967
(1) Refuse, neglect, or unnecessarily delay, hinder, or	2968
prevent the registration of a qualified elector, who in a lawful	2969
manner applies for registration <u>or who should be registered or</u>	2970

have the elector's registration updated under section 3503.11 of 2971
the Revised Code; 2972

(2) Enter or consent to the entry of a fictitious name on 2973
a voter registration list; 2974

(3) Alter the name on or remove or destroy the 2975
registration card or form of any qualified elector; 2976

(4) Neglect, unlawfully execute, or fail to execute any 2977
duty enjoined upon that person as an election official, person 2978
assisting in the registration of electors, or police officer. 2979

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 2980
guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2981

Section 2. That existing sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 2982
3501.38, 3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 2983
3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.183, 3509.02, 3509.04, 2984
3509.08, 3513.05, 3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 2985
3513.257, 3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 3599.18 of the Revised 2986
Code are hereby repealed. 2987

Section 3. That section 3503.11 of the Revised Code is 2988
hereby repealed. 2989

Section 4. The Secretary of State shall implement the 2990
automated voter registration and verification program created by 2991
this act not later than one year after this act takes effect. 2992

Section 5. Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code is 2993
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 2994
by both H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly. The 2995
General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) 2996
of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 2997
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, 2998

finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section	2999
in effect prior to the effective date of the section as	3000
presented in this act.	3001