## As Concurred by the Senate

# 131st General Assembly

Regular Session 2015-2016

Sub. S. B. No. 63

#### **Senator LaRose**

Cosponsors: Senators Hite, Jones, Gardner, Lehner, Hottinger, Tavares, Brown, Coley, Bacon, Balderson, Beagle, Burke, Eklund, Faber, Manning, Obhof, Patton, Peterson, Sawyer, Seitz, Thomas, Uecker, Yuko, Hackett

Representatives Brown, Smith, R., Anielski, Antani, Arndt, Baker, Blessing, Buchy, Cupp, Dovilla, Duffey, Green, Grossman, Hambley, Henne, Koehler, Landis, Manning, McClain, McColley, Pelanda, Perales, Reineke, Rezabek, Rogers, Schaffer, Schuring, Sears, Slaby, Smith, K., Sprague, Terhar, Thompson

### A BILL

То	amend sections 305.02, 733.08, 733.31, 3503.14,	1
	3503.15, 3503.18, 3503.21, and 3506.05 and to	2
	enact section 3503.20 of the Revised Code to	3
	create an online voter registration system, to	4
	require the Secretary of State annually to	5
	review the Statewide Voter Registration Database	6
	to identify registrants who are not United	7
	States citizens, to modify the procedures for	8
	maintaining the Statewide Voter Registration	9
	Database, to amend the requirements for the	10
	certification of voting equipment, and to	11
	clarify the circumstances under which a	12
	political party may appoint a person to fill a	13
	vacancy in certain elective offices.	14

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

18

19

20

21

22

23 24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41 42

43

44

	Sect	cion 1	. That	sections	305.02,	733.08,	733.31,	3503.14,	1	5
3503.	15,	3503.	18, 350	3.21 and	3506.05	be amen	ded and s	section	1	6
3503.	.20 c	of the	Revise	ed Code be	e enacte	d to rea	d as foli	lows:	1	7

Sec. 305.02. (A) If a vacancy in the office of county commissioner, prosecuting attorney, county auditor, county treasurer, clerk of the court of common pleas, sheriff, county recorder, county engineer, or coroner occurs more than forty days before the next general election for state and county officers, a successor shall be elected at such election for the unexpired term unless such term expires within one year immediately following the date of such general election.

In either event, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in this section and the appointee shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified.

- (B) If a vacancy occurs from any cause in any of the offices named in division (A) of this section, the county central committee of the political party with which that nominated the last occupant of the office was affiliated as a candidate for that office for the current term shall appoint a person to hold the office and to perform the duties thereof until a successor is elected and has qualified, except that if such vacancy occurs because of the death, resignation, or inability to take the office of an officer-elect whose term has not yet begun, an appointment to take such office at the beginning of the term shall be made by the central committee of the political party with which such that nominated the officerelect<del>was affiliated</del> as a candidate for that office for that term.
- (C) Not less than five nor more than forty-five days after a vacancy occurs, the county central committee shall meet for

the purpose of making an appointment under this section. Not	45
less than four days before the date of such meeting the	46
chairperson or secretary of such central committee shall send by	47
first class mail to every member of such central committee a	48
written notice which shall state the time and place of such	49
meeting and the purpose thereof. A majority of the members of	50
the central committee present at such meeting may make the	51
appointment.	52

- (D) If the last occupant of the office or the officerelect was elected to serve the current term as an independent
  candidate, the board of county commissioners shall make such
  appointment at the time when the vacancy occurs, except where
  the vacancy is in the office of county commissioner, in which
  case the prosecuting attorney and the remaining commissioners or
  a majority of them shall make the appointment.
- (E) Appointments made under this section shall be certified by the appointing county central committee or by the board of county commissioners to the county board of elections and to the secretary of state, and the persons so appointed and certified shall be entitled to all remuneration provided by law for the offices to which they are appointed.
- (F) The board of county commissioners may appoint a person to hold any of the offices named in division (A) of this section as an acting officer and to perform the duties thereof between the occurrence of the vacancy and the time when the officer appointed by the central committee qualifies and takes the office.
- (G) A person appointed prosecuting attorney or assistant 72 prosecuting attorney shall give bond and take the oath of office 73 prescribed by section 309.03 of the Revised Code for the 74

prosecuting attorney.

Sec. 733.08. (A) In case of the death, resignation, or removal of the mayor, the vacancy in the office of mayor shall be filled, until a successor is elected and qualified, by a person chosen by the residents of that city who are members of the city central committee if there is one, or if not then of the county central committee, of the political party with which that nominated the last occupant of the office was affiliated as a candidate for that office for the current term. If the vacancy occurs because of the death, resignation, or inability to take office of a mayor-elect, an appointment to take the office at the beginning of the term shall be made by the members of the central committee who reside in the city where the vacancy occurs.

Not less than five nor more than forty-five days after the vacancy occurs, the specified members of the city or county committee shall meet to make an appointment to fill the vacancy.

Not less than four days before the date of the meeting the committee chairperson or secretary shall send, by mail to every member eligible to vote on filling the vacancy, a written notice stating the date, time, and place of the meeting and its purpose. A majority of the eligible members present at the meeting may make the appointment.

If the last occupant of the office of mayor or the mayorelect was elected to serve the current term as an independent candidate, the vacancy shall be filled, until a successor is elected and qualified, by election by the legislative authority.

(B) If a vacancy in the office of mayor occurs more than forty days before the next regular municipal election, a successor shall be elected at that election for the unexpired

term unless the unexpired term ends within one year immediately	105
following the date of that election, in which case an election	106
to fill the unexpired term shall not be held and the person	107
appointed or elected under division (A) of this section shall	108
hold the office for the unexpired term. If an election is held	109
under this division, the person appointed or elected by the	110
legislative authority under division (A) of this section shall	111
hold the office until a successor is elected and qualified under	112
this division.	113
Sec. 733.31. (A) Unless otherwise provided by law,	114
vacancies arising in appointive and elective offices of villages	115
shall be filled by appointment by the mayor for the remainder of	116
the unexpired term, provided that:	117
(1) Vacancies in the office of mayor shall be filled in	118
the manner provided by section 733.25 of the Revised Code;	119
(2) Vacancies in the membership of the legislative	120
authority shall be filled in the manner provided by section	121
731.43 of the Revised Code;	122
(3) Vacancies in the office of president pro tempore of a	123
village legislative authority shall be filled in the manner	124
provided by section 731.11 of the Revised Code.	125
In the event of a vacancy in the office of village clerk	126
or treasurer, the mayor may appoint a person to serve as an	127
acting officer to perform the duties of the office until a	128
permanent officer is appointed to fill the vacancy.	129
(B) Unless otherwise provided by law, vacancies arising in	130
appointive offices of cities shall be filled by appointment by	131
the mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term.	132

(C) A vacancy in the office of president of the

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

legislative authority of a city shall be filled in the same	134
manner as provided in division (D) of this section. Vacancies in	135
the office of mayor of a city shall be filled in the manner	136
provided in section 733.08 of the Revised Code. Vacancies in the	137
membership of the legislative authority of a city shall be	138
filled in the manner provided in section 731.43 of the Revised	139
Code.	140

- (D) In case of the death, resignation, removal, or disability of the director of law, auditor, or treasurer of a city and such vacancy occurs more than forty days before the next general election for such office, a successor shall be elected at such election for the unexpired term unless such term expires within one year immediately following the date of such general election. In either event, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in this section and the appointee shall hold office until a successor is elected and qualified.
- (1) The county central committee of the political party 150 with which that nominated the last occupant of the office was 151 affiliated as a candidate for that office for the current term, 152 acting through its members who reside in the city where the 153 vacancy occurs, shall appoint a person to hold the office and to 154 perform the duties thereof until a successor is elected and has 155 qualified, except that if such vacancy occurs because of the 156 death, resignation, or inability to take the office of an 157 officer-elect whose term has not yet begun, an appointment to 158 take such office at the beginning of the term shall be made by 159 the members of the central committee who reside in the city 160 where the vacancy occurs. 161
- (2) Not less than five nor more than forty-five days after 162 a vacancy occurs, the county central committee, acting through 163

174

175

176

177

184

185

186

187

its members who reside in the city where the vacancy occurs,	164
shall meet for the purpose of making an appointment. Not less	165
than four days before the date of the meeting the chairperson or	166
secretary of the central committee shall send by first class	167
mail to every member of such central committee who resides in	168
the city where the vacancy occurs a written notice which shall	169
state the time and place of such meeting and the purpose	170
thereof. A majority of the members of the central committee	171
present at such meeting may make the appointment.	172

- (E) If the last occupant of the office or the officerelect, as provided in division (D) of this section, was elected
  to serve the current term as an independent candidate, the mayor
  of the city shall make the appointment at the time the vacancy
  occurs.
- (F) Appointments made under this section shall be

  certified by the appointing county central committee or by the

  mayor of the municipal corporation to the county board of

  elections and to the secretary of state. The persons so

  appointed and certified shall be entitled to all remuneration

  provided by law for the offices to which they are appointed.

  178

  178

  178

  178

  179

  180

  181
- (G) The mayor of the city may appoint a person to hold the city office of director of law, auditor, or treasurer as an acting officer and to perform the duties thereof between the occurrence of the vacancy and the time when the person appointed by the central committee qualifies and takes the office.
- Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe

  the form and content of the registration, change of residence,

  and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall

  meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of

  192

  1993 and shall include spaces for all of the following:

  199

(1) The voter's name;	194
(2) The voter's address;	195
(3) The current date;	196
(4) The voter's date of birth;	197
(5) The voter to provide one or more of the following:	198
(a) The voter's driver's license number, if any;	199
(b) The last four digits of the voter's social security number, if any;	200 201
(c) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a	202
copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current	203
utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or	204
other government document, other than a notice of voter	205
registration mailed by a board of elections under section	206
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the voter's name and	207
address.	208
(6) The voter's signature.	209
The registration form shall include a space on which the	210
person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and	211
provide the person's address and a space on which the person	212
registering an applicant shall name the employer who is	213
employing that person to register the applicant.	214
Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state	215
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of	216
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that	217
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric	218
character of the information provided by the voter so as to	219
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's	220

information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of	221
that data to the statewide voter registration database	222
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code.	223
(B) None of the following persons who are registering an	224
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal	225
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's	226
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to	227
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section:	228
(1) An election official;	229
(2) A county treasurer;	230
(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	231
(4) An employee of a designated agency;	232
(5) An employee of a public high school;	233
(6) An employee of a public vocational school;	234
(7) An employee of a public library;	235
(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;	236
(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;	237
(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	238
(11) An employee of an election official.	239
(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised	240
Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own	241
name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by	242
the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling	243
out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an	244
applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate	245
in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or	246

to change the applicant's name or residence. The person	247
registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that	248
the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register	249
to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.	250
(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of	251
name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person	252
registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or	253
failed to name the employer who is employing that person to	254
register the applicant as required under division (A) of this	255
section.	256
(E) A voter registration application submitted online	257
through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised	258
Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered	259
valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section	260
shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election	261
and signature-matching purposes.	262
(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant"	263
includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter	264
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or	265
returning those forms.	266
Sec. 3503.15. (A)(1) The secretary of state shall	267
establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database	268
that shall be administered by the office of the secretary of	269
state and made continuously available to each board of elections	270
and to other agencies as authorized by law.	271
(2)(a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the	272
department of health, <u>the</u> bureau of motor vehicles, <u>the</u>	273
department of job and family services, the department of	274
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections,	275

shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state	276
that is collected in the course of normal business and that is	277
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's	278
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration	279
database established pursuant to this section, except where	280
prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of	281
health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and	282
family services, the department of medicaid, and the department	283
of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information	284
and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day	285
of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any	286
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is	287
confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data	288
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of	289
state. No public office, and no public official or employee,	290
shall sell that information or data or use that information or	291
data for profit.	292

- (b) Information provided under this division for maintenance of the statewide voter registration database shall not be used to update the name or address of a registered elector. The name or address of a registered elector shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both.
- (c) A board of elections shall contact a registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D) (7) of this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if that information does not conform with information provided under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the discrepancy would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot.

(3)(a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements	306
to share information or data that is in the possession of the	307
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the	308
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the	309
statewide voter registration database established pursuant to	310
this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(3)(b)	311
of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any	312
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is	313
confidential in the possession of the state providing the data	314
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of	315
state.	316

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise

- confidential information or data to persons or organizations 318 that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 319 the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 320 The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 321 119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 322 organizations who may receive that information or data. The 323 secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 324 a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 325 secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 326 that receives confidential information or data under this 327 division keeps the information or data confidential in the 328 person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 329 into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 330 organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 331 this division shall include a requirement that the person or 332 organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 333 event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 334
- (4) No person or entity that receives information or data 335 under division (A)(3) of this section shall sell the information 336

or data or use the information or data for profit.	337
(5) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the	338
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and	339
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state	340
receives under divisions (A)(2) and (3) of this section that is	341
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the	342
accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is	343
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable	344
state and federal law:	345
(a) Require the boards of elections to maintain the	346
database in a manner that ensures that the name of each	347
registered elector appears in the database, that only	348
individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are	349
removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are	350
eliminated from the database;	351
(b) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable	352
effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from	353
the database;	354
(c) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors	355
are not removed in error from the database.	356
(B) The statewide voter registration database established	357
under this section shall be the official list of registered	358
voters for all elections conducted in this state.	359
(C) The statewide voter registration database established	360
under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the	361
following:	362
(1) An electronic network that connects all board of	363
elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and	364
with the offices of all other boards of elections;	365

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records	366
contained in the database with records maintained by each board	367
of elections;	368
(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to	369
the records contained in the database by each board of elections	370
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add,	371
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct	372
updates of the database;	373
(4) A search program capable of verifying registered	374
voters and their registration information by name, driver's	375
license number, birth date, social security number, or current	376
address;	377
(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the	378
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter	379
registration information is maintained;	380
(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records	381
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to	382
record the reason for their cancellation.	383
(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to	384
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following:	385
(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter	386
registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be	387
converted to electronic files for inclusion in the statewide	388
voter registration database;	389
(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter	390
registration records into the statewide voter registration	391
database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day,	392
if new registration information is received;	393

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled	394
voter registration records from the statewide voter registration	395
database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;	396
(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete,	397
modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter	398
registration database and to make updates of that database;	399
(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the	400
information contained in the statewide voter registration	401
database;	402
(6) Establishing, by mutual agreement with the bureau of	403
motor vehicles, the content and format of the information and	404
data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide to the secretary	405
of state under division (A)(2)(a) of this section and the	406
frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information	407
and data;	408
(7) Establishing a uniform method for addressing instances	409
in which records contained in the statewide voter registration	410
database do not conform with records maintained by an agency,	411
state, or group of states described in division (A)(2)(a) or (3)	412
(a) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's	413
voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that	414
the information in the registration record does not conform to	415
records maintained by such an agency.	416
(E) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's	417
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter	418
registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by	419
the secretary of state under division (D)(3) of this section	420
after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section	421
3503.21 of the Revised Code.	422

(F) The secretary of state shall provide training in the	423
operation of the statewide voter registration database to each	424
board of elections and to any persons authorized by the	425
secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database	426
records, and to conduct updates of the database.	427
(G)(1) The statewide voter registration database	428
established under this section shall be made available on a web	429
site of the office of the secretary of state as follows:	430
(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (G)(1)(b) of	431
this section, the following information from the statewide voter	432
registration database regarding a registered voter shall be made	433
available on the web site:	434
(i) The voter's name;	435
(ii) The voter's address;	436
(iii) The voter's precinct number;	437
(iv) The voter's voting history.	438
(b) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or	439
general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter	440
registration database shall permit a voter to search for the	441
polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot.	442
(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule	443
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for	444
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes	445
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of	446
updating the information made available on the secretary of	447
state's web site under division (G)(1)(b) of this section. Those	448
rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days	449
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the	450

secretary of state within one business day of any change to the	451
location of a precinct polling place within the county.	452
(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or	453
general election, not later than one business day after	454
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G)	455
(2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling	456
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that	457
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose	458
of division (G)(1)(b) of this section.	459
(H) The secretary of state shall conduct an annual review	460
of the statewide voter registration database as follows:	461
(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information	462
in the statewide voter registration database with the	463
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of	464
motor vehicles under division (A)(2) of this section to identify	465
any person who does all of the following, in the following	466
order:	467
(a) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles	468
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen;	469
(b) Registers to vote, submits a voter registration change	470
of residence or change of name form, or votes in this state;	471
(c) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles	472
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen.	473
(2) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to	474
each person identified under division (H)(1) of this section,	475
instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a	476
United States citizen or to submit a completed voter	477
registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The	478
secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration	479

cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to	480
respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in	481
division (H)(3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty	482
days after the notice was sent, the secretary of state promptly	483
shall send the person a second notice and form.	484
(3) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice	485
was sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (H)(2) of	486
this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that	487
the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state	488
shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration.	489
(4) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice	490
was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (H)(2)	491
of this section sends a completed voter registration	492
cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of	493
state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in	494
which the person is registered to cancel the person's	495
registration.	496
(5) If a person who was sent a second notice under	497
division (H)(2) of this section fails to respond to the	498
secretary of state in the manner described in division (H)(3) or	499
(4) of this section not later than thirty days after the second	500
notice was sent, the secretary of state shall refer the matter	501
to the attorney general for further investigation and possible	502
prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any	503
other applicable section of the Revised Code. If, after the	504
thirtieth day after the second notice was sent, the person sends	505
a completed voter registration cancellation form to the	506
secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the	507
board of elections of the county in which the person is	508
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify	509

the attorney general of the cancellation.	510
(6) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review_	511
described in division (H) of this section during the ninety days	512
immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal	513
office.	514
Sec. 3503.18. (A) (1) The Not later than the last day of	515
<pre>each month, the director of health shall file with the secretary</pre>	516
of state, at least once each month, the names, social security	517
numbers, dates of birth, dates of death, and residences of all	518
persons, over eighteen years of age, who have died within this	519
state or another state within such monthduring the period	520
beginning on the date of the most recent filing and ending on	521
the day before the date of the current filing. If the director	522
is notified of the death of such a person after the director has	523
filed the report for the month in period during which the person	524
died, the director shall file with the secretary of state a	525
supplemental report containing that information concerning the	526
person not later than one month after the director is notified	527
of the person's death.	528
(2) The secretary of state and the director of health	529
shall jointly establish a secure electronic system through which	530
they shall exchange the information described in division (A)(1)	531
of this section regarding the death of a registered elector.	532
(B) At least once each month, each probate judge in this	533
state shall file with the board of elections the names and	534
residence addresses of all persons over eighteen years of age	535
who have been adjudicated incompetent for the purpose of voting,	536
as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code.	537
(C) At least once each month the clerk of the court of	538

common pleas shall file with the board the names and residence	539
addresses of all persons who have been convicted during the	540
previous month of crimes that would disfranchise such persons	541
under existing laws of the state. Reports of conviction of	542
crimes under the laws of the United States that would	543
disfranchise an elector and that are provided to the secretary	544
of state by any United States attorney shall be forwarded by the	545
secretary of state to the appropriate board of elections.	546
(D) Upon receiving a report required by this section, the	547
board of elections shall promptly cancel the registration of	548
each elector named in the report in accordance with section	549
3503.21 of the Revised Code. If the report contains a residence	550
address of an elector in a county other than the county in which	551
the board of elections is located, the director shall promptly	552
send a copy of the report to the appropriate board of elections,	553
which shall cancel the registration in accordance with that	554
section.	555
Sec. 3503.20. (A) The secretary of state shall establish a	556
secure online voter registration system. The system shall	557
provide for all of the following:	558
(1) An applicant to submit a voter registration	559
application to the secretary of state online through the	560
<pre>internet;</pre>	561
(2) The online applicant to be registered to vote, if all	562
of the following apply:	563
(a) The application contains all of the following	564
<pre>information:</pre>	565
(i) The applicant's name;	566
(ii) The applicant's address;	567

(iii) The applicant's date of birth;	568
(iv) The last four digits of the applicant's social	569
security number;	570
(v) The applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the	571
number of the applicant's state identification card issued under	572
section 4507.50 of the Revised Code.	573
(b) The applicant's name, address, and date of birth, the	574
last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and	575
the applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of	576
the applicant's state identification card as they are provided	577
in the application are not inconsistent with the information on	578
file with the bureau of motor vehicles;	579
(c) The applicant is a United States citizen, will have	580
lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the	581
next election, will be at least eighteen years of age on or	582
before the day of the next general election, and is otherwise	583
eligible to register to vote;	584
(d) The applicant attests to the truth and accuracy of the	585
information submitted in the online application under penalty of	586
election falsification.	587
(B) If an individual registers to vote or a registered	588
elector updates the elector's name, address, or both under this	589
section, the secretary of state shall obtain an electronic copy	590
of the applicant's or elector's signature that is on file with	591
the bureau of motor vehicles. That electronic signature shall be	592
used as the applicant's or elector's signature on voter	593
registration records, for all election and signature-matching	594
purposes.	595
(C) The secretary of state shall employ whatever security	596

measures the secretary of state considers necessary to ensure	397
the integrity and accuracy of voter registration information	598
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in	599
processing voter registration applications in the online system	600
shall not prevent an applicant from becoming registered or from	601
<pre>voting.</pre>	602
(D) The online voter registration application established	603
under division (A) of this section shall include the following	604
<pre>language:</pre>	605
"By clicking the box below, I affirm all of the following	606
under penalty of election falsification, which is a felony of	607
the fifth degree:	608
(1) I am the person whose name and identifying information	609
is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or	610
update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio.	611
(2) All of the information I have provided on this form is	612
true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form.	613
(3) I am a United States citizen.	614
(4) I will have lived in Ohio for thirty days immediately	615
preceding the next election.	616
(5) I will be at least eighteen years of age on or before	617
the day of the next general election.	618
(6) I authorize the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to transmit	619
to the Ohio Secretary of State my signature that is on file with	620
the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and I understand and agree that	621
the signature transmitted by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles will	622
be used by the Secretary of State to validate this electronic	623
voter registration application as if I had signed this form	624

<pre>personally."</pre>	625
In order to register to vote or update a voter	626
registration under division (A) of this section, an applicant or	627
elector shall be required to mark the box in the online voter	628
registration application that appears in conjunction with the	629
previous statement.	630
(E) The online voter registration process established	631
under division (A) of this section shall be in operation and	632
available for use by individuals who wish to register to vote or	633
update their voter registration information online not earlier	634
than January 1, 2017. During the period beginning on the first	635
day after the close of voter registration before an election and	636
ending on the day of the election, the online voter registration	637
system shall display a notice indicating that the applicant will	638
not be registered to vote for the purposes of that election.	639
(F) Notwithstanding section 1.50 of the Revised Code, if	640
any provision of this section or of division (E) of section	641
3503.14 of the Revised Code is held invalid, or if the	642
application of any provision of this section or of that division	643
to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then this section	644
and that division cease to operate.	645
Sec. 3503.21. (A) The registration of a registered elector	646
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following:	647
(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written	648
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on	649
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the	650
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a	651
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from	652
reregistering to yote at any time	653

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered	654
elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code;	655
(3) The filing with the board of elections of a certified	656
copy of the death certificate of a registered elector by the	657
deceased elector's spouse, parent, or child, by the	658
administrator of the deceased elector's estate, or by the	659
executor of the deceased elector's will;	660
(4) The conviction of the registered elector of a felony	661
under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United	662
States as provided in section 2961.01 of the Revised Code;	663
(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered	664
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section	665
5122.301 of the Revised Code;	666
(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a	667
location outside the county of registration in accordance with	668
division (B) of this section;	669
(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having	670
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the	671
following:	672
(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during	673
a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include	674
two general federal elections;	675
(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least	676
once during a period of four consecutive years, which period	677
shall include two general federal elections.	678
(B)(1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures	679
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of	680
residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting	681

693

694

695

696

697

698

699

residence to a location outside the registrant's current county	682
of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division	683
shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with	684
the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may	685
prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of	686
the national change of address service provided by the United	687
States postal system through its licensees. Any program so	688
prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior	689
to the date of any primary or general election for federal	690
office.	691

- (2) The registration of any elector identified as having changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the registration and fails to vote in any election during the period of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice.
- (C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 701 canceled except as provided in this section, division (Q) of 702 section 3501.05 of the Revised Code, division (C) (2) of section 703 3503.19 of the Revised Code, or division (C) of section 3503.24 704 of the Revised Code. 705
- (D) Boards of elections shall send their voter 706 registration information to the secretary of state as required 707 under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 708 state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 709 of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 710 must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 711

first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send	712
the information to the national change of address service	713
described in division (B) of this section and request that	714
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any	715
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the	716
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to	717
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary	718
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a	719
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary	720
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of	721
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return	722
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or	723
correct the change of address information.	724

- (E) The registration of a registered elector described in 725 division (A)(7) or (B)(2) of this section shall be canceled not 726 later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 727 general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 728 not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 729 the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or 730 respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 731
- (F)(1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 732 division (A)(2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 733 elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 734 the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 735 registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 736 registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 737 cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 738 the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 739 error. 740
  - (2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to

768

769

770

division (A)(2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be	742
restored and treated as though it were never canceled.	743
Sec. 3506.05. (A) As used in this section:	744
(1) "Electronic pollbook" means an electronic list of	745
registered voters for a particular precinct or polling location	746
that may be transported to a polling location.	747
(2) Except when used as part of the phrase "tabulating	748
equipment" or "automatic tabulating equipment," "equipment"	749
means a voting machine, marking device, automatic tabulating	750
equipment, software, or an electronic pollbook.	751
(3) "Vendor" means the person that owns, manufactures,	752
distributes, or has the legal right to control the use of	753
equipment, or the person's agent.	754
equipment, of the person b agent.	731
(B) No voting machine, marking device, automatic	755
tabulating equipment, or software for the purpose of casting or	756
tabulating votes or for communications among systems involved in	757
the tabulation, storage, or casting of votes, and no electronic	758
pollbook, shall be purchased, leased, put in use, or continued	759
to be used, except for experimental use as provided in division	760
(B) of section 3506.04 of the Revised Code, unless it, a manual	761
of procedures governing its use, and training materials,	762
service, and other support arrangements have been certified by	763
the secretary of state and unless the board of elections of each	764
county where the equipment will be used has assured that a	765
demonstration of the use of the equipment has been made	766

available to all interested electors. The secretary of state

approve equipment and its related manuals and support

shall appoint a board of voting machine examiners to examine and

arrangements. The board shall consist of four members, who shall

be	appointed	as	follows:

- (1) Two members appointed by the secretary of state.
- (2) One member appointed by either the speaker of the house of representatives or the minority leader of the house of representatives, whichever is a member of the opposite political party from the one to which the secretary of state belongs.
- (3) One member appointed by either the president of the 777 senate or the minority leader of the senate, whichever is a 778 member of the opposite political party from the one to which the 779 secretary of state belongs. 780

In all cases of a tie vote or a disagreement in the board, if no decision can be arrived at, the board shall submit the matter in controversy to the secretary of state, who shall summarily decide the question, and the secretary of state's decision shall be final. Each member of the board shall be a competent and experienced election officer or a person who is knowledgeable about the operation of voting equipment and shall serve during the secretary of state's term. Any vacancy on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. The secretary of state shall provide staffing assistance to the board, at the board's request.

For the member's service, each member of the board shall receive three hundred dollars per day for each combination of marking device, tabulating equipment, voting machine, or electronic pollbook examined and reported, but in no event shall a member receive more than six hundred dollars to examine and report on any one marking device, item of tabulating equipment, voting machine, or electronic pollbook. Each member of the board shall be reimbursed for expenses the member incurs during an 

examination or during the performance of any related duties that	800
may be required by the secretary of state. Reimbursement of	801
these expenses shall be made in accordance with, and shall not	802
exceed, the rates provided for under section 126.31 of the	803
Revised Code.	804

Neither the secretary of state nor the board, nor any 805 public officer who participates in the authorization, 806 examination, testing, or purchase of equipment, shall have any 807 pecuniary interest in the equipment or any affiliation with the 808 vendor.

(C)(1) A vendor who desires to have the secretary of state 810 certify equipment shall first submit the equipment, all current 811 related procedural manuals, and a current description of all 812 related support arrangements to the board of voting machine 813 examiners for examination, testing, and approval. The submission 814 shall be accompanied by a fee of two thousand four hundred 815 dollars and a detailed explanation of the construction and 816 method of operation of the equipment, a full statement of its 817 advantages, and a list of the patents and copyrights used in 818 operations essential to the processes of vote recording and 819 tabulating, vote storage, system security, pollbook storage and 820 security, and other crucial operations of the equipment as may 821 be determined by the board. An additional fee, in an amount to 822 be set by rules promulgated by the board, may be imposed to pay 823 for the costs of alternative testing or testing by persons other 824 than board members, record-keeping, and other extraordinary 825 costs incurred in the examination process. Moneys not used shall 826 be returned to the person or entity submitting the equipment for 827 examination. 828

(2) Fees collected by the secretary of state under this

section shall be deposited into the state treasury to the credit 830 of the board of voting machine examiners fund, which is hereby 831 created. All moneys credited to this fund shall be used solely 832 for the purpose of paying for the services and expenses of each 833 member of the board or for other expenses incurred relating to 834 the examination, testing, reporting, or certification of 835 equipment, the performance of any related duties as required by 836 the secretary of state, or the reimbursement of any person 837 submitting an examination fee as provided in this chapter. 838

(D) Within sixty days after the submission of the 839 equipment and payment of the fee, or as soon thereafter as is 840 reasonably practicable, but in any event within not more than 841 ninety days after the submission and payment, the board of 842 voting machine examiners shall examine the equipment and file 843 with the secretary of state a written report on the equipment 844 with its recommendations and, if applicable, its determination 845 or condition of approval regarding whether the equipment, 846 manual, and other related materials or arrangements meet the 847 criteria set forth in sections 3506.07 and 3506.10 of the 848 Revised Code and can be safely used by the voters at elections 849 under the conditions prescribed in Title XXXV of the Revised 850 Code, or a written statement of reasons for which testing 851 requires a longer period. The board may grant temporary approval 852 for the purpose of allowing experimental use of equipment. If 853 the board finds that the equipment meets any applicable criteria 854 set forth in sections 3506.06, 3506.07, and 3506.10 of the 855 Revised Code, can be used safely and, if applicable, can be 856 depended upon to record and count accurately and continuously 857 the votes of electors, and has the capacity to be warranted, 858 maintained, and serviced, it shall approve the equipment and 859 recommend that the secretary of state certify the equipment. The 860

secretary of state shall notify all boards of elections of any	861
such certification. Equipment of the same model and make, if it	862
operates in an identical manner, may then be adopted for use at	863
elections.	864

(E) The vendor shall notify the secretary of state, who 865 shall then notify the board of voting machine examiners, of any 866 enhancement and any significant adjustment to the hardware or 867 software that could result in a patent or copyright change or 868 that significantly alters the methods of recording voter intent, 869 870 system security, voter privacy, retention of the vote, communication of records, and connections between the system and 871 other systems. The vendor shall provide the secretary of state 872 873 with an updated operations manual for the equipment, and the secretary of state shall forward the manual to the board. Upon 874 receiving such a notification and manual, the board may require 875 the vendor to submit the equipment to an examination and test in 876 order for the equipment to remain certified. The board or the 877 secretary of state shall periodically examine, test, and inspect 878 certified equipment to determine continued compliance with the 879 requirements of this chapter and the initial certification. Any 880 examination, test, or inspection conducted for the purpose of 881 continuing certification of any equipment in which a significant 882 problem has been uncovered or in which a record of continuing 883 problems exists shall be performed pursuant to divisions (C) and 884 (D) of this section, in the same manner as the examination, 885 test, or inspection is performed for initial approval and 886 certification. 887

(F) If, at any time after the certification of equipment, 888
the board of voting machine examiners or the secretary of state 889
is notified by a board of elections of any significant problem 890
with the equipment or determines that the equipment fails to 891

meet the requirements necessary for approval or continued	892
compliance with the requirements of this chapter, or if the	893
board of voting machine examiners determines that there are	894
significant enhancements or adjustments to the hardware or	895
software, or if notice of such enhancements or adjustments has	896
not been given as required by division (E) of this section, the	897
secretary of state shall notify the users and vendors of that	898
equipment that certification of the equipment may be withdrawn.	899
(G)(1) The notice given by the secretary of state under	900
division (F) of this section shall be in writing and shall	901
specify both of the following:	902
(a) The reasons why the certification may be withdrawn;	903
(b) The date on which certification will be withdrawn	904
unless the vendor takes satisfactory corrective measures or	905
explains why there are no problems with the equipment or why the	906
enhancements or adjustments to the equipment are not	907
significant.	908
(2) A vendor who receives a notice under division (F) of	909
this section shall, within thirty days after receiving it,	910
submit to the board of voting machine examiners in writing a	911
description of the corrective measures taken and the date on	912
which they were taken, or the explanation required under	913
division (G)(1)(b) of this section.	914
(3) Not later than fifteen days after receiving a written	915
description or explanation under division (G)(2) of this section	916
from a vendor, the board shall determine whether the corrective	917
measures taken or the explanation is satisfactory to allow	918
continued certification of the equipment, and the secretary of	919

state shall send the vendor a written notice of the board's

927

928

929930

931

932

933

934

935

936

determination, specifying the reasons for it. If the board has
determined that the measures taken or the explanation given is
unsatisfactory, the notice shall include the effective date of
withdrawal of the certification. This date may be different from
the date originally specified in division (G)(1)(b) of this
section.

- (4) A vendor who receives a notice under division (G)(3) of this section indicating a decision to withdraw certification may, within thirty days after receiving it, request in writing that the board hold a hearing to reconsider its decision. Any interested party shall be given the opportunity to submit testimony or documentation in support of or in opposition to the board's recommendation to withdraw certification. Failure of the vendor to take appropriate steps as described in division (G)(1) (b) or to comply with division (G)(2) of this section results in a waiver of the vendor's rights under division (G)(4) of this section.
- (H)(1) The secretary of state, in consultation with the 938 board of voting machine examiners, shall establish, by rule, 939 guidelines for the approval, certification, and continued 940 certification of the voting machines, marking devices, 941 942 tabulating equipment, and electronic pollbooks to be used under Title XXXV of the Revised Code. The guidelines shall establish 943 procedures requiring vendors or computer software developers to 944 place in escrow with an independent escrow agent approved by the 945 secretary of state a copy of all source code and related 946 documentation, together with periodic updates as they become 947 known or available. The secretary of state shall require that 948 the documentation include a system configuration and that the 949 source code include all relevant program statements in low- or 950 high-level languages. As used in this division, "source code" 951

does not include variable codes created for specific elections.	952
(2) Nothing in any rule adopted under division (H) of this	953
section shall be construed to limit the ability of the secretary	954
of state to follow or adopt, or to preclude the secretary of	955
state from following or adopting, any guidelines proposed by the	956
federal election commission, any entity authorized by the	957
federal election commission to propose guidelines, the election	958
assistance commission, or any entity authorized by the election	959
assistance commission to propose guidelines.	960
(3)(a) Before the initial certification of any direct	961
recording electronic voting machine with a voter verified paper	962
audit trail, and as a condition for the continued certification	963
and use of those machines, the secretary of state shall	964
establish, by rule, standards for the certification of those	965
machines. Those standards shall include, but are not limited to,	966
all of the following:	967
(i) A definition of a voter verified paper audit trail as	968
a paper record of the voter's choices that is verified by the	969
voter prior to the casting of the voter's ballot and that is	970
securely retained by the board of elections;	971
(ii) Requirements that the voter verified paper audit	972
trail shall not be retained by any voter and shall not contain	973
individual voter information;	974
(iii) A prohibition against the production by any direct	975
recording electronic voting machine of anything that legally	976
could be removed by the voter from the polling place, such as a	977
receipt or voter confirmation;	978
(iv) A requirement that paper used in producing a voter	979

verified paper audit trail be sturdy, clean, and resistant to

degradation;	981
(v) A requirement that the voter verified paper audit	982
trail shall be capable of being optically scanned for the	983
purpose of conducting a recount or other audit of the voting	984
machine and shall be readable in a manner that makes the voter's	985
ballot choices obvious to the voter without the use of computer	986
or electronic codes;	987
(vi) A requirement, for office-type ballots, that the	988
voter verified paper audit trail include the name of each	989
candidate selected by the voter;	990
(vii) A requirement, for questions and issues ballots,	991
that the voter verified paper audit trail include the title of	992
the question or issue, the name of the entity that placed the	993
question or issue on the ballot, and the voter's ballot	994
selection on that question or issue, but not the entire text of	995
the question or issue.	996
(b) The secretary of state, by rule adopted under Chapter	997
119. of the Revised Code, may waive the requirement under	998
division (H)(3)(a)(v) of this section, if the secretary of state	999
determines that the requirement is cost prohibitive.	1000
(4)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division divisions	1001
(H) (4) (b) and (c) of this section, any voting machine, marking	1002
device, or automatic tabulating equipment <u>used in this state</u>	1003
shall meet, as a condition of continued certification and use,	1004
the voting system standards adopted by the federal election	1005
commission in 2002 or the voluntary voting system guidelines	1006
most recently adopted by the federal election assistance	1007
commission. A voting machine, marking device, or automatic	1008
tabulating equipment initially certified or acquired on or after	1009

December 1, 2008, <u>also</u> shall have the most recent federal	1010
certification number issued by the election assistance	1011
commission.	1012
(b) Any Division (H)(4)(a) of this section does not apply	1013
to any voting machine, marking device, or automatic tabulating	1014
equipment <del>certified for use in this state on September 12, 2008,</del>	1015
shall meet, as a condition of continued certification and use,	1016
the voting system standards adopted by that the federal election	1017
<u>assistance</u> commission <u>in 2002does not certify as part of its</u>	1018
testing and certification program.	1019
(c) A county that acquires additional voting machines,	1020
marking devices, or automatic tabulating equipment on or after	1021
December 1, 2008, shall not be considered to have acquired those	1022
machines, devices, or equipment on or after December 1, 2008,	1023
for the purpose of division $(H)(4)(a)$ of this section if all of	1024
the following apply:	1025
(i) The voting machines, marking devices, or automatic	1026
tabulating equipment acquired are the same as the machines,	1027
devices, or equipment currently used in that county.	1028
(ii) The acquisition of the voting machines, marking	1029
devices, or automatic tabulating equipment does not replace or	1030
change the primary voting system used in that county.	1031
(iii) The acquisition of the voting machines, marking	1032
devices, or automatic tabulating equipment is for the purpose of	1033
replacing inoperable machines, devices, or equipment or for the	1034
purpose providing additional machines, devices, or equipment	1035
required to meet the allocation requirements established	1036
pursuant to division (I) of section 3501.11 of the Revised Code.	1037
Section 2. That existing sections 305.02, 733.08, 733.31,	1038

Sub. S. B. No. 63 As Concurred by the Senate	Page 37
3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.18, 3503.21 and 3506.05 of the Revised	1039
Code are hereby repealed.	1040