

As Introduced

136th General Assembly

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H. B. No. 601

Representatives Peterson, Willis

To amend sections 3501.01, 3503.13, 3503.151, 1
3503.152, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.18, 2
3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, 3
and 3517.14 and to enact section 3503.201 of the 4
Revised Code to modify the law governing voter 5
roll maintenance, provisional voting, the return 6
of absent voter's ballots, and the membership of 7
the Ohio Election Integrity Commission. 8

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.01, 3503.13, 3503.151, 9
3503.152, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.18, 3505.181, 10
3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, and 3517.14 be amended and 11
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as 12
follows: 13

Sec. 3501.01. As used in the sections of the Revised Code 14
relating to elections and political communications: 15

(A) "General election" means the election held on the 16
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November. 17

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held 18
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 19
odd-numbered year. 20

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on 21
the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 22
even-numbered year. 23

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those 24
elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 25
election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 26
Monday in May or November, on the first Tuesday after the first 27
Monday in August in accordance with section 3501.022 of the 28
Revised Code, or on the day authorized by a particular municipal 29
or county charter for the holding of a primary election, except 30
that in any year in which a presidential primary election is 31
held, no special election shall be held in May, except as 32
authorized by a municipal or county charter, but may be held on 33
the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March. 34

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 35
held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 36
political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 37
of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 38
political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 39
conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 40
held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 41
year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 42
held. 43

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 44
election as defined by division (E) (1) of this section at which 45
an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 46
alternates to the national conventions of the major political 47
parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 48
otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 49
in references to primary elections. In years in which a 50

presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 51
shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in 52
March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county 53
charter. 54

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting 55
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised 56
Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 57

(1) "Major political party" means any political party 58
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for 59
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less 60
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at 61
the most recent regular state election. 62

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party 63
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the 64
following requirements: 65

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 66
political party's candidate for governor or nominees for 67
presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not 68
less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office 69
at the most recent regular state election. A political party 70
that meets the requirements of this division remains a political 71
party for a period of four years after meeting those 72
requirements. 73

(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of 74
state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of 75
division (F) (2) (a) of this section, a petition that meets the 76
requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 77

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor 78
political party until the time of the first election for 79

governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months 80
subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election 81
the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the 82
office of governor or president. 83

(G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political 84
party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate 85
for election to the office of governor at the most recent 86
regular state election at which a governor was elected received 87
more votes than any other person received for election to that 88
office in such precinct at such election. 89

(H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in 90
accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement 91
on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special 92
election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who 93
claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to 94
being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a 95
primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 96

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims 97
not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has 98
been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special 99
election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and 100
nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the 101
Revised Code. 102

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 103
is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 104
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 105
for judge of a municipal court, county court, or court of common 106
pleas, for member of any board of education, for municipal or 107
township offices in which primary elections are not held for 108
nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of 109

municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate 110
ballots for elections for these offices. 111

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be 112
a member of a political party and who has been certified to 113
appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special 114
election as the nominee of a political party because the 115
candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party 116
for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated 117
under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in 118
accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code. 119

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 120
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 121
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 122
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 123
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 124
party. 125

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue 126
certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on 127
an official ballot at a general or special election to be held 128
in this state. 129

(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having 130
the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote. 131

(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election. 132

(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an 133
elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector 134
may vote. 135

(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county 136
established by the board of elections of such county within 137
which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein 138

may vote at the same polling place. 139

(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each 140
precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such 141
precinct may vote. 142

(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of 143
elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of 144
the Revised Code. 145

(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, 146
city, village, or school district. 147

(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of 148
the following: 149

(1) Secretary of state; 150

(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the 151
division of elections in the capacity of attorney, 152
administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections 153
administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor; 154

(3) Director of a board of elections; 155

(4) Deputy director of a board of elections; 156

(5) Member of a board of elections; 157

(6) Employees of a board of elections; 158

(7) Precinct election officials; 159

(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a 160
temporary or part-time basis. 161

(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board 162
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, 163
informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who 164

wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status 165
of the application; the information necessary to complete or 166
update the application, if any; and if the application is 167
complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote. 168

(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board 169
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to 170
a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current 171
address, date of birth, or United States citizenship, the number 172
of the elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification 173
card, the last four digits of the elector's social security 174
number, or any other information required for registration. The 175
notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, shall be accompanied 176
by a postage prepaid, preaddressed return envelope containing a 177
form on which the elector may verify or correct the elector's 178
registration, and shall meet the requirements of the National 179
Voter Registration Act of 1993. 180

(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the 181
state that provides public assistance or that provides state- 182
funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to 183
persons with disabilities and that is required by the National 184
Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed 185
and administered by the secretary of state for registering 186
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that 187
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary 188
of state for registering voters, including the department of job 189
and family services, the program administered under section 190
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the 191
department of ~~mental health and addiction services~~behavioral 192
health, the department of developmental disabilities, the 193
opportunities for Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any 194
other agency the secretary of state designates. "Designated 195

agency" does not include public high schools and vocational 196
schools, public libraries, or the office of a county treasurer. 197

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the 198
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42 199
U.S.C.A. 1973gg. 200

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights 201
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended. 202

(AA) (1) "Photo identification" means one of the following 203
documents that includes the individual's name and photograph and 204
is not expired: 205

(a) An Ohio driver's license, state identification card, 206
or interim identification form issued by the registrar of motor 207
vehicles or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 4507. of 208
the Revised Code; 209

(b) A United States passport or passport card; 210

(c) A United States military identification card, Ohio 211
national guard identification card, or United States department 212
of veterans affairs identification card. 213

(2) A "copy" of an individual's photo identification means 214
images of both the front and back of a document described in 215
division (AA) (1) of this section, except that if the document is 216
a United States passport, a copy of the photo identification 217
means an image of the passport's identification page that 218
includes the individual's name, photograph, and other 219
identifying information and the passport's expiration date. 220

(BB) "Driver's license" means a license or permit issued 221
by the registrar or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 222
4507. of the Revised Code that authorizes an individual to 223

drive. "Driver's license" includes a driver's license, 224
commercial driver's license, probationary license, restricted 225
license, motorcycle operator's license, or temporary instruction 226
permit identification card. "Driver's license" does not include 227
a limited term license issued under section 4506.14 or 4507.09 228
of the Revised Code. 229

(CC) "State identification card" means a card issued by 230
the registrar or a deputy registrar under sections 4507.50 to 231
4507.52 of the Revised Code. 232

(DD) "Interim identification form" means the document 233
issued by the registrar or a deputy registrar to an applicant 234
for a driver's license or state identification card that 235
contains all of the information otherwise found on the license 236
or card and that an applicant may use as a form of 237
identification until the physical license or card arrives in the 238
mail. 239

(EE) (1) "Proof of citizenship" means evidence that an 240
individual is a United States citizen, in the form of one of the 241
following: 242

(a) The number of the individual's current Ohio driver's 243
license or state identification card, if the secretary of state 244
verifies using information obtained from the bureau of motor 245
vehicles that the individual has submitted documentation to the 246
bureau that indicates that the individual is a United States 247
citizen; 248

(b) The individual's current Ohio driver's license, state 249
identification card, or interim identification form issued on or 250
after April 7, 2023, or a copy of the front and back of that 251
license, card, or form, if the license, card, or form does not 252

include a notation designating that the individual is a 253
noncitizen of the United States; 254

(c) The individual's birth certificate, certification of 255
report of birth, or consular report of birth abroad, or a copy 256
of one of those documents; 257

(d) The individual's current United States passport or 258
passport card, a copy of the identification page of the 259
passport, or a copy of the front and back of the passport card; 260

(e) The individual's certificate of naturalization or 261
certificate of citizenship or a copy of one of those documents; 262

(f) The individual's I-797 notice of action for form N- 263
565, application for replacement naturalization/citizenship 264
document issued by United States citizenship and immigration 265
services, if the notice indicates that the application has been 266
approved; a copy of that notice; or an original or copy of the 267
successor form of that notice issued by the federal agency that 268
is responsible for fulfilling requests for replacement 269
naturalization or citizenship documents. 270

(2) If an individual's current legal name is different 271
from the name on the individual's proof of citizenship, the 272
individual also shall provide proof of the change of name, such 273
as a copy of a marriage license or court order. 274

Sec. 3503.13. (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 275
division (A) (2) of this section, voter registration forms 276
submitted by applicants and the statewide voter registration 277
database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code 278
are public records subject to disclosure under section 149.43 of 279
the Revised Code. 280

(2) None of the following are subject to disclosure under 281

division (A) (1) of this section: 282

(a) An elector's full or partial social security number, 283
driver's license or state identification card number, telephone 284
number, or electronic mail address; 285

(b) A confidential voter registration record, as described 286
in section 111.44 of the Revised Code; 287

(c) The address of a designated public service worker, if 288
the designated public service worker has submitted a redaction 289
request to the board of elections under section 149.45 of the 290
Revised Code; 291

(d) An elector's proof of citizenship; 292

(e) Any other information that is prohibited from being 293
disclosed by state or federal law. 294

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized 295
signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures 296
on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the 297
secretary of state, provided that the board includes the 298
required voter registration information in the statewide voter 299
registration database established under section 3503.15 of the 300
Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials 301
have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner 302
required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code. 303

Sec. 3503.151. (A) The secretary of state, through the 304
office of data analytics and archives, and the boards of 305
elections shall maintain the accuracy of the statewide voter 306
registration database in accordance with this section. 307

(B) (1) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the 308
department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 309

department of job and family services, the department of 310
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, 311
shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state 312
that is collected in the course of normal business and that is 313
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's 314
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration 315
database, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. 316
The department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 317
department of job and family services, the department of 318
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections 319
shall provide that information and data to the secretary of 320
state not later than the last day of each month. The secretary 321
of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to 322
the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of 323
the entity providing the data remains confidential while in the 324
possession of the secretary of state. No public office, and no 325
public official or employee, shall sell that information or data 326
or use that information or data for profit. 327

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under Chapter 328
119. of the Revised Code that establish, by mutual agreement 329
with the bureau of motor vehicles, the content and format of the 330
information and data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide 331
to the secretary of state under division (B)(1) of this section 332
and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that 333
information and data. 334

(C)(1) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 335
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 336
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 337
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 338
statewide voter registration database. Except as otherwise 339
provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the secretary of 340

state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the 341
secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the 342
state providing the data remains confidential while in the 343
possession of the secretary of state. 344

(2) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 345
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 346
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 347
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 348
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 349
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 350
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 351
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 352
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 353
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 354
that receives confidential information or data under this 355
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 356
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 357
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 358
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 359
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 360
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 361
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 362

(3) No person or entity that receives information or data 363
under division (C) of this section shall sell the information or 364
data or use the information or data for profit. 365

(D) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the 366
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and 367
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state 368
receives under divisions (B) and (C) of this section that is 369
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the 370

accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is 371
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable 372
state and federal law: 373

(1) Require the boards of elections to maintain the 374
database in a manner that ensures that the name of each 375
registered elector appears in the database, that only 376
individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are 377
removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are 378
eliminated from the database; 379

(2) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable 380
effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from 381
the database; 382

(3) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors 383
are not removed in error from the database. 384

~~(E) (1)~~—(E) The secretary of state shall use the 385
information in the statewide voter registration database and the 386
databases of the bureau of motor vehicles and the United States 387
social security administration to provide information to each 388
board of elections that identifies each voter registration 389
record in the county in which the elector's date of birth or 390
Ohio driver's license or state identification card number or the 391
last four digits of the elector's social security number does 392
not match the information in the database of the bureau of motor 393
vehicles or the United States social security administration for 394
purposes of section 3503.201 of the Revised Code. 395

(F) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under 396
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish a uniform method 397
for addressing instances in which records contained in the 398
statewide voter registration database do not conform with 399

records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states 400
described in division (B) or (C) of this section. That method 401
shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being 402
canceled on the sole basis that the information in the 403
registration record does not conform to records maintained by 404
such an agency. 405

(2) Information provided under division (B) or (C) of this 406
section for maintenance of the statewide voter registration 407
database shall not be used to update the name or address of a 408
registered elector. The name or address of a registered elector 409
shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in 410
filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 411

(3) ~~A~~ Except as otherwise provided in section 3503.201 of 412
the Revised Code, a board of elections shall contact a 413
registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division 414
~~(E) (1)~~ (F) (1) of this section to verify the accuracy of the 415
information in the statewide voter registration database 416
regarding that elector if that information does not conform with 417
information provided under division (B) or (C) of this section 418
and the discrepancy would affect the elector's eligibility to 419
cast a regular ballot. 420

Sec. 3503.152. (A) The secretary of state shall conduct an 421
~~annual review~~ reviews of the statewide voter registration 422
database on at least a monthly basis to identify persons who 423
~~appear are not to be~~ United States citizens, ~~as follows~~ by 424
consulting the following sources: 425

~~(A) The secretary of state shall compare the information~~ 426
~~in the statewide voter registration database with the~~ 427
~~information~~ (1) Information the secretary of state obtains from 428
the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.151 of the 429

Revised Code to identify any person who does all of the 430
following, in the following order: 431

~~(1) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 432
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen; 433~~

~~(2) Registers to vote, submits a voter registration change 434
of residence or change of name form, or votes in this state; 435~~

~~(3) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 436
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen; 437~~

(2) The systematic alien verification for entitlements 438
(SAVE) program, or its successor program, operated by the United 439
States department of homeland security or its successor agency. 440

~~(B) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to 441
each person identified under division (A) of this section, 442
instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a 443
United States citizen or to submit a completed voter 444
registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The 445
secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration 446
cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to 447
respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in 448
division (C) or (D) of this section not later than thirty days 449
after the notice is sent, the secretary of state promptly shall 450
send the person a second notice and form. 451~~

~~(C) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 452
is sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (B) of 453
this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that 454
the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state 455
shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration. 456~~

~~(D) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 457
was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (B) of 458~~

~~this section sends a completed voter registration cancellation-~~ 459
~~form to the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall-~~ 460
~~instruct the board of elections of the county in which the-~~ 461
~~person is registered to cancel the person's registration.~~ 462

~~(E) If a person who is sent a second notice under division~~ 463
~~(B) of this section fails to respond to the secretary of state-~~ 464
~~in the manner described in division (C) or (D) of this section-~~ 465
~~not later than thirty days after the second notice is sent, the-~~ 466
~~secretary of state shall refer the matter to the attorney-~~ 467
~~general for further investigation and possible prosecution under~~ 468
~~section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any other applicable-~~ 469
~~section of the Revised Code. If, after the thirtieth day after-~~ 470
~~the second notice is sent, the person sends a completed voter-~~ 471
~~registration cancellation form to the secretary of state, the-~~ 472
~~secretary of state shall instruct the board of elections of the-~~ 473
~~county in which the person is registered to cancel the person's-~~ 474
~~registration and shall notify the attorney general of the-~~ 475
~~cancellation.~~ 476

~~(F) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review-~~ 477
~~described in this section during the ninety days immediately-~~ 478
~~preceding a primary or general election for federal-~~ 479
~~office.~~ Following each review conducted under this section, the 480
secretary of state shall do both of the following: 481

(1) Send a report to each board of elections of each 482
person in the county who, according to the databases described 483
in division (A) of this section, is not a United States citizen. 484
The board promptly shall cancel the person's voter registration 485
in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code. 486

(2) Direct the election integrity unit to conduct a 487
further investigation regarding each such person under section 488

3501.055 of the Revised Code.

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Sec. 3503.18. (A) (1) Not later than the last day of each month, the director of health shall file with the secretary of state the names, social security numbers, dates of birth, dates of death, and residences of all persons, over eighteen years of age, who have died within this state or another state during the period beginning on the date of the most recent filing and ending on the day before the date of the current filing. If the director is notified of the death of such a person after the director has filed the report for the period during which the person died, the director shall file with the secretary of state a supplemental report containing that information concerning the person not later than one month after the director is notified of the person's death.

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(2) The secretary of state and the director of health shall jointly establish a secure electronic system through which they shall exchange the information described in division (A) (1) of this section regarding the death of a registered elector.

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(B) The secretary of state shall prepare and transmit a monthly report to each board of elections that identifies each registered elector in the county who has died, based on information the secretary of state receives from the United States social security administration, from the systematic alien verification for entitlements (SAVE) program, or its successor program, operated by the United States department of homeland security or its successor agency, or from the state and territorial exchange of vital events (STEVE) administered by the national association for public health statistics and information systems.

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(C) At least once each month, each probate judge in this

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state shall file with the board of elections the names and 519
residence addresses of all persons over eighteen years of age 520
who have been adjudicated incompetent for the purpose of voting, 521
as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code. 522

~~(C)~~ (D) At least once each month the clerk of the court of 523
common pleas shall file with the board the names and residence 524
addresses of all persons who have been convicted during the 525
previous month of crimes that would disfranchise such persons 526
under existing laws of the state. Reports of conviction of 527
crimes under the laws of the United States that would 528
disfranchise an elector and that are provided to the secretary 529
of state by any United States attorney shall be forwarded by the 530
secretary of state to the appropriate board of elections. 531

~~(D)~~ (E) Upon receiving a report required by this section, 532
the board of elections shall promptly cancel the registration of 533
each elector named in the report in accordance with section 534
3503.21 of the Revised Code. If the report contains a residence 535
address of an elector in a county other than the county in which 536
the board of elections is located, the director shall promptly 537
send a copy of the report to the appropriate board of elections, 538
which shall cancel the registration in accordance with that 539
section. 540

Sec. 3503.19. (A) Persons qualified to register or to 541
change their registration because of a change of address or 542
change of name may register or change their registration in 543
person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at 544
the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 545
vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a 546
public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a 547
branch office established by the board of elections, or in 548

person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the 549
secretary of state or at the office of a board of elections. A 550
registered elector may also change the elector's registration on 551
election day at any polling place where the elector is eligible 552
to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the 553
Revised Code. 554

Any state or local office of a designated agency, a public 555
high school or vocational school, a public library, or the 556
office of a county treasurer shall transmit any voter 557
registration application or change of registration form that it 558
receives to the board of elections of the county in which the 559
state or local office is located, within five days after 560
receiving the voter registration application or change of 561
registration form. The office of the registrar or any deputy 562
registrar of motor vehicles shall transmit any electronic voter 563
registration application or change of registration that it 564
receives to the secretary of state within twenty-four hours 565
after receiving it, and shall transmit any paper voter 566
registration application or change of registration form that it 567
receives to the board of elections of the county in which the 568
office of the registrar or deputy registrar is located within 569
five days after receiving the voter registration application or 570
change of registration form, as required under section 3503.11 571
of the Revised Code. 572

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 573
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 574
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 575
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 576
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 577
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 578
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 579

later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 580
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 581
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 582
registration application received after that day entitles the 583
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 584

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 585
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 586
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 587
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 588
registration application or change of name or change of address 589
form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the 590
identity of the state or local office that receives the 591
registration. 592

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 593
are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 594
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 595
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 596
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 597
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 598
voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 599
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 600
valid for that election if received by the office of the 601
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 602
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 603
general election. 604

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 605
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 606
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 607
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 608
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 609

1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 610
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 611
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 612
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 613
Revised Code. 614

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 615
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 616
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 617
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 618
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 619
the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 620
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 621
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 622
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 623
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 624
elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 625
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 626

(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an 627
applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 628
through another person to any board of elections or the office 629
of the secretary of state. 630

(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a 631
voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that 632
person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the 633
office of the secretary of state. 634

(d) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 635
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 636
or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an 637
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 638
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 639

elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 640
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 641
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 642
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 643
(B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day 644
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 645
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 646
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 647
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 648
election. 649

(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter 650
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 651
statements made in the registration form shall register the 652
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 653
the application, unless that application is received during the 654
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The 655
board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of 656
the following: 657

(a) The applicant's registration; 658

(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote; 659

(c) In bold type as follows: 660

"Voters must bring photo identification to the polls in 661
order to verify identity. Voters who do not provide photo 662
identification will still be able to vote by casting a 663
provisional ballot." 664

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 665
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 666
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 667

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 668

(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's correct address, it shall ~~cause the voter's name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned to the board~~ proceed under section 3503.201 of the Revised Code.

~~At the first election at which a voter whose name has been so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to vote by provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the voter's notification was returned from that voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United States mail of the cancellation.~~

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

Sec. 3503.201. (A) (1) When either of the following occur,
the board of elections shall send the elector a confirmation

notice and, if the board's records are not already so marked, 699
shall mark the elector's registration record, the official 700
registration list, and the poll list or signature pollbook to 701
indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot and 702
the reason the elector must do so: 703

(a) The board determines that it is unable to verify an 704
elector's residence address, as described in division (C) (2) of 705
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code. 706

(b) The board receives information from the secretary of 707
state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code 708
indicating that the board must verify the elector's date of 709
birth or Ohio driver's license or state identification card 710
number or the last four digits of the elector's social security 711
number. 712

(2) A confirmation notice sent to an elector under 713
division (A) (1) of this section shall include both of the 714
following: 715

(a) The information the board must verify; 716

(b) The manner in which the elector may provide the 717
required information to the board before the elector next 718
appears to vote, as described in division (B) of this section, 719
or when casting a provisional ballot, as described in division 720
(D) of this section. 721

(B) An elector whose registration record has been marked 722
under division (A) of this section to indicate that the elector 723
must cast a provisional ballot is not required to cast a 724
provisional ballot if, before the elector next appears to vote, 725
the elector does the following, as applicable: 726

(1) Provides a valid residence address to the board, if 727

the board must verify the elector's residence address; 728

(2) Provides the necessary information or documentation to 729
the board to rectify any identified mismatch between the 730
elector's registration record and the elector's date of birth or 731
Ohio driver's license or state identification card number or the 732
last four digits of the elector's social security number in the 733
database of the bureau of motor vehicles or the United States 734
social security administration. 735

(C) When the board has verified all of the information the 736
board is required to verify concerning an elector under division 737
(B) of this section, the board shall correct or update the 738
elector's registration, as applicable, and shall remove the 739
indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot. The 740
board shall not remove a provisional ballot indication until 741
every piece of information that must be verified concerning the 742
elector has been verified. 743

(D) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of 744
this section, at the first election at which an elector whose 745
registration record is marked to indicate that the elector must 746
vote by provisional ballot under this section appears to vote, 747
the elector shall vote by provisional ballot. 748

(2) In order for the elector's provisional ballot to be 749
eligible to be counted, in addition to meeting all other 750
requirements described in division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of 751
the Revised Code, the elector shall provide the applicable 752
required information as described in division (B) of this 753
section on or attached to the provisional ballot affirmation, or 754
shall appear in person at the office of the board within four 755
days after the day of the election and provide that information. 756

(3) If the elector's provisional ballot is counted 757
pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised 758
Code and division (D) (2) of this section, the board shall 759
correct or update the elector's registration, as applicable, and 760
shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by 761
provisional ballot. 762

(4) If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to 763
division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the 764
Revised Code or division (D) (2) of this section, the board shall 765
cancel the elector's registration in accordance with section 766
3503.21 of the Revised Code. 767

Sec. 3503.21. (A) The registration of a registered elector 768
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 769

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 770
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 771
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 772
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 773
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 774
reregistering to vote at any time. 775

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered 776
elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code; 777

(3) The filing with the board of elections of a certified 778
copy of the death certificate of a registered elector by the 779
deceased elector's spouse, parent, or child, by the 780
administrator of the deceased elector's estate, or by the 781
executor of the deceased elector's will; 782

(4) The conviction of the registered elector of a felony 783
under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United 784
States as provided in section 2961.01 of the Revised Code; 785

(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered 786
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 787
5122.301 of the Revised Code; 788

(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a 789
location outside the county of registration in accordance with 790
division (B) of this section; 791

(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having 792
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the 793
following: 794

(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during 795
a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include 796
two general federal elections; 797

(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least 798
once during a period of four consecutive years, which period 799
shall include two general federal elections. 800

(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a 801
cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the 802
Revised Code; 803

(9) The receipt by the board of elections of a report from 804
the secretary of state indicating that the person is not a 805
United States citizen, as described in division (B) (1) of 806
section 3503.152 of the Revised Code; 807

(10) The circumstances described in division (D) (4) of 808
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code; 809

(11) The circumstances described in section 111.44 of the 810
Revised Code; 811

(12) The circumstances described in division (Q) of 812
section 3501.05 of the Revised Code; 813

(13) The circumstances described in division (C) of 814
section 3503.24 of the Revised Code; 815

(14) The determination by the board of elections that the 816
elector is a fictitious person; 817

(15) The determination by the board of elections that the 818
registration is a duplicate. 819

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 820
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 821
residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting 822
residence to a location outside the registrant's current county 823
of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division 824
shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with 825
the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may 826
prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of 827
the national change of address service provided by the United 828
States postal system through its licensees. Any program so 829
prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior 830
to the date of any primary or general election for federal 831
office. 832

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having 833
changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the 834
elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled 835
unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form 836
prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to 837
respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the 838
registration and fails to vote in any election during the period 839
of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the 840
confirmation notice. 841

~~(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be~~ 842

~~canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 of~~ 843
~~the Revised Code, division (Q) of section 3501.05 of the Revised~~ 844
~~Code, division (C) (2) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, or~~ 845
~~division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code.~~ 846

~~(D)~~ Boards of elections shall send their voter 847
registration information to the secretary of state as required 848
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 849
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 850
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 851
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 852
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 853
the information to the national change of address service 854
described in division (B) of this section and request that 855
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 856
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 857
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 858
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 859
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 860
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary 861
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of 862
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return 863
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or 864
correct the change of address information. 865

~~(E)~~ (D) The registration of a registered elector described 866
in division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled 867
not later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the 868
second general federal election in which the elector fails to 869
vote or not later than one hundred twenty days after the 870
expiration of the four-year period in which the elector fails to 871
vote or respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 872

~~(F) (1)~~ (E) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 873
~~division (A) (2) or (3) of this section~~, the applicable board of 874
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 875
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 876
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 877
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 878
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 879
the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 880
error. 881

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled ~~pursuant to~~ 882
~~division (A) (2) or (3) of this section~~ in error, it shall be 883
restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 884

Sec. 3505.18. (A) (1) When an elector appears in a polling 885
place to vote, the elector shall announce to the precinct 886
election officials the elector's full name and current address 887
and provide photo identification. 888

(2) If an elector does not have or is unable to provide 889
photo identification to the precinct election officials, the 890
elector may cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 891
the Revised Code. 892

(3) If the elector provides photo identification in the 893
form of the elector's Ohio driver's license, state 894
identification card, or interim identification form and the 895
photo identification includes a notation designating that the 896
individual is a noncitizen of the United States, the election 897
officials shall challenge the elector's right to vote under 898
division (A) of section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 899

(B) After the elector has announced the elector's full 900
name and current address and provided photo identification, the 901

elector shall confirm the elector's name and address by signing 902
the elector's name at the proper place in the poll list or 903
signature pollbook provided for the purpose, except that if, for 904
any reason, an elector is unable to sign the elector's name in 905
the poll list or signature pollbook, the elector may make the 906
elector's mark at the place intended for the elector's name, and 907
a precinct election official shall write the name of the elector 908
at the proper place on the poll list or signature pollbook 909
following the elector's mark. The making of such a mark shall be 910
attested by the precinct election official, who shall evidence 911
the same by signing the precinct election official's name on the 912
poll list or signature pollbook as a witness to the mark. 913
Alternatively, if applicable, an attorney in fact acting 914
pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code may sign the 915
elector's signature in the poll list or signature pollbook in 916
accordance with that section. 917

The elector's signature in the poll list or signature 918
pollbook then shall be compared with the elector's signature on 919
the elector's registration form or a digitized signature list as 920
provided for in section 3503.13 of the Revised Code, and if, in 921
the opinion of a majority of the precinct election officials, 922
the signatures are the signatures of the same person, the 923
election officials shall enter the date of the election on the 924
registration form or shall record the date by other means 925
prescribed by the secretary of state. The validity of an 926
attorney in fact's signature on behalf of an elector shall be 927
determined in accordance with section 3501.382 of the Revised 928
Code. 929

If the right of the elector to vote is not then 930
challenged, or, if being challenged, the elector establishes the 931
elector's right to vote, the elector shall be allowed to proceed 932

to use the voting machine. If voting machines are not being used 933
in that precinct, the precinct election official in charge of 934
ballots shall then detach the next ballots to be issued to the 935
elector from Stub B attached to each ballot, leaving Stub A 936
attached to each ballot, hand the ballots to the elector, and 937
call the elector's name and the stub number on each of the 938
ballots. The precinct election official shall enter the stub 939
numbers opposite the signature of the elector in the pollbook. 940
The elector shall then retire to one of the voting compartments 941
to mark the elector's ballots. No mark shall be made on any 942
ballot which would in any way enable any person to identify the 943
person who voted the ballot. 944

Sec. 3505.181. (A) All of the following individuals shall 945
be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election: 946

(1) An individual who declares that the individual is a 947
registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires 948
to vote and that the individual is eligible to vote in an 949
election, but the name of the individual does not appear on the 950
official list of eligible voters for the precinct or an election 951
official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote; 952

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to 953
provide photo identification to the election officials; 954

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature 955
pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the 956
Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a 957
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that 958
election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 959

(4) An individual ~~whose notification of registration has~~ 960
~~been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose~~ 961

name in the official registration list and in the poll list or 962
signature pollbook has been marked under ~~division (C) (2) of~~ 963
section ~~3503.19~~ 3503.201 of the Revised Code; 964

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged 965
under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code; 966

(6) An individual who changes the individual's name and 967
remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name 968
change under division (B) (1) (b) of section 3503.16 of the 969
Revised Code, moves from one precinct to another within a 970
county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the 971
individual's name, or moves from one county to another within 972
the state, and completes and signs the required forms and 973
statements under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the 974
Revised Code; 975

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the 976
precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is 977
not that of the person who signed that name in the registration 978
forms. 979

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional 980
ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to 981
cast a provisional ballot as follows: 982

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify 983
the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot 984
in that election. 985

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 986
section, the individual shall complete and execute a written 987
affirmation before an election official at the polling place 988
stating that the individual is both of the following: 989

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the 990

individual desires to vote; 991

(b) Eligible to vote in that election. 992

(3) An election official at the polling place shall 993
transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter 994
information contained in the written affirmation executed by the 995
individual under division (B) (2) of this section to an 996
appropriate local election official for verification under 997
division (B) (4) of this section. 998

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the 999
ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under 1000
division (B) (3) of this section determines that the individual 1001
is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall 1002
be counted as a vote in that election. 1003

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional 1004
ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the 1005
individual written information that states that any individual 1006
who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under 1007
the system established under division (B) (5) (b) of this section 1008
whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, 1009
the reason that the vote was not counted. 1010

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 1011
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 1012
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 1013
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 1014
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 1015
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 1016
established under this division also shall provide to an 1017
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 1018
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 1019

elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 1020
individual's voter registration. 1021

The appropriate state or local election official shall 1022
establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 1023
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 1024
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 1025
access system established under this division. The system shall 1026
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 1027
the individual's own provisional ballot. 1028

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 1029
ballot, the individual provides photo identification, the 1030
individual shall record the type of identification provided on 1031
the provisional ballot affirmation and, if the individual 1032
provides an Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or 1033
interim identification document, the individual also shall write 1034
the individual's driver's license or state identification card 1035
number on the provisional ballot affirmation. 1036

(7) (a) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be 1037
counted when it is cast by an individual who does not have photo 1038
identification because the individual has a religious objection 1039
to being photographed, the individual shall complete an 1040
affidavit of religious objection under section 3505.19 of the 1041
Revised Code. The election officials shall attach the affidavit 1042
to the individual's provisional ballot envelope. If the 1043
individual does not complete the affidavit at the time of 1044
casting the provisional ballot, the individual may appear at the 1045
office of the board of elections within four days after the day 1046
of the election and complete the affidavit. 1047

(b) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted 1048
when it is cast by any other individual who does not have or is 1049

unable to provide photo identification to the election 1050
officials, the individual who cast that ballot, within four days 1051
after the day of the election, shall appear at the office of the 1052
board of elections and provide photo identification. 1053

(8) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 1054
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 1055
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 1056
cast that ballot, within four days after the day of that 1057
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 1058
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 1059
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 1060
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 1061

(C) (1) If an individual declares that the individual is 1062
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 1063
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 1064
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 1065
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 1066
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 1067
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 1068
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 1069
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 1070
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 1071
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 1072
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 1073
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 1074
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 1075

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 1076
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 1077
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 1078
ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this 1079

section. If the individual is in the correct polling location 1080
for the precinct in which the individual is registered and 1081
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, 1082
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes 1083
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's 1084
provisional ballot affirmation: 1085

(a) The name or number of the individual's correct 1086
precinct; 1087

(b) A statement that the election official instructed the 1088
individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote; 1089

(c) A statement that the election official informed the 1090
individual that casting a provisional ballot in the wrong 1091
precinct would result in all or a portion of the votes on the 1092
ballot being rejected; 1093

(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the 1094
individual is casting a provisional ballot; and 1095

(e) The name of the polling location in which the 1096
individual is casting a provisional ballot. 1097

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause 1098
voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place 1099
on the day of each election. 1100

(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 1101
3505.183 of the Revised Code: 1102

(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the 1103
following: 1104

(a) An electronic or paper record that lists the correct 1105
precinct and polling place for either each specific residential 1106
street address in the county or the range of residential street 1107

addresses located in each neighborhood block in the county; 1108

(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates 1109
that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is 1110
at a polling place in that county to determine the correct 1111
precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides 1112
in the county. 1113

(2) "Voting information" means all of the following: 1114

(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for 1115
that election; 1116

(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the 1117
hours during which polling places will be open; 1118

(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a 1119
vote and how to cast a provisional ballot; 1120

(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time 1121
voters under applicable federal and state laws; 1122

(e) General information on voting rights under applicable 1123
federal and state laws, including information on the right of an 1124
individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how 1125
to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged 1126
to have been violated; 1127

(f) General information on federal and state laws 1128
regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and 1129
misrepresentation. 1130

(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the 1131
Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised 1132
Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to 1133
receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two 1134
precinct election officials of different political parties. A 1135

blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in 1136
marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the 1137
required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may 1138
receive assistance on the day of an election under that section. 1139

Sec. 3505.182. Each individual who casts a provisional 1140
ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code shall execute 1141
a written affirmation. The form of the written affirmation shall 1142
be printed upon the face of the provisional ballot envelope and 1143
shall be as follows: 1144

"Provisional Ballot Affirmation 1145

(A) Clearly print your full name: _____ 1146

(B) Write your date of birth: _____ 1147

(C) (1) Write your current address: _____ 1148

_____ 1149

(2) Have you moved without updating your voter 1150
registration?: 1151

Yes _____ No _____ 1152

If yes, write your former address: _____ 1153

_____ 1154

Failure to provide your former address will not cause your 1155
provisional ballot to be rejected. 1156

(D) (1) You must show photo identification to the election 1157
official that includes your name and photograph and is not 1158
expired. Check the type of photo identification you provided: 1159

_____ An Ohio driver's license or state identification 1160
card or an interim identification form issued by the Bureau of 1161

Motor Vehicles. If you showed your Ohio driver's license or 1162
state identification card or an interim identification form, 1163
write your full driver's license or state identification card 1164
number: _____ 1165

_____ A United States passport or passport card; 1166

_____ A United States military identification card, Ohio 1167
national guard identification card, or United States department 1168
of veterans affairs identification card. 1169

(2) If you do not have photo identification because you 1170
have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an 1171
affidavit of religious objection. The precinct election official 1172
will attach it to the provisional ballot envelope. 1173

(3) If you did not show photo identification to the 1174
election official or complete an affidavit of religious 1175
objection, you must appear at the office of the board of 1176
elections during the four days after the election and provide 1177
photo identification or complete an affidavit of religious 1178
objection for your vote to be eligible to be counted. 1179

(4) ~~If Complete this section if you need to update your~~ 1180
~~voter registration, you may provide additional information~~ 1181
~~below. This information will not be used for ballot counting~~ 1182
~~purposes or if you need to verify the identification you used to~~ 1183
~~register to vote. If you need to verify your identification and~~ 1184
~~you do not provide the needed information on this form, you must~~ 1185
~~provide the information to the board of elections on or before~~ 1186
~~the fourth day following this election in order for your ballot~~ 1187
~~to be eligible to be counted.~~ 1188

Write your full Ohio driver's license or state 1189
identification card number: _____ 1190

Write the last four digits of your Social Security number: 1191
_____ 1192

(5) If you are casting a provisional ballot because you 1193
need to provide proof of citizenship, you must do one of the 1194
following for your ballot to be eligible to be counted: 1195

(a) If you have already provided proof of citizenship to 1196
the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, write your full Ohio driver's 1197
license or state identification card number above. 1198

(b) Provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections 1199
on or before the fourth day following this election. 1200

(E) If your right to vote has been challenged, you must 1201
provide any required additional information to the board of 1202
elections on or before the ~~seventh~~fourth day following this 1203
election. 1204

(F) Sign and date the following statement: 1205

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the 1206
United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the 1207
time of the general election; that I have lived in this state 1208
for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am 1209
voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct 1210
in which I am voting this provisional ballot; and that I am 1211
eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this 1212
provisional ballot. 1213

I understand that, if the information I provide on this 1214
provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and 1215
correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not 1216
registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to 1217
vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines 1218
that I have already voted in this election, my provisional 1219

ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not 1220
currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my 1221
current address or under my current name, this form will serve 1222
as an application to register to vote or update my registration 1223
for future elections, as long as I provide all of the 1224
information required to register to vote or update my 1225
registration. I further understand that knowingly providing 1226
false information is a violation of law and subjects me to 1227
possible criminal prosecution. 1228

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 1229
that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my 1230
knowledge and belief. 1231

Signature of Voter 1232
1233

Date 1234
1235

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A 1236
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE." 1237

In the case of an individual who is casting a provisional 1238
ballot because the individual needs to provide proof of 1239
citizenship, the election officials shall provide the individual 1240
with a copy of a list of the documents that qualify as proof of 1241
citizenship. 1242

In addition to any information required to be included on 1243
the written affirmation, an individual casting a provisional 1244
ballot may provide additional information to the election 1245
official to assist the board of elections in determining the 1246
individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the 1247

date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if 1248
known. 1249

If the individual provided all of the information required 1250
under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to register to vote or 1251
to update the individual's registration on the provisional 1252
ballot affirmation, the board of elections shall consider the 1253
individual's provisional ballot affirmation to also serve as a 1254
notice of change of name, change of residence, or both, or as a 1255
voter registration form, as applicable, for that individual only 1256
for the purposes of future elections. 1257

Sec. 3505.183. (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to 1258
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall 1259
separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the 1260
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one 1261
member of each major political party shall place the sealed 1262
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the 1263
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes 1264
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those 1265
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 1266
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 1267
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 1268
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 1269
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 1270
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 1271
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 1272

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 1273
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 1274
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 1275
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 1276
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 1277

the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 1278
provisional ballot under division (B)(2) of section 3505.181 of 1279
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in 1280
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to 1281
be eligible to be counted: 1282

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of 1283
birth, and current address; 1284

(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter 1285
in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted; 1286

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in 1287
the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted. 1288

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 1289
in an affirmation under division (B)(1) of this section, in 1290
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 1291
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 1292
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 1293
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 1294
provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 1295
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 1296
during the four days after the day of the election under 1297
~~division (B)(7) or (8) of~~ section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, 1298
to assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility 1299
to vote. 1300

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 1301
additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this 1302
section and comparing the information required under division 1303
(B)(1) of this section with the individual's information in the 1304
statewide voter registration database, the board determines that 1305
all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope 1306

shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box 1307
to be counted: 1308

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 1309
registered to vote. 1310

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to 1311
cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election in which the 1312
individual cast the provisional ballot. 1313

(c) The individual provided all of the information 1314
required under division (B)(1) of this section in the 1315
affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 1316
individual cast the provisional ballot. 1317

(d) One of the following applies: 1318

(i) The individual provided photo identification at the 1319
time of casting the provisional ballot or appeared at the office 1320
of the board within four days after the day of the election and 1321
provided photo identification. If the individual provided the 1322
individual's Ohio driver's license or state identification card 1323
or an interim identification form, the individual provided the 1324
individual's driver's license number or state identification 1325
card number and the number is not different from the 1326
individual's driver's license number or state identification 1327
card number contained in the statewide voter registration 1328
database. 1329

(ii) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 1330
objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code at the time 1331
of casting the provisional ballot or at the office of the board 1332
within four days after the day of the election and the affidavit 1333
is valid under that section. 1334

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 1335

month and day of the individual's date of birth are not 1336
different from the day and month of the individual's date of 1337
birth contained in the statewide voter registration database. 1338

This division does not apply to an individual's 1339
provisional ballot if either of the following is true: 1340

(i) The individual's date of birth contained in the 1341
statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 1342

(ii) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 1343
least three of its members, that the individual has met all 1344
other requirements of division (B)(3) of this section. 1345

(f) The individual's current address is not different from 1346
the individual's address contained in the statewide voter 1347
registration database, unless the individual indicated that the 1348
individual is casting a provisional ballot because the 1349
individual has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of 1350
address, as described in division (A)(6) of section 3505.181 of 1351
the Revised Code. 1352

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional 1353
information required under division (B)(8) of section 3505.181 1354
of the Revised Code within four days after the day of the 1355
election. 1356

(h) If applicable, the individual provided the information 1357
required under division (D)(2) of section 3503.201 of the 1358
Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or within 1359
four days after the day of the election. 1360

(i) If applicable, the individual provided proof of 1361
citizenship on the provisional ballot affirmation or within four 1362
days after the day of the election. 1363

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of 1364
this section, if, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation 1365
and additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of 1366
this section and comparing the information required under 1367
division (B) (1) of this section with the individual's 1368
information in the statewide voter registration database, the 1369
board determines that any of the following applies, the 1370
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 1371
shall not be counted: 1372

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not 1373
qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 1374

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not 1375
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 1376
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1377

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the 1378
information required under division (B) (1) of this section in 1379
the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 1380
individual cast the provisional ballot. 1381

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the 1382
election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1383

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any 1384
additional information required under division (B) (8) of section 1385
3505.181 of the Revised Code within four days after the day of 1386
the election. 1387

(vi) The individual failed to provide photo 1388
identification, to provide the individual's driver's license or 1389
state identification card number if the individual provided 1390
photo identification in the form of an Ohio driver's license or 1391
state identification card or an interim identification form, or 1392

to complete an affidavit of religious objection. 1393

(vii) The individual failed to execute an affirmation 1394
under division (B) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1395

(viii) The individual provided photo identification in the 1396
form of an Ohio driver's license or state identification card or 1397
an interim identification form and the driver's license number 1398
or state identification card number the individual provided is 1399
different from the individual's driver's license number or state 1400
identification card number contained in the statewide voter 1401
registration database. 1402

(ix) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 1403
objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code, but the 1404
affidavit is not valid under that section. 1405

(x) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 1406
month and day of the individual's date of birth are different 1407
from the day and month of the individual's date of birth 1408
contained in the statewide voter registration database. 1409

This division does not apply to an individual's 1410
provisional ballot if either of the following is true: 1411

(I) The individual's date of birth contained in the 1412
statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 1413

(II) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 1414
least three of its members, that the individual has met all of 1415
the requirements of division (B) (3) of this section, other than 1416
the requirements of division (B) (3) (e) of this section. 1417

(xi) The individual's current address is different from 1418
the individual's address contained in the statewide voter 1419
registration database, unless the individual indicated that the 1420

individual is casting a provisional ballot because the 1421
individual has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of 1422
address, as described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of 1423
the Revised Code. 1424

(xii) If applicable, the individual did not provide the 1425
information required under division (D) (2) of section 3503.201 1426
of the Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or 1427
within four days after the day of the election. 1428

(xiii) If applicable, the individual did not provide proof 1429
of citizenship on the provisional ballot affirmation or within 1430
four days after the day of the election. 1431

(b) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 1432
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 1433
section and comparing the information required under division 1434
(B) (1) of this section with the individual's information in the 1435
statewide voter registration database, the board is unable to 1436
determine either of the following, the provisional ballot 1437
envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be 1438
counted: 1439

(i) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 1440
qualified or properly registered to vote; 1441

(ii) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 1442
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 1443
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 1444

(C) For each provisional ballot rejected under division 1445
(B) (4) of this section, the board shall record the name of the 1446
provisional voter who cast the ballot, the identification number 1447
of the provisional ballot envelope, the names of the election 1448
officials who determined the validity of that ballot, the date 1449

and time that the determination was made, and the reason that 1450
the ballot was not counted, unless the board has already 1451
recorded that information in another database. 1452

(D) (1) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 1453
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 1454
to vote, but in the correct polling location for the precinct in 1455
which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, and the 1456
election official failed to direct the individual to the correct 1457
precinct, the individual's ballot shall be remade under division 1458
(D) (2) of this section. The election official shall be deemed to 1459
have directed the individual to the correct precinct if the 1460
election official correctly completed the form described in 1461
division (C) (2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1462

(2) A board of elections that remakes a provisional ballot 1463
under division (D) (1) of this section shall remake the 1464
provisional ballot on a ballot for the appropriate precinct to 1465
reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the 1466
individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 1467
individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 1468
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 1469
which the individual was eligible to vote. 1470

(3) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 1471
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 1472
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 1473
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 1474
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 1475
shall not be counted. 1476

(E) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division 1477
(B) (4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be 1478
preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until 1479

the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 1480
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 1481
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 1482

(F) Provisional ballots that the board determines are 1483
eligible to be counted under division (B)(3) or (D) of this 1484
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 1485
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 1486
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 1487
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 1488
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of 1489
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 1490
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 1491
that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 1492
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 1493
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 1494
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 1495
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 1496
ballot. 1497

(G)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G)(2) of 1498
this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a board of 1499
elections from examining provisional ballot affirmations and 1500
additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this 1501
section to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to 1502
be counted during the seven days after the day of an election. 1503

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional 1504
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions 1505
(B)(1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by 1506
an individual who must provide photo identification, complete an 1507
affidavit of religious objection, or provide additional 1508
information to the board of elections under ~~division (B)(7) or~~ 1509

~~(8) of~~ section 3505.181 of the Revised Code for the board to
determine the individual's eligibility until the individual does
so or until the eighth day after the day of the election,
whichever is earlier.

Sec. 3505.20. Any person offering to vote may be
challenged at the polling place by any precinct election
official. If the board of elections has ruled on the question
presented by a challenge prior to election day, its finding and
decision shall be final, and the voting location manager shall
be notified in writing. If the board has not ruled, the question
shall be determined as set forth in this section. If any person
is so challenged as unqualified to vote, the voting location
manager shall tender the person the following oath: "You do
swear or affirm under penalty of election falsification that you
will fully and truly answer all of the following questions put
to you concerning your qualifications as an elector at this
election."

(A) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the
ground that the person is not a United States citizen, the
precinct election officials shall put the following questions:

(1) Are you a citizen of the United States?

(2) ~~Are you a native or naturalized citizen?~~

~~(3) Where were you born?~~

~~(4) What official documentation do~~ Do you possess ~~to prove~~
proof of your United States citizenship? Please provide that
documentation.

If the person offering to vote ~~claims to be a naturalized~~
~~citizen of the United States, the person shall, before the vote~~
~~is received, produce~~ produces proof of citizenship for

inspection of the precinct election officials ~~a certificate of~~ 1539
~~naturalization~~, other than the number of the person's Ohio 1540
driver's license or state identification card, and declare 1541
declares under oath that the person is ~~the identical person~~ 1542
~~named in the certificate. If the person states under oath that,~~ 1543
~~by reason of the naturalization of the person's parents or one~~ 1544
~~of them, the person has become a citizen of the United States,~~ 1545
~~and when or where the person's parents were naturalized, the~~ 1546
~~certificate of naturalization need not be produced~~ the person 1547
shall be permitted to cast a regular ballot. If the person is 1548
unable to provide ~~a certificate of naturalization proof of~~ 1549
citizenship, other than the number of the person's Ohio driver's 1550
license or state identification card, on the day of the 1551
election, the precinct election officials shall provide to the 1552
person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 1553
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 1554
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 1555
board of elections determines that the voter is properly 1556
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 1557

(B) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 1558
ground that the person has not resided in this state for thirty 1559
days immediately preceding the election, the precinct election 1560
officials shall put the following questions: 1561

(1) Have you resided in this state for thirty days 1562
immediately preceding this election? If so, where have you 1563
resided? 1564

(2) Did you properly register to vote? 1565

(3) Can you provide some form of identification containing 1566
your current mailing address in this precinct? Please provide 1567
that identification. 1568

(4) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 1569
location in this or in any other state at this election? 1570

(5) Have you applied for an absent voter's ballot in any 1571
state for this election? 1572

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 1573
the person's eligibility to cast a ballot in the election, the 1574
precinct election officials shall provide to the person, and the 1575
person may vote, a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1576
the Revised Code. The provisional ballot shall not be counted 1577
unless it is properly completed and the board of elections 1578
determines that the voter is properly registered and eligible to 1579
vote in the election. 1580

(C) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 1581
ground that the person is not a resident of the precinct where 1582
the person offers to vote, the precinct election officials shall 1583
put the following questions: 1584

(1) Do you reside in this precinct? 1585

(2) When did you move into this precinct? 1586

(3) When you came into this precinct, did you come for a 1587
temporary purpose merely or for the purpose of making it your 1588
home? 1589

(4) What is your current mailing address? 1590

(5) Do you have some official identification containing 1591
your current address in this precinct? Please provide that 1592
identification. 1593

(6) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 1594
location in this or in any other state at this election? 1595

(7) Have you applied for any absent voter's ballot in any 1596
state for this election? 1597

The precinct election officials shall direct an individual 1598
who is not in the appropriate polling place to the appropriate 1599
polling place. If the individual refuses to go to the 1600
appropriate polling place, or if the precinct election officials 1601
are unable to verify the person's eligibility to cast a ballot 1602
in the election, the precinct election officials shall provide 1603
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 1604
under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 1605
ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 1606
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 1607
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 1608

(D) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 1609
ground that the person is not of legal voting age, the precinct 1610
election officials shall put the following questions: 1611

(1) Are you eighteen years of age or more? 1612

(2) What is your date of birth? 1613

(3) Do you have some official identification verifying 1614
your age? Please provide that identification. 1615

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 1616
the person's age and eligibility to cast a ballot in the 1617
election, the precinct election officials shall provide to the 1618
person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 1619
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 1620
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 1621
board of elections determines that the voter is properly 1622
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 1623

The voting location manager shall put such other questions 1624

to the person challenged as are necessary to determine the 1625
person's qualifications as an elector at the election. If a 1626
person challenged refuses to answer fully any question put to 1627
the person, is unable to answer the questions as they were 1628
answered on the registration form by the person under whose name 1629
the person offers to vote, or refuses to sign the person's name 1630
or make the person's mark, or if for any other reason a majority 1631
of the precinct election officials believes the person is not 1632
entitled to vote, the precinct election officials shall provide 1633
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 1634
under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 1635
ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 1636
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 1637
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 1638

A qualified citizen who has certified the citizen's 1639
intention to vote for president and vice-president as provided 1640
by Chapter 3504. of the Revised Code shall be eligible to 1641
receive only the ballot containing presidential and vice- 1642
presidential candidates. 1643

However, not later than the thirtieth day before the day 1644
of an election and in accordance with section 3503.24 of the 1645
Revised Code, any person qualified to vote may challenge the 1646
right of any other person to be registered as a voter, or the 1647
right to cast an absent voter's ballot, or to make application 1648
for such ballot. Such challenge shall be made in accordance with 1649
section 3503.24 of the Revised Code, and the board of elections 1650
of the county in which the voting residence of the challenged 1651
voter is situated shall make a final determination relative to 1652
the legality of such registration or application. 1653

Sec. 3509.05. (A) When an elector receives an absent 1654

voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, 1655
the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note 1656
whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any 1657
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the 1658
board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 1659
ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and 1660
the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the 1661
board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and 1662
sealed within the identification envelope received from the 1663
board of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 1664
cause the statement of voter on the outside of the 1665
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under 1666
penalty of election falsification. 1667

(B) The elector shall provide one of the following: 1668

(1) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 1669
identification card number on the statement of voter on the 1670
identification envelope; 1671

(2) The last four digits of the elector's social security 1672
number on the statement of voter on the identification envelope; 1673

(3) A copy of the elector's photo identification in the 1674
return envelope with the identification envelope. 1675

(C) (1) The elector shall mail the identification envelope 1676
to the office of the board of elections in the return envelope, 1677
postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver it to the 1678
office of the board, or the spouse of the elector, the father, 1679
mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, 1680
brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, 1681
daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, 1682
uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to 1683

the office of the board. The return envelope shall be returned 1684
by no other person, in no other manner, and to no other 1685
location, except as otherwise provided in section 3509.08 of the 1686
Revised Code. 1687

(2) If the board maintains multiple offices in the county, 1688
as permitted under division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 1689
Revised Code, the board may designate any of its offices for the 1690
return of absent voter's ballots under this section, provided 1691
that the board shall designate only one office to which absent 1692
voter's ballots shall be returned under this section. 1693

(3) (a) The board of elections may place not more than one 1694
secure receptacle outside the office of the board, on the 1695
property on which the office of the board is located, for the 1696
purpose of receiving absent voter's ballots under this section. 1697

(b) A secure receptacle shall be open to receive ballots 1698
only during the period beginning on the first day after the 1699
close of voter registration before the election and ending at 1700
seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election. The receptacle 1701
shall be open to receive ballots at all times during that 1702
period. 1703

(c) A secure receptacle shall be monitored by recorded 1704
video surveillance at all times. The video recordings are a 1705
public record. The board shall do one of the following: 1706

(i) Make the video recordings available for inspection 1707
upon request in accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised 1708
Code. 1709

(ii) Make each day's video recording available to the 1710
public on the internet for streaming or download without charge 1711
within seventy-two hours after the recording ends and make the 1712

video recordings available to the public upon request in 1713
accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 1714

(d) Only a bipartisan team of election officials may open 1715
a secure receptacle or handle its contents. A bipartisan team of 1716
election officials shall collect the contents of each secure 1717
receptacle and deliver them to the board for processing at least 1718
once each day and at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the 1719
election. If, at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election, 1720
there are persons waiting in line to deposit absent voter's 1721
ballots in a receptacle, those persons shall be permitted to 1722
deposit the ballots. 1723

(4) (a) During the period beginning on the forty-fifth day 1724
before election day and ending on the day after election day, on 1725
each day the office of the board of elections is open for 1726
business, the board shall report to the secretary of state all 1727
of the following information concerning the previous business 1728
day: 1729

(i) The number of return envelopes purporting to contain 1730
absent voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent 1731
voter's ballots the board received by personal delivery, other 1732
than to a receptacle described in division (C) (3) of this 1733
section; 1734

(ii) If the board has placed a secure receptacle outside 1735
the office of the board under division (C) (3) of this section, 1736
the number of return envelopes purporting to contain absent 1737
voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 1738
ballots the board received in the receptacle. 1739

(b) As soon as practicable after receiving a report under 1740
division (C) (4) (a) of this section, the secretary of state shall 1741

make the information in the report available to the public on 1742
the secretary of state's official web site. 1743

~~(D) (1) (D)~~ Except as otherwise provided in ~~division (D) (2)~~ 1744
~~of this section 3511.11 of the Revised Code~~, all envelopes 1745
containing marked absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to 1746
the office of the board not later than the close of the polls on 1747
the day of an election. Absent voter's ballots delivered to the 1748
office of the board later than the times specified shall not be 1749
counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed 1750
identification envelopes in which they are delivered, until the 1751
time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 1752
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 1753
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 1754

~~(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) (2) (b)~~ 1755
~~of this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to~~ 1756
~~the day of the election shall be delivered to the director prior~~ 1757
~~to the fifth day after the election. Ballots delivered in~~ 1758
~~envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election that are~~ 1759
~~received after the close of the polls on election day through~~ 1760
~~the fourth day thereafter shall be counted on the fifth day at~~ 1761
~~the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C)~~ 1762
~~and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner~~ 1763
~~provided in division (E) of that section, as applicable. Any~~ 1764
~~such ballots that are received by the director later than the~~ 1765
~~fourth day following the election shall not be counted, but~~ 1766
~~shall be kept by the board in the sealed identification~~ 1767
~~envelopes as provided in division (A) of this section.~~ 1768

~~(b) Division (D) (2) (a) of this section shall not apply to~~ 1769
~~any mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system,~~ 1770
~~including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1.~~ 1771

Sec. 3517.14. (A) (1) There is in the office of the 1772
secretary of state the Ohio election integrity commission, 1773
consisting of the following five members: 1774

(a) A chairperson appointed by the secretary of state; 1775

(b) One member appointed by the speaker of the house of 1776
representatives; 1777

(c) One member appointed by the minority leader of the 1778
house of representatives; 1779

(d) One member appointed by the president of the senate; 1780

(e) One member appointed by the senate minority leader. 1781

(2) (a) Subject to division (A) (2) (b) of this section, each 1782
member of the commission shall be a registered elector to whom 1783
at least one of the following applies: 1784

(i) The person is an attorney in good standing before the 1785
supreme court of Ohio. 1786

(ii) The person has at least four years of work experience 1787
in election administration. 1788

(b) At all times, at least three members of the commission 1789
shall be attorneys in good standing before the supreme court of 1790
Ohio. If, at any time that multiple appointments to the 1791
commission are made simultaneously, too few of the intended 1792
appointees are attorneys, the following appointing officials 1793
shall have priority in selecting their preferred appointees who 1794
are not attorneys, in the order stated, and the appointing 1795
officials with lower priority shall select appointees who are 1796
attorneys: the secretary of state, the speaker of the house of 1797
representatives, the president of the senate, the senate 1798
minority leader, and the house minority leader. 1799

(3) The members of the commission appointed under 1800
divisions (A) (1) (a), (c), and (d) of this section shall serve 1801
initial terms of four years beginning on January 1, 2026, and 1802
the members appointed under divisions (A) (1) (b) and (e) of this 1803
section shall serve initial terms of two years beginning on 1804
January 1, 2026. Thereafter, all terms shall be four years. 1805

(B) Each member of the commission shall hold office from 1806
the date of the member's appointment until the end of the term 1807
for which the member was appointed. A member appointed to fill a 1808
vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which 1809
the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the 1810
remainder of that term. A member shall continue in office 1811
subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term until the 1812
member's successor takes office or until a period of sixty days 1813
has elapsed, whichever occurs first. 1814

(C) A vacancy on the commission may be caused by death or 1815
resignation or by removal under division (I) of this section. 1816
Any vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as for the 1817
original appointment. 1818

(D) Each member of the commission while in the performance 1819
of the business of the commission shall be entitled to receive 1820
compensation at the rate of twenty-five thousand dollars per 1821
year. Members shall be reimbursed for expenses actually and 1822
necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties. 1823

(E) No member of the commission shall serve for more than 1824
two successive terms of four years. Terms are considered 1825
successive unless separated by a period of at least four years. 1826
In determining a person's eligibility to be a member of the 1827
commission, all of the following apply: 1828

(1) Time spent as a member in fulfillment of a term to 1829
which another person was first appointed shall not be 1830
considered, provided that a period of at least four years has 1831
passed between the time, if any, when the person previously was 1832
a member and the time the person is appointed to fulfill the 1833
unexpired term. 1834

(2) A person who is appointed to serve a full term and 1835
resigns before completing the term is considered to have served 1836
the full term. 1837

(3) A ~~two-year~~ two-year term served under division (A) (3) 1838
of this section is considered a full term of four years. 1839

(F) (1) No member of the Ohio election integrity commission 1840
shall do or be any of the following: 1841

(a) Hold, or be a candidate for, a an elected public 1842
office; 1843

(b) Serve on a committee supporting or opposing a 1844
candidate or ballot question or issue; 1845

(c) Be an officer of the state central committee, a county 1846
central committee, or a district, city, township, or other 1847
committee of a political party or an officer of the executive 1848
committee of the state central committee, a county central 1849
committee, or a district, city, township, or other committee of 1850
a political party; 1851

(d) Be a legislative agent as defined in section 101.70 of 1852
the Revised Code or an executive agency lobbyist as defined in 1853
section 121.60 of the Revised Code; 1854

(e) Solicit or be involved in soliciting contributions on 1855
behalf of a candidate, campaign committee, political party, 1856

legislative campaign fund, political action committee, or 1857
political contributing entity; 1858

~~(f) Be in the unclassified service under section 124.11 of~~ 1859
~~the Revised Code~~compensated for providing goods or services to a 1860
candidate, campaign committee, political party, legislative 1861
campaign fund, political action committee, or political 1862
contributing entity; 1863

(g) Be a person or employee who is excluded from the 1864
definition of public employee pursuant to division (C) of 1865
section 4117.01 of the Revised Code. 1866

(2) No member of the commission shall make a contribution 1867
to, or for the benefit of, a campaign committee or committee in 1868
support of or opposition to a ballot question or issue, a 1869
political party, a legislative campaign fund, a political action 1870
committee, or a political contributing entity. 1871

(G) (1) The commission shall meet at the call of the 1872
chairperson or upon the written request of a majority of the 1873
members. The meetings and hearings of the commission under 1874
sections 3517.15 to 3517.18 of the Revised Code are subject to 1875
section 121.22 of the Revised Code. 1876

(2) The commission shall adopt rules for its procedures in 1877
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. Four of the 1878
five members constitute a quorum. Except as otherwise provided 1879
in this section and in sections 3517.15 to 3517.18 of the 1880
Revised Code, no action shall be taken without the concurrence 1881
of a majority of the members. 1882

(H) The secretary of state shall employ the technical, 1883
professional, and clerical employees that are necessary for the 1884
commission to carry out its duties, and the attorney general 1885

shall provide legal counsel to the commission upon the 1886
commission's request. 1887

(I) (1) The secretary of state, the speaker or minority 1888
leader of the house of representatives, or the president or 1889
minority leader of the senate may file a complaint in the 1890
supreme court of Ohio, seeking the removal of a member of the 1891
commission on any of the following grounds: 1892

(a) That the member does not meet the applicable 1893
requirements of division (A) (2) of this section; 1894

(b) That the member has violated division (F) of this 1895
section; 1896

(c) That the member has been absent from three or more 1897
meetings of the commission in a calendar year; 1898

(d) That the member is guilty of misconduct in office, as 1899
described in section 3.07 of the Revised Code. 1900

(2) The court shall hear a complaint filed with it under 1901
division (I) (1) of this section on an expedited basis. If the 1902
court determines that the charges in the complaint are true, the 1903
court shall order the member removed from the commission, and 1904
the seat shall be considered vacant. 1905

Section 2. That existing sections 3501.01, 3503.13, 1906
3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.18, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.18, 1907
3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, and 3517.14 of 1908
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 1909

Section 3. The General Assembly, applying the principle 1910
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 1911
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 1912
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 1913

presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 1914
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 1915
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 1916
as presented in this act: 1917

Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code as amended by both 1918
H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly. 1919

Section 3505.183 of the Revised Code as amended by both 1920
H.B. 45 and H.B. 458 of the 134th General Assembly. 1921