As Introduced

136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026

S. B. No. 153

Senators Gavarone, Brenner

To amend sections 303.12, 303.59, 307.94, 3501.01, 3501.38, 3501.381, 3501.39, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.33, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.09, 3511.11, 3511.14, 3513.07, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.12, 3519.02, 3519.05, 3519.16, 3599.12, and 3599.21 and to enact sections 3503.201, 3503.202, and 3511.052 of the Revised Code to require verification of an elector's citizenship before the elector may vote and to modify procedures regarding voter registration, voter roll maintenance, absent voting, and election petitions.

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

Section 1. That sections 303.12, 303.59, 307.94, 3501.01, 3501.38, 3501.381, 3501.39, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.33, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09,

3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.09, 3511.11, 3511.14, 3513.07, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.12, 3519.02, 3519.05, 3519.16, 3599.12, and 3599.21 be amended and sections 3503.201, 3503.202, and 3511.052 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 303.12. (A)(1) Amendments to the zoning resolution may be initiated by motion of the county rural zoning commission, by the passage of a resolution by the board of county commissioners, or by the filing of an application by one or more of the owners or lessees of property within the area proposed to be changed or affected by the proposed amendment with the county rural zoning commission. The board of county commissioners may require that the owner or lessee of property filing an application to amend the zoning resolution pay a fee to defray the cost of advertising, mailing, filing with the county recorder, and other expenses. If the board of county commissioners requires such a fee, it shall be required generally, for each application. The board of county commissioners, upon the passage of such a resolution, shall certify it to the county rural zoning commission.

(2) Upon the adoption of a motion by the county rural zoning commission, the certification of a resolution by the board of county commissioners to the commission, or the filing of an application by property owners or lessees as described in division (A)(1) of this section with the commission, the commission shall set a date for a public hearing, which date shall not be less than twenty nor more than forty days from the date of adoption of such a motion, the date of the certification of such a resolution, or the date of the filing of such an application. Notice of the hearing shall be given by the commission by one publication at least ten days before the date of the hearing, using at least one of the following methods:

(a) In the print or digital edition of one or more newspapers of general circulation in each township affected by the proposed amendment;

(b) On the official public notice web site established under section 125.182 of the Revised Code;

(c) On the web site and social media account of the county.

(B) If the proposed amendment intends to rezone or redistrict ten or fewer parcels of land, as listed on the county auditor's current tax list, written notice of the hearing shall be mailed by the county rural zoning commission, by first class mail, at least ten days before the date of the public hearing to all owners of property within and contiguous to and directly across the street from the area proposed to be rezoned or redistricted to the addresses of those owners appearing on the county auditor's current tax list. The failure of delivery of that notice shall not invalidate any such amendment.

(C) If the proposed amendment intends to rezone or redistrict ten or fewer parcels of land as listed on the county auditor's current tax list, the published and mailed notices shall set forth the time, date, and place of the public hearing and include all of the following:

(1) The name of the county rural zoning commission that will be conducting the hearing;

(2) A statement indicating that the motion, resolution, or application is an amendment to the zoning resolution;

(3) A list of the addresses of all properties to be rezoned or redistricted by the proposed amendment and of the names of owners of these properties, as they appear on the

county auditor's current tax list;

(4) The present zoning classification of property named in the proposed amendment and the proposed zoning classification of that property;

(5) The time and place where the motion, resolution, or application proposing to amend the zoning resolution will be available for examination for a period of at least ten days prior to the hearing;

(6) The name of the person responsible for giving notice of the public hearing by publication, by mail, or by both publication and mail;

(7) A statement that, after the conclusion of the hearing, the matter will be submitted to the board of county commissioners for its action;

(8) Any other information requested by the commission.

(D) If the proposed amendment alters the text of the zoning resolution, or rezones or redistricts more than ten parcels of land as listed on the county auditor's current tax list, the published notice shall set forth the time, date, and place of the public hearing and include all of the following:

(1) The name of the county rural zoning commission that will be conducting the hearing on the proposed amendment;

(2) A statement indicating that the motion, application, or resolution is an amendment to the zoning resolution;

(3) The time and place where the text and maps of the proposed amendment will be available for examination for a period of at least ten days prior to the hearing;

(4) The name of the person responsible for giving notice of the hearing by publication;

(5) A statement that, after the conclusion of the hearing, the matter will be submitted to the board of county commissioners for its action;

(6) Any other information requested by the commission.

Hearings shall be held in the county court house or in a public place designated by the commission.

(E) Within five days after the adoption of the motion described in division (A) of this section, the certification of the resolution described in division (A) of this section, or the filing of the application described in division (A) of this section, the county rural zoning commission shall transmit a copy of it together with text and map pertaining to it to the county or regional planning commission, if there is such a commission.

The county or regional planning commission shall recommend the approval or denial of the proposed amendment or the approval of some modification of it and shall submit its recommendation to the county rural zoning commission. The recommendation shall be considered at the public hearing held by the county rural zoning commission on the proposed amendment.

The county rural zoning commission, within thirty days after the hearing, shall recommend the approval or denial of the proposed amendment, or the approval of some modification of it, and shall submit that recommendation together with the motion, application, or resolution involved, the text and map pertaining to the proposed amendment, and the recommendation of the county or regional planning commission on it to the board of county

commissioners.

The board of county commissioners, upon receipt of that recommendation, shall set a time for a public hearing on the proposed amendment, which date shall be not more than thirty days from the date of the receipt of that recommendation. Notice of the hearing shall be given by the board by one publication at least ten days before the date of the hearing, using at least one of the following methods:

(1) In the print or digital edition of one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county;

(2) On the official public notice web site established under section 125.182 of the Revised Code;

(3) On the web site and social media account of the county.

(F) If the proposed amendment intends to rezone or redistrict ten or fewer parcels of land as listed on the county auditor's current tax list, the published notice shall set forth the time, date, and place of the public hearing and include all of the following:

(1) The name of the board of county commissioners that will be conducting the hearing;

(2) A statement indicating that the motion, application, or resolution is an amendment to the zoning resolution;

(3) A list of the addresses of all properties to be rezoned or redistricted by the proposed amendment and of the names of owners of those properties, as they appear on the county auditor's current tax list;

(4) The present zoning classification of property named in

the proposed amendment and the proposed zoning classification of that property;

(5) The time and place where the motion, application, or resolution proposing to amend the zoning resolution will be available for examination for a period of at least ten days prior to the hearing;

(6) The name of the person responsible for giving notice of the hearing by publication, by mail, or by both publication and mail;

(7) Any other information requested by the board.

(G) If the proposed amendment alters the text of the zoning resolution, or rezones or redistricts more than ten parcels of land as listed on the county auditor's current tax list, the published notice shall set forth the time, date, and place of the public hearing and include all of the following:

(1) The name of the board of county commissioners that will be conducting the hearing on the proposed amendment;

(2) A statement indicating that the motion, application, or resolution is an amendment to the zoning resolution;

(3) The time and place where the text and maps of the proposed amendment will be available for examination for a period of at least ten days prior to the hearing;

(4) The name of the person responsible for giving notice of the hearing by publication;

(5) Any other information requested by the board.

(H) Within twenty days after its public hearing, the board of county commissioners shall either adopt or deny the

recommendation of the county rural zoning commission or adopt some modification of it. If the board denies or modifies the commission's recommendation, a majority vote of the board shall be required.

The proposed amendment, if adopted by the board, shall become effective in thirty days after the date of its adoption, unless, within thirty days after the adoption, there is presented to the board of county commissioners a petition, signed by a number of qualified voters residing in the unincorporated area of the township or part of that unincorporated area included in the zoning plan equal to not less than eight per cent of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor in that area at the most recent general election at which a governor was elected, requesting the board to submit the amendment to the electors of that area for approval or rejection at a special election to be held on the day of the next primary or general election occurring at least ninety days after the petition is submitted. Each part of this petition shall contain the number and the full and correct title, if any, of the zoning amendment resolution, motion, or application, furnishing the name by which the amendment is known and a brief summary of its contents. In addition to meeting the requirements of this section, each petition shall be governed by the rules specified in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code.

The form of a petition calling for a zoning referendum and the statement of the circulator shall be substantially as follows:

"PETITION FOR ZONING REFERENDUM

(if the proposal is identified by a particular name or number, or both, these should be inserted here) _____

A proposal to amend the zoning map of the unincorporated area of _____ Township, _____ County, Ohio, adopted _____ (date) _____ (followed by brief summary of the proposal).

To the Board of County Commissioners of _____ County, Ohio:

We, the undersigned, being electors residing in the unincorporated area of _____ Township, included within the _____ County Zoning Plan, equal to not less than eight per cent of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor in the area at the preceding general election at which a governor was elected, request the Board of County Commissioners to submit this amendment of the zoning resolution to the electors of _____ Township residing within the unincorporated area of the township included in the _____ County Zoning Resolution, for approval or rejection at a special election to be held on the day of the next primary or general election to be held on _____(date)_____, pursuant to section 303.12 of the Revised Code.

Signature	Street Address or R.F.D.	Township	Precinct	Date of County Signing

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR

I, _____(name of circulator)_____, declare under penalty of election falsification that I ~~am an elector of the state of Ohio and~~ reside at the address appearing

below my signature; that I am the circulator of the foregoing part petition containing _____(number)_____ signatures; that I have witnessed the affixing of every signature; that all signers were to the best of my knowledge and belief qualified to sign; and that every signature is to the best of my knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. (The circulator shall personally write the number of electors whose signatures the petition paper contains.)

For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided.

I am compensated to circulate this petition by _____ (name and address). (The circulator shall complete the preceding sentence as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being compensated to circulate the petition.)

_____

(Signature of circulator)

_____

(Address of circulator's permanent residence ~~in this state~~)

_____

(City, village, or township, and zip code)

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

No amendment for which such a referendum vote has been requested shall be put into effect unless a majority of the vote cast on the issue is in favor of the amendment. Upon certification by the board of elections that the amendment has been approved by the voters, it shall take immediate effect.

Within five working days after an amendment's effective date, the board of county commissioners shall file the text and maps of the amendment in the office of the county recorder and with the regional or county planning commission, if one exists.

The failure to file any amendment, or any text and maps, or duplicates of any of these documents, with the office of the county recorder or the county or regional planning commission as required by this section does not invalidate the amendment and is not grounds for an appeal of any decision of the board of zoning appeals.

Sec. 303.59. A resolution designating a restricted area prohibiting the construction of utility facilities, if adopted by the board of county commissioners, becomes effective thirty days after the date of its adoption, unless, within thirty days after the adoption, there is presented to the board of county commissioners a petition, signed by a number of registered electors residing in the county equal to not less than eight per cent of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor in that county at the most recent general election at which a governor was elected, requesting the board of county

commissioners to submit the resolution to the electors of that county for approval or rejection at a special election to be held on the day of the next primary or general election that occurs at least one hundred twenty days after the petition is filed. Each part petition shall contain the number and the full and correct title, if any, of the resolution, motion, or application, furnishing the name by which the resolution is known and a brief summary of its contents. In addition to meeting the requirements of this section, each petition shall be governed by the rules specified in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code.

The form of a petition calling for a referendum on the designation of a restricted area and the statement of the circulator shall be substantially as follows:

"PETITION FOR REFERENDUM ON THE DESIGNATION OF A RESTRICTED AREA PROHIBITING THE CONSTRUCTION OF UTILITY FACILITIES

(if the proposal is identified by a particular name or number, or both, these should be inserted here)_____

A proposal to designate a restricted area prohibiting the construction of utility facilities in the unincorporated area of _____ county, Ohio, adopted _____(date) (followed by brief summary of the resolution).

To the board of county commissioners of _____ county, Ohio:

We, the undersigned, being electors residing in _____county, equal to not less than eight per cent of the total vote cast for all candidates for governor in the county at the preceding general election at which a governor was elected,

request the board of county commissioners to submit this designation of a restricted area to the electors of _____ county, for approval or rejection at a special election to be held on the day of the primary or general election to be held on _____ (date), pursuant to section 303.59 of the Revised Code.

_____ Signature

_____ Residence address

_____ Date of signing

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR

I, _____ (name of circulator), declare under penalty of election falsification that I reside at the address appearing below my signature; that I am the circulator of the foregoing part petition containing _____ (number) signatures; that I have witnessed the affixing of every signature; that all signers were to the best of my knowledge and belief qualified to sign; and that every signature is to the best of my knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. (The circulator shall personally write the number of electors whose signatures the petition paper contains.)

For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided.

I am compensated to circulate this petition by _____ (name and address). (The circulator shall complete the preceding sentence as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being compensated to circulate the petition.)

_____ (Signature of circulator)

_____ (Circulator's residence address)

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

The petition shall be filed with the board of county commissioners. Within two weeks after receiving a petition filed under this section, the board of county commissioners shall certify the petition to the board of elections. A petition filed under this section shall be certified to the board of elections not less than ninety days prior to the election at which the question is to be voted upon.

The board of elections shall determine the sufficiency and validity of each petition certified to it by a board of county commissioners under this section. If the board of elections determines that a petition is sufficient and valid, the question shall be voted upon at a special election to be held on the day of the next primary or general election that occurs at least one hundred twenty days after the date the petition is filed with the board of county commissioners, regardless of whether any election will be held to nominate or elect candidates on that day.

No resolution designating a restricted area for which such a referendum vote has been requested shall be put into effect unless a majority of the vote cast on the issue is in favor of

the resolution. Upon certification by the board of elections that the resolution has been approved by the voters, it shall take immediate effect.

Within five working days after the resolution's effective date, the board of county commissioners shall file the text of the resolution and maps of the restricted area in the office of the county recorder and with the county or regional planning commission, if one exists.

The failure to file any resolution, or any text and maps, or duplicates of any of these documents, with the office of the county recorder as required by this section does not invalidate the resolution.

Sec. 307.94. Electors of a county, equal in number to ten per cent of the number who voted for governor in the county at the most recent gubernatorial election, may file, not later than one hundred fifteen days before the date of a general election, a petition with the board of county commissioners asking that the question of the adoption of a county charter in the form attached to the petition be submitted to the electors of the county. The petition shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the county commissioners during regular business hours until four p.m. of the one hundred eleventh day before the election, at which time the board shall, by resolution, certify the petition to the board of elections of the county for submission to the electors of the county, unless the signatures are insufficient or the petitions otherwise invalid, at the next general election.

Such electors may, in the alternative not later than the one hundred thirtieth day before the date of a general election, file such a petition with the board of elections of the county.

In such case the board of elections shall immediately proceed to determine whether the petition and the signatures on the petition meet the requirements of law and to count the number of valid signatures and to note opposite each invalid signature the reason for the invalidity. The board of elections shall complete its examination of the petition and the signatures and shall submit a report to the board of county commissioners not later than the one hundred twentieth day before the date of the general election certifying whether the petition is valid or invalid and, if invalid, the reasons for invalidity, whether there are sufficient valid signatures, and the number of valid and invalid signatures. The petition and a copy of the report to the board of county commissioners shall be available for public inspection at the board of elections. If the petition is certified by the board of elections to be valid and to have sufficient valid signatures, the board of county commissioners shall forthwith and not later than four p.m. on the one hundred eleventh day before the general election, by resolution, certify the petition to the board of elections for submission to the electors of the county at the next general election. If the petition is certified by the board of elections to be invalid or to have insufficient valid signatures, or both, the petitioners' committee may protest such findings or solicit additional signatures as provided in section 307.95 of the Revised Code, or both, or request that the board of elections proceed to establish the validity or invalidity of the petition and the sufficiency or insufficiency of the signatures in an action before the court of common pleas in the county. Such action must be brought within three days after the request has been made, and the case shall be heard forthwith by a judge or such court whose decision shall be certified to the board of elections and to the board of county commissioners in sufficient time to

permit the board of county commissioners to perform its duty to certify the petition, if it is determined by the court to be valid and contain sufficient valid signatures, to the board of elections not later than four p.m. on the one hundred eleventh day prior to the general election for submission to the electors at such general election.

A county charter to be submitted to the voters by petition shall be considered to be attached to the petition if it is printed as a part of the petition. A county charter petition may consist of any number of separate petition papers. Each part shall have attached a copy of the charter to be submitted to the electors, and each part shall otherwise meet all the requirements of law for a county charter petition. Section 3501.38 of the Revised Code applies to county charter petitions.

The petitioners shall designate in the petition the names ~~and addresses~~ of a committee of not fewer than three nor more than five persons who will represent them in all matters relating to the petition. Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to such petitions may be served on the ~~committee, or any of them~~ committee's agent designated under division (N)(1) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, either personally or by certified mail, or by leaving it at the agent's usual place of residence ~~of each of them~~.

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

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

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each

odd-numbered year.

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

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

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

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

in references to primary elections. In years in which a presidential primary election is held, all primary elections shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county charter.

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

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

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

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

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

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor

political party until the time of the first election for governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the office of governor or president.

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

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

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

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

nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate ballots for elections for these offices.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within

which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.

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

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

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

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

(1) Secretary of state;

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

(3) Director of a board of elections;

(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;

(5) Member of a board of elections;

(6) Employees of a board of elections;

(7) Precinct election officials;

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

(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state,

informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status of the application; the information necessary to complete or update the application, if any; and if the application is complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.

(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current address, name, or other information required for registration. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, shall be accompanied by a postage prepaid, preaddressed return envelope containing a form on which the elector may verify or correct the elector's registration, and shall meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the state that provides public assistance or that provides state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and that is required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering voters, or any other public or government office or agency that implements a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering voters, including the department of job and family services, the program administered under section 3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the department of mental health and addiction services, the department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not include public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, or the office of a county treasurer.

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

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

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

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

(b) A United States passport or passport card;

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

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

(BB) "Driver's license" means a license or permit issued by the registrar or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 4507. of the Revised Code that authorizes an individual to drive. "Driver's license" includes a driver's license, commercial driver's license, probationary license, restricted license, motorcycle operator's license, or temporary instruction

permit identification card. "Driver's license" does not include a limited term license issued under section 4507.09 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

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

(b) The individual's current or expired Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or interim identification form issued on or after April 7, 2023, or a copy of the front and back of that license, card, or form, if the license, card, or form does not include a notation designating that the individual is a noncitizen of the United States;

(c) The individual's current or expired driver's license

or nondriver identification card issued by another state within the United States, or a copy of the front and back of the license or card, if the issuing agency indicates on the license or card that the individual is a United States citizen;

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

(e) The individual's current or expired United States passport or passport card, a copy of the identification page of the passport, or a copy of the front and back of the passport card;

(f) The individual's certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship or a copy of one of those documents.

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

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

(A) Only electors qualified to vote on the candidacy or issue which is the subject of the petition shall sign a petition. Each signer shall be a registered elector pursuant to section 3503.01 of the Revised Code. The facts of qualification

shall be determined as of the date ~~when~~ the elector signs the petition ~~is filed~~.

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

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

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

~~(E)(1)~~ (E) On each petition paper, the circulator shall personally indicate the number of signatures contained on it, and shall sign a statement made under penalty of election falsification that ~~the~~ includes all of the following:

(1) A statement that the circulator witnessed the affixing of every signature, that all signers were to the best of the circulator's knowledge and belief qualified to sign, and that every signature is to the best of the circulator's knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section

3501.382 of the Revised Code~~. On the circulator's statement for a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition for a person seeking to become a statewide candidate, for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum petition, or for a party formation petition described in division (A)(1)(b) of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code, the circulator shall identify the~~ ;

(2) The circulator's name~~,~~ and the address of the circulator's permanent residence~~, and the name and address of the~~ ;

(3) If any person ~~employing~~ is compensating the circulator to circulate the petition, ~~if any.~~

~~(2) As used in division (E) of this section, "statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, or attorney general.~~ as described in division (C) of section 3501.381 of the Revised Code, the name and address of that person;

(4) The following statement:

"For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided."

(F) Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, if a circulator knowingly permits an unqualified person to sign a petition paper or permits a person

to write a name other than the person's own on a petition paper, that petition paper is invalid; otherwise, the signature of a person not qualified to sign shall be rejected but shall not invalidate the other valid signatures on the paper.

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

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

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

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

(b) No petition presented to or filed with the secretary of state, a board of elections, or any other public office for the purpose of the holding of an election on any question or issue may be resubmitted after it is withdrawn from a public office or rejected as containing insufficient signatures. Nothing in this division prevents a question or issue petition from being withdrawn by the filing of a written notice of the withdrawal by a majority of the members of the petitioning committee with the same public office with which the petition

was filed prior to the sixtieth day before the election at which the question or issue is scheduled to appear on the ballot.

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

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

(L) If a board of elections distributes for use a petition form for a declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or any type of question or issue petition that does not satisfy the requirements of law as of the date of that distribution, the board shall not invalidate the petition on the basis that the petition form does not satisfy the requirements of law, if the petition otherwise is valid. Division (L) of this section applies only if the candidate received the petition from the board within ninety days of when the petition is required to be filed.

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

(a) Whether the petition falls within the scope of a municipal political subdivision's authority to enact via initiative, including, if applicable, the limitations placed by Sections 3 and 7 of Article XVIII of the Ohio Constitution on the authority of municipal corporations to adopt local police,

sanitary, and other similar regulations as are not in conflict with general laws, and whether the petition satisfies the statutory prerequisites to place the issue on the ballot. The petition shall be invalid if any portion of the petition is not within the initiative power; or

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

(2) After making a determination under division (M)(1)(a) or (b) of this section, the board of elections shall promptly transmit a copy of the petition and a notice of the board's determination to the office of the secretary of state. Notice of the board's determination shall be given to the petitioners and the political subdivision.

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

(N) With respect to any petition for which a committee is designated to represent the petitioners, both of the following

apply:

(1) The committee shall designate an agent upon whom notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to the petition may be served. Each part-petition shall include the names of the members of the committee and the name and address of the committee's agent as they exist at the time the part-petition is printed.

(2) The committee shall designate in writing the names and addresses of one or more members or agents of the committee who consent to testify on behalf of the committee. The designation may set out the matters on which each person designated may testify. Upon request, the committee's agent described in division (N)(1) of this section shall make the designation available to the secretary of state, a board of elections, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

Sec. 3501.381. (A)(1) Any person who will receive compensation for supervising, managing, or otherwise organizing any effort to obtain signatures for a ~~declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate for a person seeking to become a statewide candidate, for a statewide initiative petition or a statewide referendum petition, or for a party formation~~ petition described in ~~division (A)(1)(b) of~~ section ~~3517.01~~ 3501.38 of the Revised Code shall file a statement to that effect with the office of the secretary of state before any signatures are obtained for the petition or before the person is engaged to supervise, manage, or otherwise organize the effort to obtain signatures for the petition, whichever is later.

(2) Any person who will compensate a person for supervising, managing, or otherwise organizing any effort to

obtain signatures for a ~~declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate for a person seeking to become a statewide candidate, for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum petition, or for a party formation~~ petition described in ~~division (A)(1)(b) of~~ section ~~3517.01~~ 3501.38 of the Revised Code shall file a statement to that effect with the office of the secretary of state before any signatures are obtained for the petition or before the person engages a person to supervise, manage, or otherwise organize the effort to obtain signatures for the petition, whichever is later.

~~(B)~~ (3) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form and content of the statements required under division (A) of this section.

~~(C)~~ (4) Whoever violates division ~~(A)~~ (A)(1) or (2) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, and the petition for which a person was compensated for supervising, managing, or otherwise organizing the effort to obtain signatures shall be deemed invalid.

~~(D) As used in this section, "statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, or attorney general.~~

(B) At all times while circulating a petition, a person who is compensated for circulating the petition shall have, plainly visible on the circulator's person, a badge that legibly identifies the circulator as a paid circulator. The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of the badge.

(C) For purposes of this section, a person is compensated

for taking an action if any of the following apply:

(1) The person has been paid, given, or promised, or has received, any money or other thing of value as consideration for taking the action.

(2) The person is authorized to take the action as part of the person's regular duties as an employee or contractor of another person.

(3) The person has been given or promised, or has received, an appointment, promotion, or contract or an increase in pay as consideration for taking the action.

(4) The person has been given or promised, or has received, assistance to obtain an appointment, promotion, or contract or an increase in pay as consideration for taking the action.

Sec. 3501.39. ~~(A)~~ (A)(1) The secretary of state or a board of elections shall accept any petition described in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code unless one of the following occurs:

~~(1)~~ (a) A written protest against the petition or candidacy, naming specific objections, is filed, a hearing is held, and a determination is made by the election officials with whom the protest is filed that the petition is invalid, in accordance with any section of the Revised Code providing a protest procedure.

~~(2)~~ (b) A written protest against the petition or candidacy, naming specific objections, is filed, a hearing is held, and a determination is made by the election officials with whom the protest is filed that the petition violates any requirement established by law.

~~(3)~~ (c) In the case of an initiative petition received by the board of elections, the petition falls outside the scope of authority to enact via initiative or does not satisfy the statutory prerequisites to place the issue on the ballot, as described in division (M) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code. The petition shall be invalid if any portion of the petition is not within the initiative power.

~~(4)~~ (d) The candidate's candidacy or the petition violates the requirements of this chapter, Chapter 3513. of the Revised Code, or any other requirements established by law.

(2) Whenever any person fails to fully comply with a subpoena or an order to produce evidence served upon the person in a proceeding under division (A)(1) of this section by the secretary of state acting pursuant to section 3501.05, or by a board of elections acting pursuant to division (J) of section 3501.11 or section 3519.18 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state or the board of elections, as applicable, may file in a court of competent jurisdiction, and serve upon the person, a request for an order of the court that compels compliance with the subpoena or order. If the court finds that the noncompliance was in bad faith or for the purpose of delay, it may order the person to pay to the secretary of state or the board of elections, as applicable, the reasonable expenses incurred in obtaining the order to comply, including attorney's fees, and may invoke the sanctions provided by Rule 37 of the Rules of Civil Procedure.

(B) No part-petition is properly verified if it appears on the face thereof, or is made to appear by satisfactory evidence, that any of the following are true:

(1) That the number and statement required by division (E)

of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code are not properly filled out by the circulator;

(2) That the statement required by division (E) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code is not properly signed, is altered by erasure, interlineation, or otherwise, or is false in any respect;

(3) That any one person has signed the part-petition more than once;

(4) If applicable, that division (A)(1) or (2) of section 3501.381 of the Revised Code was violated with respect to the petition;

(5) If applicable, that the circulator did not comply with the requirements of division (B) of section 3501.381 of the Revised Code while circulating the part-petition.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(C)~~ (D) of this section or section 3513.052 of the Revised Code, a board of elections shall not invalidate any declaration of candidacy or nominating petition under division ~~(A)(4)~~ (A)(1)(d) of this section after the sixtieth day prior to the election at which the candidate seeks nomination to office, if the candidate filed a declaration of candidacy, or election to office, if the candidate filed a nominating petition.

~~(C)(1)~~ (D)(1) If a petition is filed for the nomination or election of a candidate in a charter municipal corporation with a filing deadline that occurs after the ninetieth day before the day of the election, a board of elections may invalidate the petition within fifteen days after the date of that filing deadline.

(2) If a petition for the nomination or election of a

candidate is invalidated under division ~~(C)(1)~~ (D)(1) of this section, that person's name shall not appear on the ballots for any office for which the person's petition has been invalidated. If the ballots have already been prepared, the board of elections shall remove the name of that person from the ballots to the extent practicable in the time remaining before the election. If the name is not removed from the ballots before the day of the election, the votes for that person are void and shall not be counted.

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

(2) None of the following are subject to disclosure under division (A)(1) of this section:

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

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

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

(d) An elector's proof of citizenship;

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

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

Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form and content of the registration, change of residence, and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and shall include spaces for all of the following:

(1) The voter's name;

(2) The voter's current residence address;

(3) The current date;

(4) The voter's date of birth;

(5) The voter to provide ~~at least one of the following forms of identification:~~

~~(a) The~~ the voter's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number~~;~~

~~(b) The~~ or, if the voter does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the voter to provide the last four digits of the voter's social security number.

(6) A space for the voter to provide the voter's former residence address or addresses, if the voter is currently registered to vote at another address.

(7) The voter's signature, accompanied by the following statement: "I declare under penalty of election falsification I am a citizen of the United States, will have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding the next election, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election. I understand that if I am registered to vote at any other address, the election officials will be notified of my change of address."

The forms shall include the following statement:

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

The registration form shall include a space on which the person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and provide the person's address and a space on which the person registering an applicant shall name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant.

The forms shall include a box for the person filling out the form to check to indicate, if applicable, that the person has filled out all or part of the form on behalf of the applicant because the applicant declares that the applicant requires such assistance by reason of blindness, disability, or illiteracy.

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric character of the information provided by the voter so as to accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of

that data to the statewide voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code.

(B) None of the following persons who are registering an applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's address, or name the employer who is employing the person to register an applicant on a form prepared under this section:

(1) An election official;

(2) A county treasurer;

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(4) An employee of a designated agency;

(5) An employee of a public high school;

(6) An employee of a public vocational school;

(7) An employee of a public library;

(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;

(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;

(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(11) An employee of an election official.

(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence. The person

registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.

(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or failed to name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant as required under division (A) of this section.

~~(E)~~ (E)(1) A voter registration application is not required to contain the voter's former residence address to be considered valid.

(2) A voter registration application submitted electronically through the registrar of motor vehicles or a deputy registrar pursuant to section 3503.11 or submitted online through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered valid. The signature obtained under division (A)(3) of section 3503.11 or under division (B) of section 3503.20 of the Revised Code, as applicable, shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election and signature-matching purposes.

(F)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section and in sections 3501.382 and 3505.24 of the Revised Code, no person shall preprint or fill out any portion of a voter registration, change of residence, or change of name form on behalf of an applicant.

(2) A completed voter registration, change of residence, or change of name form is not valid if any portion of it has been completed by any person other than the applicant in

violation of division (F)(1) of this section.

(G) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.

Sec. 3503.15. (A) The secretary of state shall establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database that shall be administered by the office of data analytics and archives in the office of the secretary of state and made continuously available to each board of elections and to other agencies as authorized by law.

The statewide voter registration database shall be the official list of registered electors for all elections conducted in this state.

(B) The statewide voter registration database shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and with the offices of all other boards of elections;

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records contained in the database with records maintained by each board of elections;

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to the records contained in the database by each board of elections and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct updates of the database;

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered

electors and their registration information by name, driver's license or state identification card number, birth date, social security number, or current address;

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter registration information is maintained;

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records for not less than five years after they are canceled and to record the reason for their cancellation.

(C) For each registered elector, the statewide voter registration database shall include all of the following information:

(1) The elector's name;

(2) The elector's birth date;

(3) The elector's current residence address;

(4) The elector's precinct number;

(5) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number, if available;

(6) The last four digits of the elector's social security number, if available;

(7) The elector's telephone number, if available;

(8) The elector's electronic mail address, if available;

(9)(a) The elector's voter registration date, which shall be determined based on the elector's most recent application to register to vote in this state, subject to division (C)(9)(b) of this section, as follows:

(i) In the case of an application delivered in person to a state or local office of a designated agency, the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, or the office of a county treasurer, the date stamped on the application upon receipt by the entity that transmits the application to the board of elections or the secretary of state;

(ii) In the case of an application delivered in person to a board of elections or the secretary of state, the date stamped on the application upon receipt by the board of elections or the secretary of state, as applicable;

(iii) In the case of an application delivered by mail to a board of elections or the secretary of state, the date the application is postmarked;

(iv) In the case of an application submitted through the online voter registration system established under section 3503.20 of the Revised Code, the date of the online submission;

(v) In the case of an application submitted to a board of elections by facsimile transmission or electronic mail under Chapter 3511. of the Revised Code, the date of the receipt of the transmission or electronic mail by the board of elections;

(vi) In the case of a provisional ballot affirmation that serves as an application to register to vote in future elections because the individual who cast the ballot is not registered to vote, the date the board of elections determines that the provisional ballot is invalid under section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

(b) For purposes of determining an elector's voter registration date under division (C)(9)(a) of this section, all

of the following apply:

(i) An elector's voter registration date shall not be during the period beginning on the day after the close of voter registration before an election and ending on the day of the election. If the date determined under division (C)(9)(a) of this section would be during that period, the voter registration date instead shall be the date on which the board of elections processes the application to register to vote after the day of the election.

(ii) A change of address or change of name form, including a provisional ballot affirmation that serves as a change of address or change of name form, is not considered an application to register to vote.

(iii) An application to register to vote that is submitted by an individual who is already registered to vote in this state is not considered an application to register to vote.

(10) The elector's voting history, including all of the following for each election in which the elector cast a ballot that was counted:

(a) The date of the election;

(b) If the election was a primary election, the political party whose ballot the elector cast at the primary election or an indication that the elector voted only on the questions and issues appearing on the ballot at a special election held on the day of the primary election;

(c) The type of ballot the elector cast.

(11) The elector's last activity date, which shall be determined in accordance with rules adopted by the secretary of

state pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code~~.~~;

(12) The date, if any, on which the elector's United States citizenship was verified under section 3503.152 or 3503.202 of the Revised Code;

(13) If applicable, a notation that the elector is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3503.201 or 3503.202 of the Revised Code and the reason the elector is required to do so;

(14) Any other information the secretary of state requires to be included by rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(D) Every business day ~~during the period beginning on the forty-sixth day before an election and ending on the eighty-first day after the day of the election~~, a board of elections shall create a daily record of its voter registration database as of four p.m. and shall transmit the daily record to the secretary of state in a secure manner prescribed by the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall archive the daily record and retain it ~~for at least twenty-two months after the day of the election~~ permanently.

(E) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section and sections 3503.151 to 3503.153 of the Revised Code, including rules doing all of the following:

(1) Specifying the manner in which any voter registration records maintained by boards of elections in other data formats shall be converted for inclusion in the statewide voter registration database;

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter

registration records into the statewide voter registration database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, if new registration information is received, and for transmitting information securely to the secretary of state;

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled voter registration records from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;

(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter registration database and to make updates of that database;

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the information contained in the statewide voter registration database.

(F) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's name and voter registration information from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by the secretary of state under division (E)(3) of this section after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code.

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

(H) A board of elections and any vendor with which it contracts to provide voter registration software or related services shall ensure that the board's voter registration system and practices comply with the requirements of this section and any rules adopted under this section.

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

(B)(1) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and family services, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state that is collected in the course of normal business and that is necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration database, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and family services, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of state. No public office, and no public official or employee, shall sell that information or data or use that information or data for profit.

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

(C)(1) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements to share information or data that is in the possession of the secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the statewide voter registration database. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the state providing the data remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of state.

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

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

(D) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, the information and data the secretary of state receives under divisions (B) and (C) of this section that is necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable state and federal law:

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

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

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

(E)(1) The secretary of state shall use the information in the statewide voter registration database and the databases of the bureau of motor vehicles and the United States social security administration regularly to prepare and transmit a report to each board of elections that identifies each voter registration record in the county to which any of the following apply and that has not been identified in a previous report:

(a) The record contains neither an Ohio driver's license or state identification card number nor the last four digits of a social security number.

(b) The record contains an Ohio driver's license or state identification card number, but one of the following applies:

(i) The number does not exist in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles.

(ii) The number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles but is not associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record.

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(2) of this section, the number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and is associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record, but the residence address that appears in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles is not the same as the residence address that appears in the voter registration record.

(c) The record contains the last four digits of a social security number, but one of the following applies:

(i) Those digits do not exist in the records of the United States social security administration.

(ii) Those digits exist in the records of the United States social security administration but are not associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record.

(2) The report shall exclude any voter registration record described in division (E)(1)(b)(iii) belonging to an elector to whom either of the following applies:

(a) The elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program described in sections 111.41 to 111.99

of the Revised Code.

(b) The elector is a designated public service worker, as described in section 149.43 of the Revised Code, and one of the following applies:

(i) The elector has submitted a redaction request to the secretary of state or to the board of elections under section 149.45 of the Revised Code.

(ii) It is otherwise apparent from the elector's voter registration record or from the records of the bureau of motor vehicles that the elector is a designated public service worker.

(3) If, after a voter registration record appears on a report created under division (E) of this section because of the circumstances described in division (E)(1)(b)(iii) of this section, and the secretary of state learns in the preparation of a subsequent report that the elector's residence address in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles has been updated to match the elector's residence address in the voter registration record, the subsequent report shall include an instruction to the board to remove the indication from the elector's registration record added under division (A)(1) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code.

(4) Promptly after receiving the report, the board of elections shall proceed under section 3503.201 of the Revised Code.

(5) Subject to division (A)(2) of section 3503.13 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the information in each report available to the public on the secretary of state's official web site.

(F)(1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under

Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish a uniform method for addressing instances in which records contained in the statewide voter registration database do not conform with records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states described in division (B) or (C) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that the information in the registration record does not conform to records maintained by such an agency.

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

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

Sec. 3503.152. ~~The~~ At least once each month, and every day during the period beginning on the forty-sixth day before an election and ending on the day before the day of the election, the secretary of state shall ~~conduct an annual~~ review ~~of~~ the statewide voter registration database to ~~identify persons who appear not to be~~ verify the United States ~~citizens~~ citizenship

of persons whose citizenship has not been verified, as follows:

~~(A)~~ (A)(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information in the statewide voter registration database with the information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.151 of the Revised Code to identify any person who has submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles that indicates that the person is a United States citizen.

(2) The secretary of state shall compare the information in the statewide voter registration database with the information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.151 of the Revised Code to identify any person who does all of the following, in the following order, and who has not previously been included in a report issued under this section:

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

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

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

~~(B) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to each person identified under division (A) of this section, instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a United States citizen or to submit a completed voter registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The~~

~~secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in division (C) or (D) of this section not later than thirty days after the notice is sent, the secretary of state promptly shall send the person a second notice and form.~~

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

~~(D) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (B) of this section sends a completed voter registration cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in which the person is registered to cancel the person's registration.~~

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

~~cancellation.~~

~~(F) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review described in this section during the ninety days immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal office.~~(3) Separately, the secretary of state shall compare the information in the statewide voter registration database with the information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.151 of the Revised Code to identify any person who has submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen, has not subsequently submitted documentation to the bureau that indicates that the person has become a United States citizen, and has not previously been included in a report issued under this section. The secretary of state then shall consult 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, to determine whether the program indicates that the person is not a United States citizen.

(B)(1) When the secretary of state verifies that a person is a United States citizen under division (A)(1) of this section, the secretary of state promptly shall send a report to the applicable board of elections, instructing the board to proceed under division (D) of section 3503.201 or division (A)(1)(e) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code, as applicable.

(2) When the secretary of state identifies a person who appears not to be a United States citizen under division (A)(2) or (3) of this section, the secretary of state promptly shall send a report to the applicable board of elections, instructing the board to proceed under division (A)(1)(e) of section

3503.202 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) If, after being sent a confirmation notice under division (A)(1)(e) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code, a person cancels the person's voter registration or has the person's registration canceled under division (D)(4) of that section, the secretary of state shall refer the matter to the attorney general for further investigation and possible prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any other applicable section of the Revised Code.

(2) If, within fourteen days after a person is sent a second confirmation notice under division (A)(1)(e) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code, the person does not provide valid proof of citizenship to the board of elections under that section or cancel the person's voter registration, the secretary of state shall do all of the following:

(a) Cancel the person's voter registration and notify the board of elections of that action;

(b) Send the person a notice that the person's voter registration has been canceled and the reason for the cancelation;

(c) Refer the matter to the attorney general for further investigation and possible prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any other applicable section of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3503.153. (A) The statewide voter registration database shall be made available on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as follows:

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of this section, the following information from the statewide voter

registration database regarding a registered elector shall be made available on the web site:

(a) The elector's name;

(b) The elector's birth date;

(c) The elector's current residence address;

(d) The elector's precinct number;

(e) The elector's voter registration date, as described in division (C)(9) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code;

(f) The elector's voting history, as described in division (C)(10) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code;

(g) The elector's last activity date, as described in division (C)(11) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code;

(h) If applicable, the fact that the elector is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3503.201 or 3503.202 of the Revised Code, the reason for that fact, and the information the elector must provide to the board of elections to become eligible to cast a regular ballot.

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

(3) No information in the statewide voter registration database that is exempt from disclosure under division (A)(2) of section 3503.13 of the Revised Code shall be made available on the web site.

(B)(1) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for

boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of updating the information made available on the secretary of state's web site under division (A)(2) of this section. Those rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the secretary of state within one business day of any change to the location of a precinct polling place within the county.

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

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

~~of state or the board of elections.~~

~~A registered elector also may update the registration of that registered elector by filing a change of residence or change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general election at the polling place in the precinct in which that registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at another site designated by the board~~one of the methods described in section 3503.19 of the Revised Code not later than the thirtieth day before the day of an election, except as otherwise permitted under this section.

~~(B)(1)(a) Any registered elector who moves within a precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a notice of change of residence with the board of elections may vote in that election by going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing photo identification, and casting a ballot.~~

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

~~(2)~~(B) Any registered elector who moves ~~from one precinct~~

~~to another~~ within a county, does not move but changes the elector's name, or moves ~~from one precinct to another~~ within a county and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not ~~filed a notice of~~ reported the change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate, ~~with the board of elections~~ under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election ~~if that registered elector complies with division (G) of this section or does all of the following:~~

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

~~(i) The~~ by casting a provisional ballot using the address to which the elector has moved or the name of the elector as changed, whichever is appropriate, at the polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides~~;~~

~~(ii) The~~ , at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of~~ of the county in which the elector resides during the time that absent voter's ballots may be cast in person under section ~~3501.10~~ 3509.051 of the Revised Code~~, the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections~~, or, if the elector qualifies to do so, by casting a provisional ballot with the

assistance of two election officials of the county in which the elector resides under section 3509.08 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to another county within the state on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not ~~registered to~~

~~vote in the county to which that registered elector moved~~ reported the change of residence under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election ~~if that registered elector complies with division (C) of this section or does all of the following:~~

~~(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the election~~ by casting a provisional ballot using the address to which the elector has moved at the office of the board of elections ~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, appears~~ of the county in which the elector resides during the time that absent voter's ballots may be cast in person under section 3509.061 of the Revised Code, during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the election ~~at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections~~, or ~~appears~~ on the day of the election ~~at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections;~~

~~(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election~~

~~falsification, the~~ , or, if the elector qualifies to do so, by casting a provisional ballot with the assistance of two election officials of the county in which the elector resides under section 3509.08 of the Revised Code. The written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope~~, which~~ shall serve as a notice of change of residence~~;~~

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

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

~~(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division (G) of this section shall not make written application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as~~

~~that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted.~~

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

~~(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the information necessary to complete or update that registrant's registration.~~

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

~~The board of elections shall provide change of residence and change of name forms to the probate court and court of common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person~~

~~eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections within five days after receiving them.~~

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

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

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

~~infirmity;~~

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

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

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

(1) Submitting a voter registration application or update form in person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a ~~branch office established by the board of elections, or~~ probate court or court of common pleas, provided that a person who receives compensation for registering a voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that person by an applicant to a board of elections or to the office of the secretary of state;

(2) Submitting a voter registration application or update form in person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of a board of elections~~. A registered elector may also change the elector's registration~~ , including a branch office;

(3) Submitting a voter registration application or update form through the online voter registration system under section 3503.20 of the Revised Code;

(4) Submitting a voter registration application or update form in person to the election officials on election day at any polling place ~~where the elector is eligible to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the Revised Code~~. The election officials shall return all completed forms, together with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections.

(5) In the case of a person who is eligible to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 52 U.S.C. 20310, returning the person's completed voter registration application or update form electronically to the office of the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located pursuant to Chapter 3511. of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Any state or local office of a designated agency, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, a probate court or court of common pleas, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a voter registration application or update form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the identity of the state or local office that receives it and shall transmit ~~any voter registration~~ the application or ~~change of registration~~ form ~~that it receives~~ to the board of elections of the county in which the state or local

office is located, within five days after receiving the ~~voter registration~~ application or ~~change of registration~~ form. The office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall date stamp a voter registration application or update form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the identity of the state or local office that receives it, shall transmit any electronic voter registration application or change of registration that it receives to the secretary of state within twenty-four hours after receiving it, and shall transmit any paper voter registration application or change of registration form that it receives to the board of elections of the county in which the office of the registrar or deputy registrar is located within five days after receiving the voter registration application or change of registration form, as required under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code.

(2) If the office of the secretary of state receives a registration or update form before the thirtieth day before an election, the office shall forward the form to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant resides within ten days after receiving the application. If the office of the secretary of state receives a registration or update form on or after the thirtieth day before an election, the office shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant resides within thirty days after that election.

(3) If a board of elections receives a registration or update form from an applicant who resides in another county before the thirtieth day before an election, the board shall forward the form to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant resides within ten days after receiving the application. If a board of elections receives a registration or

update form from an applicant who resides in another county on or after the thirtieth day before an election, the board shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant resides within thirty days after that election.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in section 3503.16 of the Revised Code:

(1) An otherwise valid voter registration application that is returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, the office of a county treasurer, a probate court or court of common pleas, the office of the secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or general election for the person to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid registration application received after that day entitles the elector to vote at all subsequent elections.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

~~(C)(1) A board of elections that receives a voter registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the statements made in the registration form shall register the applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving the application, unless that application is received during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The~~

~~board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of the following:~~

~~(a) The applicant's registration;~~

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

~~(c) In bold type as follows:~~

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

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

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

~~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. 3503.20. (A) The secretary of state shall establish a secure online voter registration system. The system shall provide for all of the following:

(1) An applicant to submit a voter registration application to the secretary of state online through the internet;

(2) The online applicant to be registered to vote, if all of the following apply:

(a) The application contains all of the following information:

(i) The applicant's name;

(ii) The applicant's address;

(iii) The applicant's date of birth;

(iv) The last four digits of the applicant's social security number;

(v) The applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of the applicant's state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code.

(b) The applicant's name, address, and date of birth, the last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and the applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of the applicant's state identification card as they are provided in the application are not inconsistent with the information on file with the bureau of motor vehicles;

(c) The applicant is a United States citizen, will have lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the next election, will be at least eighteen years of age on or before the day of the next general election, and is otherwise eligible to register to vote;

(d) The applicant attests to the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in the online application under penalty of election falsification.

(B) If an individual registers to vote or a registered elector updates the elector's name, address, or both under this section, the secretary of state shall obtain an electronic copy of the applicant's or elector's signature that is on file with the bureau of motor vehicles. That electronic signature shall be used as the applicant's or elector's signature on voter registration records, for all election and signature-matching purposes.

(C) The secretary of state shall employ whatever security measures the secretary of state considers necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of voter registration information submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in

processing voter registration applications in the online system shall not prevent an applicant from becoming registered or from voting.

(D) The online voter registration application established under division (A) of this section shall include both of the following:

(1) An option for the voter to provide the voter's former residence address or addresses, if the voter is currently registered to vote at another address;

(2) The following language:

"By clicking the box below, I affirm all of the following under penalty of election falsification~~, which is a felony of the fifth degree~~:

~~(1)~~ (a) I am the person whose name and identifying information is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio.

~~(2)~~ (b) All of the information I have provided on this form is true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form.

~~(3)~~ (c) I am a United States citizen.

~~(4)~~ (d) I will have lived in Ohio for thirty days immediately preceding the next election.

~~(5)~~ (e) I will be at least eighteen years of age on or before the day of the next general election.

~~(6)~~ (f) I authorize the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to transmit to the Ohio Secretary of State my signature that is on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and I understand and

agree that the signature transmitted by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles will be used by the Secretary of State to validate this electronic voter registration application as if I had signed this form personally.

(g) I understand that if I am registered to vote at any other address, the election officials will be notified of my change of address.

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

In order to register to vote or update a voter registration under division (A) of this section, an applicant or elector shall be required to mark the box in the online voter registration application that appears in conjunction with the previous statement.

(E) ~~The online voter registration process established under division (A) of this section shall be in operation and available for use by individuals who wish to register to vote or update their voter registration information online not earlier than January 1, 2017.~~ During the period beginning on the first day after the close of voter registration before an election and ending on the day of the election, the online voter registration system shall display a notice indicating that the applicant will not be registered to vote for the purposes of that election.

(F) Notwithstanding section 1.50 of the Revised Code, if any provision of this section or of division (E) of section 3503.14 of the Revised Code is held invalid, or if the application of any provision of this section or of that division to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then this section and that division cease to operate.

Sec. 3503.201. (A)(1) When the board of elections receives a voter registration application or a notice of change of address or change of name, if the form is complete and the board is satisfied as to the truth of the statements made in the form, the board shall register the applicant or update the applicant's registration.

(2) If the form is incomplete, the board promptly shall send the applicant a notice that specifies the information necessary to complete or update the applicant's registration.

(3) If the board determines that the applicant appears not to be eligible to vote, the board shall reject the form and refer the matter to the prosecuting attorney of the county for investigation.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (B)(2) and (3) of this section, upon registering an elector or updating an elector's registration, the board shall mark the elector's registration record, the official registration list, and the poll list or signature pollbook to indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot because the applicant's citizenship has not been verified.

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section does not apply to an elector if the statewide voter registration database indicates that the elector's citizenship has been verified.

(3) Division (B)(1) of this section does not prohibit a uniformed services or overseas absent voter from voting in a general election for federal office using a federal write-in absentee ballot as permitted under division (C) of section 3511.14 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) The board shall register an applicant or update the

applicant's registration under division (A)(1) of this section not later than twenty business days after receiving the application, unless that application is received during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election, and promptly shall send the applicant an acknowledgment notice.

(2) The acknowledgment notice shall include all of the following information:

(a) The fact that the elector has been registered to vote or has had the elector's registration updated, as applicable;

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

(c) In bold type as follows:

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

(d) Whether the elector's United States citizenship has been verified;

(e) If the elector's United States citizenship has not been verified, the fact that the elector will be required to provide proof of citizenship to the board in order to cast a regular ballot and the manner in which the elector may do so under section 3503.202 of the Revised Code.

(3) The board shall send the acknowledgment notice by nonforwardable mail. If the acknowledgment notice is returned to the board as undeliverable, it shall investigate and cause the acknowledgment notice to be delivered to the correct address.

(4) If, after investigating as required under division (C)(3) of this section, the board is unable to verify the elector's

correct address, it shall proceed under section 3503.202 of the Revised Code.

(D) Upon receiving a report from the secretary of state under section 3503.152 of the Revised Code, indicating that the secretary of state has verified that the applicant is a United States citizen, the board shall do all of the following:

(1) Indicate in the elector's registration record that the elector's United States citizenship has been verified;

(2) Remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot. If the board receives the report during the period beginning on the forty-sixth day before an election and ending on the day before the day of the election, the board shall remove the indication as soon as possible after receiving the report.

(3) Notify the elector, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, that the elector's United States citizenship has been verified. The notice required under this division may be included in the acknowledgment notice described under division (C) of this section if the board has not yet sent the elector an acknowledgment notice.

Sec. 3503.202. (A)(1) When any 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, shall mark the elector's registration record, the official registration list, and the poll list or signature pollbook to indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot and the reason the elector must do so:

(a) The board determines that it is unable to verify an elector's residence address, as described in division (C)(4) of

section 3503.201 of the Revised Code.

(b) The board receives a report from the secretary of state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code indicating that the board must verify the elector's residence address, unless it is apparent to the board that the elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program described in sections 111.41 to 111.99 of the Revised Code or is a designated public service worker as described in section 149.43 of the Revised Code.

Upon receiving notice in a subsequent report under this division that an elector's residence address in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles has been updated to match the elector's residence address in the voter registration record, the board shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot under this division and shall notify the elector, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, that the elector's residence address has been verified.

(c) The board receives a report from the secretary of state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code indicating that the board must verify the elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number.

(d) The board receives a report from the secretary of state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code indicating that the board must verify the last four digits of the elector's social security number.

(e) The board receives a report from the secretary of state under section 3503.152 of the Revised Code indicating that the board must verify the elector's United States citizenship. If, within fourteen days after the confirmation notice is sent,

the elector does not provide valid proof of citizenship to the board under division (B) or (D) of this section or cancel the elector's registration, the board shall send the elector a second confirmation notice. Upon receiving notice in a subsequent report under section 3503.152 of the Revised Code that the secretary of state has verified that the elector is a United States citizen, the board shall do all of the following:

(i) Indicate in the elector's registration record that the elector's United States citizenship has been verified;

(ii) Remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot under division (A)(1)(e) of this section;

(iii) Notify the elector, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, that the elector's United States citizenship has been verified.

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

(a) The information the board must verify;

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

(c) The date by which the elector must provide the required information to the board in order to avoid having the elector's registration canceled under division (C)(2) of section 3503.152 or division (A)(7) of section 3503.21 of the Revised Code, as applicable.

(B) An elector whose registration record has been marked under division (A) of this section or division (B)(1) of section 3503.201 of the Revised Code to indicate that the elector must cast a provisional ballot is not required to cast a provisional ballot if, before the elector next appears to vote, the elector does the following, as applicable:

(1) Provides a valid residence address to the board, if the board must verify the elector's residence address;

(2) Provides one of the following to the board, if the board must verify the elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number:

(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card number that exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state;

(b) A correction to the elector's first name, last name, or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that the number in the elector's registration record meets the requirements of division (B)(2)(a) of this section, as confirmed by the secretary of state.

(3) Provides one of the following to the board, if the board must verify the last four digits of the elector's social security number:

(a) The last four digits of a social security number that exists in the records of the United States social security administration and is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state;

(b) A correction to the elector's first name, last name,

or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that the last four digits of the elector's social security number in the elector's registration record meets the requirements of division (B)(3)(a) of this section, as confirmed by the secretary of state.

(4) Provides proof of citizenship to the board, if the board must verify the elector's United States citizenship. The board shall transmit an electronic copy of the elector's proof of citizenship to the secretary of state in a secure manner prescribed by the secretary of state, and the secretary of state shall confirm whether the elector's proof of citizenship is valid.

(C) When the board has verified all of the information the board is required to verify concerning an elector under division (B) of this section, the board shall correct or update the elector's registration, as applicable, and shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot.

(D)(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (B) and (D)(1)(b) of this section, at the first election at which an elector whose registration record is marked to indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot under this section or section 3503.201 of the Revised Code appears to vote, the elector shall vote by provisional ballot.

(b) Division (D)(1)(a) of this section does not prohibit a uniformed services or overseas absent voter who is required to cast a provisional ballot under division (B)(1) of section 3503.201 of the Revised Code, but for no other reason, from voting in a general election for federal office using a federal write-in absentee ballot as permitted under division (C) of section 3511.14 of the Revised Code.

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

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

(4) 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 or division (D)(2) of this section, the board shall cancel the elector's registration and shall notify the elector by United States mail of the cancellation. The notice shall inform the elector that the elector may again register to vote if the elector is eligible to do so.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a location outside the county of registration in accordance with division (B) of this section or as described in section 3503.33 of the Revised Code;

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

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

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

(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the

Revised Code;

(9) The circumstances described in division (C)(2) of section 3503.152 of the Revised Code;

(10) The circumstances described in division (D)(4) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures to transfer a registrant's voter registration information when the registrant moves from one county to another within this state and updates the registrant's voter registration, as described in section 3503.33 of the Revised Code, and to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting residence to a location outside the registrant's current county of registration without updating the registrant's voter registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of the national change of address service provided by the United States postal system through its licensees. Any program so prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior to the date of any primary or general election for federal office.

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the elector's current county of registration without updating the elector's registration shall not be canceled unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the registration and fails to vote in any election during the period of two federal

elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice.

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 or 3503.33 of the Revised Code~~,~~ or division (Q) of section 3501.05~~ of the Revised Code~~, division (C)(2) of section 3503.152, division ~~(C)(2)~~ (D)(4) of section~~ 3503.19 of the Revised Code~~ 3503.202, or division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code.

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

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in division (A)(7) or (B)(2) of this section shall be canceled not later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second

general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later.

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

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

Sec. 3503.33. If an elector applying for registration is already registered in another state or in another county within this state, the elector shall ~~declare this fact to the registration officer and shall~~ sign an authorization to cancel or transfer the elector's previous registration on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. If the elector does not sign such an authorization, the elector's registration application authorizes the transfer of the elector's previous registration from one county to another within this state or the cancellation of the elector's registration in the elector's previous state of residence, as applicable.

~~The~~ In the case of an elector who moves from one county to another within this state, the director of the board of elections shall ~~mail all such authorizations~~ transmit a copy of

the elector's new registration form and any accompanying authorization form to the board of elections ~~or comparable agency~~ of the ~~proper state and~~ county of the elector's former registration. Upon the receipt of ~~this authorization~~ the registration form and any accompanying authorization form from the forwarding county, the director of ~~a~~ the board of elections ~~in Ohio~~, upon a comparison of the elector's signature with the elector's signature as it appears on the registration files, shall remove the elector's former registration from the files, transfer the information in it to the board of elections of the elector's new county, and place it with the ~~cancellation authorization~~ new registration form and any accompanying authorization form in a separate file which shall be kept for a period of two calendar years. ~~The board shall notify the elector at the present address as shown on the cancellation authorization that his registration has been canceled.~~

In the case of an elector who moves into this state, the director of the board of elections shall transmit a copy of the elector's new registration form and any accompanying authorization form to the chief election official of the state of the elector's former registration.

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

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

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to

provide photo identification to the election officials;

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

(4) An individual ~~whose notification of registration has been returned undelivered to the board of elections and~~ whose name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook has been marked under ~~division (C)(2) of~~ section ~~3503.19~~ 3503.201 or 3503.202 of the Revised Code, except as otherwise provided in division (C) of section 3511.14 of the Revised Code;

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

(6) An individual who changes the individual's name ~~and remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name change under division (B)(1)(b) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code~~, moves ~~from one precinct to another~~ within a county, moves ~~from one precinct to another~~ within a county and changes the individual's name, or moves from one county to another within the state, ~~and completes and signs the required forms and statements under~~ as described in division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code;

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

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional

ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot as follows:

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

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

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires to vote;

(b) Eligible to vote in that election.

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

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

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

the reason that the vote was not counted.

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system established under this division also shall provide to an individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information explaining how that individual may contact the board of elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the individual's voter registration.

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

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

(7)(a) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted when it is cast by an individual who does not have photo identification because the individual has a religious objection

to being photographed, the individual shall complete an affidavit of religious objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code. The election officials shall attach the affidavit to the individual's provisional ballot envelope. If the individual does not complete the affidavit at the time of casting the provisional ballot, the individual may appear at the office of the board of elections within four days after the day of the election and complete the affidavit.

(b) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted when it is cast by any other individual who does not have or is unable to provide photo identification to the election officials, the individual who cast that ballot, within four days after the day of the election, shall appear at the office of the board of elections and provide photo identification.

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

(C)(1) If an individual declares that the individual is eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the precinct voting location guide using the residential street address provided by the individual, an election official at the precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the election official shall direct the individual to the precinct

and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of elections in case the individual has additional questions.

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this section. If the individual is in the correct polling location for the precinct in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's provisional ballot affirmation:

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

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

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

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

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

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause

voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place on the day of each election.

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

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

(a) An electronic or paper record that lists the correct precinct and polling place for either each specific residential street address in the county or the range of residential street addresses located in each neighborhood block in the county;

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

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

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

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

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

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

(e) General information on voting rights under applicable federal and state laws, including information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how

to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated;

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

(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two precinct election officials of different political parties. A blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may receive assistance on the day of an election under that section.

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

"Provisional Ballot Affirmation

(A) Clearly print your full name: _____

(B) Write your date of birth: _____

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

_____

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

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, write your former address: _____

_____

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

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

_____ An Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. If you showed your Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form, write your full driver's license or state identification card number: _____

_____ A United States passport or passport card;

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

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

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

(4) ~~If~~ Complete this section if you need to update your

voter registration~~, you may provide additional information below. This information will not be used for ballot counting purposes~~ or if you need to verify the identification you used to register to vote. If you need to verify your identification and you do not provide the needed information on this form, you must provide the information to the board of elections on or before the fourth day following this election in order for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

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

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

(5) If you are casting a provisional ballot because you need to provide proof of citizenship, either write your full Ohio driver's license or state identification card number above or attach proof of citizenship to the outside of this envelope. If you do not provide proof of citizenship at this time, you must provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections on or before the fourth day following this election in order for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

"Proof of citizenship" means evidence that you are a United States citizen, in the form of one of the following:

(a) The number of your current or expired Ohio driver's license or state identification card or a copy of the front and back of your current or expired Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or interim identification form, if you have submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles indicating that you are a United States citizen;

(b) A copy of the front and back of a current or expired

driver's license or nondriver identification card issued by another state within the United States, if the issuing agency indicates on the license or card that you are a United States citizen;

(c) A copy of a birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular report of birth abroad;

(d) A copy of the identification page of a current or expired United States passport;

(e) A copy of the front and back of a United States passport card;

(f) A copy of a certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship.

If the name on your proof of citizenship is different from your current legal name, you must also provide proof of your change of name, such as a copy of a marriage license or court order.

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

(F) Sign and date the following statement:

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

provisional ballot; and that I will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location or in any other manner for this particular election.

I understand that, if the information I provide on this provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines that I have already voted in this election, my provisional ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, this form will serve as an application to register to vote or update my registration for future elections, as long as I provide all of the information required to register to vote or update my registration. I further understand that knowingly providing false information is a violation of law and subjects me to possible criminal prosecution.

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

_____

Signature of Voter

_____

Date

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

In addition to any information required to be included on

the written affirmation, an individual casting a provisional ballot may provide additional information to the election official to assist the board of elections in determining the individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if known.

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

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

(B)(1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid

and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable election. The board shall examine the information contained in the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the provisional ballot under division (B)(2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code or under section 3511.052 of the Revised Code, as applicable. The following information shall be included in the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted:

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

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

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

(2) In addition to the information required to be included in an affirmation under division (B)(1) of this section, in determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional information for determining ballot validity provided by the provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 or 3511.052 of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections during the four days after the day of the election under ~~division (B)(7) or (8) of~~ section 3505.181 or 3511.052 of the Revised Code, to assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility to vote.

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and

additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section and comparing the information required under division (B)(1) of this section with the individual's information in the statewide voter registration database, the board determines that all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box to be counted:

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

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

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

(d) One of the following applies:

(i) The individual ~~provided~~ showed photo identification to the election officials at the time of casting the provisional ballot or appeared at the office of the board within four days after the day of the election and provided photo identification or, in the case of a provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot cast under section 3511.052 of the Revised Code, the individual provided a copy of the individual's photo identification with the provisional ballot or provided that copy to the board of elections within four days after the day of the election. If the individual ~~provided~~ showed the individual's Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form to the election officials, the individual

provided the individual's driver's license number or state identification card number and the number is not different from the individual's driver's license number or state identification card number contained in the statewide voter registration database.

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

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the month and day of the individual's date of birth are not different from the day and month of the individual's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database.

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

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

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

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

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional

information required under division (B)(8) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code within four days after the day of the election.

(h) If applicable, the individual provided the information required under division (D)(2) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or within four days after the day of the election.

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

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

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

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

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

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any additional information required under division (B)(8) of section

3505.181 of the Revised Code within four days after the day of the election.

(vi) The individual failed to ~~provide~~ show photo identification, failed to provide the individual's driver's license or state identification card number if the individual ~~provided~~ showed photo identification in the form of an Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form, failed to provide a copy of the individual's photo identification with the individual's provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot or to provide that copy to the board of elections within four days after the day of the election, or failed to complete an affidavit of religious objection.

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

(viii) The individual ~~provided~~ showed photo identification in the form of an Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form and the driver's license number or state identification card number the individual provided is different from the individual's driver's license number or state identification card number contained in the statewide voter registration database.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(xii) If applicable, the individual did not provide the information required under division (D)(2) of section 3503.202 of the Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or within four days after the day of the election.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(3) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a

precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be counted.

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

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

(G)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G)(2) of this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a board of elections from examining provisional ballot affirmations and additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this

section to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to be counted during the seven days after the day of an election.

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by an individual who must provide photo identification, complete an affidavit of religious objection, or provide additional information to the board of elections under ~~division (B)(7) or (8) of~~ section 3505.181 or 3511.052 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 naturalization~~, other than the number of the person's Ohio driver's license or state identification card, and ~~declare~~ declares under oath that the person is ~~the identical person named in the certificate. If the person states under oath that, by reason of the naturalization of the person's parents or one of them, the person has become~~ a citizen of the United States, ~~and when or where the person's parents were naturalized, the certificate of naturalization need not be produced~~the person shall be permitted to cast a regular ballot. If the person is unable to provide ~~a certificate of naturalization~~ proof of citizenship, other than the number of the person's Ohio driver's license or state identification card, on the day of the election, the precinct election officials shall provide to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the board of elections determines that the voter is properly registered and eligible to vote in the election.

(B) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the ground that the person has not resided in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the election, the precinct election

officials shall put the following questions:

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

(2) Did you properly register to vote?

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Do you reside in this precinct?

(2) When did you move into this precinct?

(3) When you came into this precinct, did you come for a

temporary purpose merely or for the purpose of making it your home?

(4) What is your current mailing address?

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

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

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

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

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

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

(2) What is your date of birth?

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

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

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

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

However, not later than the thirtieth day before the day of an election and in accordance with section 3503.24 of the

Revised Code, any person qualified to vote may challenge the right of any other person to be registered as a voter, or the right to cast an absent voter's ballot, or to make application for such ballot. Such challenge shall be made in accordance with section 3503.24 of the Revised Code, and the board of elections of the county in which the voting residence of the challenged voter is situated shall make a final determination relative to the legality of such registration or application.

Sec. 3509.02. (A) Any qualified elector may ~~vote by~~ cast absent voter's ballots by mail at an election, unless the elector is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(B) Any qualified elector who is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code may cast a provisional ballot in person at the office of the board of elections during the time for in-person absent voting under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code.

(C) Any qualified elector ~~who is unable to appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location on account of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves from one county to another county within the state, on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name~~ who is located in the county in which the elector resides and would be eligible to cast absent voter's ballots with the assistance

of two election officials under section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, but is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, may ~~vote by absent voter's ballots in that election~~ cast a provisional ballot as specified in division ~~(G)~~ (E) of section ~~3503.16~~ 3509.08 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3509.03. (A) Except as otherwise provided in sections 3509.051, 3511.02, and 3511.021 of the Revised Code, any qualified elector desiring to vote absent voter's ballots at an election shall deliver a written application for those ballots, either in person or by mail, to the board of elections of the county in which the elector's voting residence is located.

(B) Except as otherwise permitted under section 3511.02 of the Revised Code and under division (C) of this section, the application shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall contain all of the following:

(1) The elector's name;

(2) The elector's signature;

(3) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;

(4) The elector's date of birth;

(5) ~~One of the following:~~

~~(a)~~ The elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number~~;~~

~~(b) The~~ or, if the elector does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the last four digits of the elector's social security number~~;~~

~~(c) A~~ or a copy of the elector's photo identification~~.~~;

(6) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;

(7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;

(8) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;

(9) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed.

(C) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the elector may provide the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in division (A) of section 3509.051 and in division (B) of section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an application to receive absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the board not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the elections for which the absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than the close of business on the seventh day before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted.

(E) Except as permitted under section 111.31 of the Revised Code, no public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall do either of the following:

(1) Prepay the return postage for an application for absent voter's ballots;

(2) Mail or otherwise deliver an unsolicited application for absent voter's ballots to any person.

(F)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (F)(2) of this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, no person shall preprint or fill out any portion of an application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant.

(2) The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on an application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the secretary of state or a board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the application.

(3) A completed application for absent voter's ballots is not valid if any portion of it has been completed by any person other than the applicant in violation of division (F) of this section.

Sec. 3509.04. (A) If a board of elections receives an application for absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required information or is not submitted on an appropriate form, the board promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional information required to be provided by the applicant to complete that application, direct the applicant to use an appropriate form, or both, as applicable.

(B) Upon receipt by the board of elections of an application for absent voter's ballots that contains all of the required information and is submitted on an appropriate form, as provided by section 3509.03 ~~and division (G) of section 3503.16~~

of the Revised Code, the board, if the board finds that the applicant is a qualified elector, shall deliver to the applicant in person or mail directly to the applicant by special delivery mail, air mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, proper absent voter's ballots. The board shall deliver or mail with the ballots an unsealed identification envelope upon the face of which shall be printed a form substantially as follows:

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter

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

My voting residence in Ohio is

_____

(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number)

of _____ (City, Village, or Township) Ohio, which is in Ward _____ Precinct _____ in that city, village, or township.

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

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

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

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

~~(Voter must provide one of the following:)~~

My Ohio driver's license or state identification card number is _____ (Driver's license or state identification card number).

(If the voter does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the voter must provide one of the following:)

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

_____ In lieu of providing a driver's license or state identification card number or the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am enclosing a copy of my photo identification in the return envelope in which this identification envelope will be mailed.

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

_____

(Signature of Voter)

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

(C)(1) The board shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed identification envelope an unsealed return envelope upon the face of which shall be printed the post-office address of the board. In the upper left corner on the face of the return envelope, several blank lines shall be printed upon which the

voter may write the voter's name and return address. The return envelope shall be of such size that the identification envelope can be conveniently placed within it for returning the identification envelope to the board.

(2) The board shall include on the return envelope a bar code associated with the intelligent mail bar code tracing service offered by the United States postal service, or a marking associated with a successor mail tracing service offered by the United States postal service, that permits the board to perform origin tracing on the return envelope to determine when the return envelope was submitted to the United States postal service for mailing. The board shall obtain any necessary equipment or software needed to perform origin tracing under division (E)(2) of section 3509.05 of the Revised Code.

(D) No public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall prepay the return postage for any absent voter's ballots.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an identification envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an elector's name and address on an identification envelope statement of voter before mailing absent voter's ballots to the elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the elector's address on the identification envelope statement of voter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(C)(1) The elector shall mail the identification envelope to the office of the board of elections in the return envelope, postage prepaid, or the elector or the elector's assistant may personally deliver ~~it~~ the identification envelope in the return envelope to the office of the board~~, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted~~

~~child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the office of the board~~ in accordance with division (D) of this section. The return envelope shall be returned by no other person, in no other manner, and to no other location, except as otherwise provided in section 3509.08 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

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

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

~~(ii) Make each day's video recording available to the~~

~~public on the internet for streaming or download without charge within seventy-two hours after the recording ends and make the video recordings available to the public upon request in accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised Code.~~

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

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

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

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

~~(b) As soon as practicable after receiving a report under division (C)(4)(a) of this section, the secretary of state shall make the information in the report available to the public on the secretary of state's official web site.~~

(D)(1) An elector may personally deliver the elector's marked absent voter's ballots to the office of the board by hand-delivering the ballots to the election officials at the office of the board or at a designated location on, or adjacent to, the property on which the office of the board is located.

(2) An elector's assistant may personally deliver the elector's marked absent voter's ballots to the office of the board by hand-delivering the ballots to the election officials at the office of the board or at a designated location on, or adjacent to, the property on which the office of the board is located. Except as otherwise permitted under division (D)(3) of this section, the assistant shall be the elector's spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece. The assistant shall complete a delivery attestation, which the election officials shall attach to the ballot return envelope. The attestation shall be made under penalty of election falsification, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, and shall include all of the following:

(a) The assistant's name;

(b) The elector's name;

(c) An affirmation that the assistant is delivering the elector's ballots at the elector's request;

(d) An affirmation that the assistant is the elector's

spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece;

(e) The assistant's signature;

(f) The date the assistant delivers the ballots.

(3) If an elector requires assistance to vote by reason of a disability, the elector's assistant instead may be any person of the elector's choice, other than the elector's employer, an agent of the elector's employer, or an officer or agent of the elector's union. If an elector's assistant described in this division delivers the elector's ballots, the assistant shall complete a delivery attestation under this division instead of division (D)(2) of this section, and the election officials shall attach the attestation to the ballot return envelope. The attestation shall be made under penalty of election falsification, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, and shall include all of the following:

(a) The assistant's name;

(b) The elector's name;

(c) An affirmation that the assistant is delivering the elector's ballots at the elector's request;

(d) An affirmation that the elector requires assistance to vote by reason of a disability;

(e) An affirmation that the assistant is not the elector's employer, an agent of the elector's employer, or an officer or agent of the elector's union;

(f) The assistant's signature;

(g) The date the assistant delivers the ballots.

(4) The election officials shall not accept any marked absent voter's ballots that are returned to the board by personal delivery, except as permitted under divisions (D)(1) to (3) of this section. The board shall not accept absent voter's ballots returned by personal delivery to an unattended receptacle.

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

~~(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D)(2)(b) of this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to the day of the election shall be delivered to the director prior to the fifth day after the election.~~ (2) Ballots ~~delivered in envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election~~ that are received at the office of the board by mail after the close of the polls on election day through the fourth day thereafter shall be counted on the fifth day at the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner provided in division (E) of that section, as applicable, if either of the following apply:

(a) The return envelope is postmarked prior to the day of

the election. This division does not apply to a return envelope that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1.

(b) Origin tracing information obtained from the United States postal service, as described in division (C)(2) of section 3509.04 of the Revised Code, indicates that the return envelope was submitted to the United States postal service for mailing prior to the day of the election. The board shall attempt to obtain origin tracing information regarding each return envelope received by mail during the period described in division (E)(2) of this section that has no legible postmark, is postmarked on or after the day of the election, or is postmarked using a postage evidencing system. ~~Any such~~

(3) The following ballots ~~that are received by the director later than the fourth day following the election~~ shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes ~~as provided in division (A) of this section.~~

~~(b) Division (D)(2)(a) of this section shall not apply to any mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1.~~ in which they are delivered, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed:

(a) Absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the board after the close of the polls on election day other than by mail;

(b) Absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the

board by mail after the close of the polls on election day, but by the fourth day after election day, that are ineligible to be counted under division (E)(2) of this section;

(c) Absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the board by mail later than the fourth day after election day.

Sec. 3509.051. An elector may appear at the office of the board of elections to cast absent voter's ballots in person instead of applying for those ballots under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding section 3509.05 or any other provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, all of the following shall apply to the casting of absent voter's ballots in person:

(A)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of this section, in-person absent voting shall be permitted only during the period beginning on the first day after the close of voter registration before the election and ending at five p.m. on the Sunday before the day of the election.

(2) If, at the time for the close of in-person absent voting on a particular day, there are voters waiting in line to cast their ballots, the in-person absent voting location shall be kept open until such waiting voters have cast their absent voter's ballots.

(B) An in-person absent voter shall provide photo identification to the election officials, sign a poll list or signature pollbook, and cast a ballot in the same manner as a voter who casts a ballot in person on the day of an election under section 3505.18 of the Revised Code.

The absent voter shall not be required to complete a written application for absent voter's ballots or a statement of

voter on an absent voter's ballot identification envelope.

(C) No person other than an election official shall be permitted to challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a ballot in person. An election official may challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a ballot in person in the same manner as a precinct election official may challenge the right to vote of an elector on the day of an election under section 3505.20 or 3513.19 of the Revised Code.

(D) An individual who appears to cast absent voter's ballots in person and is eligible to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code shall be permitted to do so as though the individual had appeared at a polling place on the day of the election.

(E) No absent voter may receive a replacement ballot after the voter's absent voter's ballot has been scanned or entered into automatic tabulating equipment.

(F) Ballots cast under this section, other than provisional ballots, may be recorded by a voting machine or scanned by automatic tabulating equipment before the close of the polls on the day of the election, but the board of elections shall not tabulate or count the votes on those ballots before that time. Special election officials, employees or members of the board of elections, or observers shall not disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots prior to the time of the closing of the polling places. No person shall recklessly disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots in such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual ballot.

Sec. 3509.06. (A) The board of elections shall determine whether absent voter's ballots cast under section ~~3503.16,~~ 3509.05, 3509.08, or 3511.09 of the Revised Code shall be processed and counted in each precinct, at the office of the board, or at some other location designated by the board, and shall proceed accordingly under division (B), (C), or (E) of this section, as applicable. This section does not apply to absent voter's ballots cast in person under section 3509.051 or to provisional ballots cast under section 3509.051 or 3509.08 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) of this section, when the board of elections determines that those absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted in each precinct, the board shall deliver to the voting location manager of each precinct on election day identification envelopes purporting to contain absent voter's ballots of electors whose voting residence appears from the statement of voter on the outside of each of those envelopes, to be located in that manager's precinct, and which were received by the board not later than the close of the polls on election day. The board shall deliver to the voting location manager a list containing the name and voting residence of each person whose voting residence is in such precinct to whom absent voter's ballots were mailed.

(2) The board shall not deliver to the voting location manager identification envelopes cast by electors who provided a program participant identification number instead of a residence address on the identification envelope and shall not inform the voting location manager of the names and voting residences of persons who have confidential voter registration records. Those identification envelopes shall be examined and processed as

described in division (E) of this section.

(C) When the board of elections determines that those absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted at the office of the board of elections or at another location designated by the board, special election officials shall be appointed by the board for that purpose having the same authority as is exercised by precinct election officials. The votes so cast shall be added to the vote totals by the board, and the absent voter's ballots shall be preserved separately by the board, in the same manner and for the same length of time as provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code.

(D) Each of the identification envelopes purporting to contain absent voter's ballots delivered to the voting location manager of the precinct or the special election official appointed by the board of elections shall be handled as follows:

(1) The election officials shall compare the signature of the elector on the outside of the identification envelope with the signature of that elector on the elector's registration form and verify that the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code.

(2)(a) Any of the precinct officials may challenge the right of the elector named on the identification envelope to vote the absent voter's ballots upon the ground that the signature on the envelope is not the same as the signature on the registration form, that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete, or upon any other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged.

(b) If the elector's name does not appear in the pollbook

or poll list or signature pollbook, the precinct officials shall deliver the absent voter's ballots to the director of the board of elections to be examined and processed in the manner described in division (E) of this section.

(3)(a) An identification envelope statement of voter shall be considered incomplete if it does not include all of the following:

(i) The voter's name;

(ii) The voter's residence address or, if the voter has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the voter's program participant identification number;

(iii) The voter's date of birth. The requirements of this division are satisfied if the voter provided a date of birth and any of the following is true:

(I) The month and day of the voter's date of birth on the identification envelope statement of voter are not different from the month and day of the voter's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database.

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

(III) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at least three of its members, that the voter has met the requirements of divisions (D)(3)(a)(i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of this section.

(iv) The voter's signature; and

(v) One of the following forms of identification:

(I) The voter's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number;

(II) The last four digits of the voter's social security number; or

(III) A copy of the voter's photo identification.

(b) If the election officials find that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that the information contained in that statement does not conform to the information contained in the statewide voter registration database concerning the voter, the election officials shall mail a written notice to the voter, informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that in order for the voter's ballot to be counted, the voter must provide the necessary information to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state not later than the fourth day after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail. If the voter provides the necessary information to the board of elections not later than the fourth day after the day of the election and the ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the voter's ballot shall be processed and counted in accordance with this section.

(4) If no such challenge is made, or if such a challenge is made and not sustained, the voting location manager shall open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without mutilating the ballots in it, and shall remove the ballots contained in it and proceed to count them.

(5)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D)(5)(b) of this section, the name of each person voting who is entitled

to vote only an absent voter's presidential ballot shall be entered in a pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook followed by the words "Absentee Presidential Ballot." The name of each person voting an absent voter's ballot, other than such persons entitled to vote only a presidential ballot, shall be entered in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook and the person's registration card marked to indicate that the person has voted.

(b) If the person voting has a confidential voter registration record, the person's registration card shall be marked to indicate that the person has voted, but the person's name shall not be entered in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook.

(6) The date of such election shall also be entered on the elector's registration form. If any such challenge is made and sustained, the identification envelope of such elector shall not be opened, shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reasons the ballots were not counted, and shall be delivered to the board.

(E)(1) When the board of elections receives absent voter's ballots from an elector who has provided a program participant identification number instead of a residence address on the identification envelope statement of voter, the director and the deputy director personally shall examine and process the identification envelope statement of voter in the manner prescribed in division (D) of this section.

(2) If the director and the deputy director find that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that the information contained in that statement does not conform to the information contained in the statewide voter registration database concerning the voter or to the information contained in

the voter's confidential voter registration record, the director and the deputy director shall mail a written notice to the voter informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that in order for the voter's ballot to be counted the voter must provide the necessary information to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state not later than the fourth day after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail. If the voter provides the necessary information to the board of elections not later than the fourth day after the day of the election and the ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the voter's ballot shall be counted in accordance with this section.

(3) The director or the deputy director may challenge the ballot on the ground that the signature on the envelope is not the same as the signature on the registration form, that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete, or upon any other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged. If such a challenge is made, the board of elections shall decide whether to sustain the challenge.

(4) If neither the director nor the deputy director challenges the ballot, or if such a challenge is made and not sustained, the director and the deputy director shall open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without mutilating the ballots in it, shall remove the ballots contained in it, and shall transmit the ballots to the election officials to be counted with other absent voter's ballots from that precinct.

(F) The board of elections shall process absent voter's

ballots before the time for counting those ballots, but the board shall not tabulate or count the votes on those ballots before that time. As used in this section and section 3511.11 of the Revised Code, processing an absent voter's ballot means all of the following:

(1) Examining the identification envelope statement of voter in order to verify that the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code;

(2) Opening the identification envelope, if the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted;

(3) Determining the validity of the absent voter's ballot under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code;

(4) Preparing and sorting the absent voter's ballot for scanning by automatic tabulating equipment;

(5) Scanning the absent voter's ballot by automatic tabulating equipment, if the equipment used by the board of elections permits an absent voter's ballot to be scanned without tabulating or counting the votes on the ballots scanned.

(G) Special election officials, employees or members of the board of elections, or observers shall not disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots prior to the time of the closing of the polling places. No person shall recklessly disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots in such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual ballot.

(H)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H)(2) of this section, observers may be appointed under section 3505.21 of the Revised Code to witness the examination and opening of

identification envelopes and the processing and counting of absent voters' ballots under this section.

(2) Observers shall not be permitted to witness the examination and opening of identification envelopes returned by, and the processing and counting of absent voter's ballots cast by, electors who have confidential voter registration records in a manner that would permit the observers to learn the identities or residence addresses of those electors.

Sec. 3509.07. (A) If election officials find that any of the following are true concerning an absent voter's ballot or absent voter's presidential ballot cast under section ~~3503.16,~~ 3509.05, 3509.08, or 3511.09 of the Revised Code and, if applicable, the person did not provide any required additional information to the board of elections not later than the fourth day after the day of the election, as permitted under division (D)(3)(b) or (E)(2) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code, the ballot shall not be accepted or counted:

~~(A)~~ (1) The statement accompanying the ballot is incomplete as described in division (D)(3)(a) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or is insufficient;

~~(B)~~ (2) The signatures do not correspond with the person's registration signature;

~~(C)~~ (3) The applicant is not a qualified elector in the precinct;

~~(D)~~ (4) The ballot envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or any voted ballot that the elector is not entitled to vote;

~~(E)~~ (5) Stub A is detached from the absent voter's ballot or absent voter's presidential ballot; or

~~(F)~~ (6) The elector has not included with the elector's ballot any identification required under section 3509.05 or 3511.09 of the Revised Code.

(B) The vote of any absent voter may be challenged for cause in the same manner as other votes are challenged, and the election officials shall determine the legality of that ballot. Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed on its back "Not Counted" with the reasons the ballot was not counted, and shall be enclosed and returned to or retained by the board of elections along with the contested ballots.

(C) This section does not apply to either of the following:

(1) Absent voter's ballots cast in person under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code. Any challenge to the right of an elector to cast absent voter's ballots in person shall be brought under division (C) of that section.

(2) Provisional ballots cast under section 3509.051, 3509.08, or 3511.052 of the Revised Code, which shall be processed and counted under section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3509.08. (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account of the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail or workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial on a felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the elector's home or place of confinement to the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or primary election may make application in writing for an absent voter's ballot to the board of elections of the elector's county

in the manner described in section 3509.03 of the Revised Code. The application shall state the nature of the elector's illness, physical disability, or infirmity, or the fact that the elector is confined in a jail or workhouse and the elector's resultant inability to travel to the election booth in the elector's precinct on election day.

The absent voter's ballot may be mailed directly to the applicant at the applicant's voting residence or place of confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or the board may designate two board employees belonging to the two major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or private institution within the county, in which case the board shall designate two board employees belonging to the two major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board. In all other instances, the ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code.

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

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

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

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

(B)(1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or primary election may apply to the board of elections of the county where the elector is a qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's ballot if either of the following apply:

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

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

~~(2)~~ (2)(a) The application authorized under division (B)(1) of this section shall be made in writing in the manner described in section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, except that the application shall be delivered to the office of the board not later than three p.m. on the day of the election. The application shall indicate the hospital where the applicant or the applicant's child is confined, the date of the applicant's

or the applicant's child's admission to the hospital, and the offices for which the applicant is qualified to vote. ~~The~~

(b) The applicant may ~~also~~ request that ~~a member of the applicant's family, as listed~~ an assistant described in division (D)(2) or (3) of section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, as applicable, deliver the absent voter's ballot to the applicant.

(c) The board, after establishing to the board's satisfaction the validity of the circumstances claimed by the applicant, shall supply an absent voter's ballot to be delivered to the applicant. ~~When~~

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

~~(3) Any qualified elector who is eligible to vote under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code but is unable to do so because of the circumstances described in division (B)(2) of this section may vote in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section if that qualified elector states~~

~~in the application for absent voter's ballots that that qualified elector moved or had a change of name under the circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and if that qualified elector complies with divisions (G)(1) to (4) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code.~~

(C) ~~Any~~ Except as otherwise provided in division (E) of this section, any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B)(1) of this section who needs no assistance to vote or to return absent voter's ballots to the board of elections may apply for absent voter's ballots under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code instead of applying for them under this section or may cast absent voter's ballots in person under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code.

(D) Any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B)(1) of this section to whom ballots are delivered by two employees of the board of elections or who votes with the assistance of two employees of the board of elections shall be considered to have cast absent voter's ballots by mail, rather than in person, for the purpose of the laws governing voter identification. A board employee who delivers ballots to an elector or returns ballots to the office of the board under this section is not considered the elector's assistant for that purpose.

(E) A qualified elector who is located in the county in which the elector resides and who would be eligible to cast absent voter's ballots with the assistance of two election officials under this section, but who is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, may cast a provisional ballot with the assistance of two

election officials under this section as though the individual had appeared at a polling place on the day of the election.

Sec. 3509.09. (A) The poll list or signature pollbook for each precinct shall identify each registered elector in that precinct who has requested an absent voter's ballot for that election or cast absent voter's ballots in person under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code, other than an elector who has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code.

(B) If a registered elector appears to vote and that elector has requested or cast an absent voter's ballot for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) In counting absent voter's ballots under section 3509.06 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall compare the signature of each elector from whom the board has received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election to the signature on that elector's registration form. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(3) of this section, if the board of elections determines that the absent voter's ballot in the sealed identification envelope is valid, it shall be counted. If the board of elections determines that the signature on the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted absent voter's ballot does not match the signature on the elector's registration form, the ballot shall be set aside and the board shall examine, during the time prior to the beginning of the official canvass, the poll list or signature pollbook from the precinct in which the elector is registered to vote to determine if the elector also cast a

provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(2) The board of elections shall count the provisional ballot, instead of the absent voter's ballot, if both of the following apply:

(a) The board of elections determines that the signature of the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in which the absent voter's ballots are enclosed does not match the signature of the elector on the elector's registration form;

(b) The elector cast a provisional ballot in the election.

(3) If the board of elections does not receive the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted absent voter's ballot by the applicable deadline established under section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, the provisional ballot cast under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code shall be counted as valid, if that provisional ballot is otherwise determined to be valid pursuant to section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

(D) If the board of elections counts a provisional ballot under division (C)(2) or (3) of this section, the returned identification envelope of that elector shall not be opened, and the ballot within that envelope shall not be counted. The identification envelope shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reason the ballot was not counted.

(E) Division (C) of this section does not apply to absent voter's ballots cast in person under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code. If an elector casts absent voter's ballots in person and casts a provisional ballot for the same election, the provisional ballot shall not be counted.

Sec. 3511.02. (A) Notwithstanding any section of the

Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 52 U.S.C.A. 20301, this application shall be sufficient for voter registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located in accordance with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located, in one of the following ways:

(1) That person may make written application for those ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to the office of the board or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send it to the board. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the application shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and shall contain all of the following information:

(a) The elector's name;

(b) The elector's signature;

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;

(d) The elector's date of birth;

(e) ~~One of the following:~~

~~(i)~~ The elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number~~;~~

~~(ii) The~~ or, if the elector does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the last four digits of the elector's social security number~~;~~

~~(iii) A~~ or a copy of the elector's photo identification~~.~~;

(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;

(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310;

(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, whichever is applicable;

(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;

(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed;

(l) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they shall be so sent;

(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact information.

(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division (A)(3) of this section may use a single federal post card application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in a given year and any special election to be held on the day in that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for each election.

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only by the board or on a single federal post card as provided in division (A)(2) of this section. The form of the application shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The board shall furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in

this division desiring to make the application, only upon the request of such a relative made in person at the office of the board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following:

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are requested;

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310;

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;

(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, as the case may be;

(e) The elector's date of birth;

(f) ~~One of the following:~~

~~(i)~~ The elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number~~;~~

~~(ii) The~~ or, if the elector does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the last four digits of the elector's social security number~~;~~

~~(iii) A~~ or a copy of the elector's photo identification~~.~~;

(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to the elector as specified in division (A)(3) of this section;

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet contact information to which ballots shall be sent through internet delivery;

(l) The signature and address of the person making the application.

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the application may include the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the board not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the elections for which the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, whichever is earlier. An application to receive

uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots by mail or by another method permitted under section 3511.021 of the Revised Code shall be delivered to the office of the board not later than the close of business on the seventh day preceding the day of the election.

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors only, the applicant shall submit to the board, in addition to the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices.

(E) Except as permitted under section 111.31 of the Revised Code, no public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall do either of the following:

(1) Prepay the return postage for an application for absent voter's ballots;

(2) Mail or otherwise deliver an unsolicited application for absent voter's ballots to any person.

(F)(1) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (A)(2) and (3) and (F)(2) of this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, no person shall fill out any portion of a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant.

(2) The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the

secretary of state or the board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the application.

(3) A completed application for absent voter's ballots is not valid if any portion of it has been completed by any person other than the applicant in violation of division (F) of this section.

Sec. 3511.04. (A) If a board of elections receives an application for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required information or is not submitted on an appropriate form, the board promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional information required to be provided by the applicant to complete that application, direct the applicant to use an appropriate form, or both, as applicable.

~~(B)~~ (B)(1) Not later than the forty-sixth day before the day of each general or primary election, and at the earliest possible time before the day of a special election held on a day other than the day on which a general or primary election is held, the board of elections shall mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use as provided for in section 3511.03 of the Revised Code and for which the board has received valid applications prior to that time. Thereafter, and until the close of business on the seventh day preceding the day of election, the board shall promptly, upon receipt of valid applications for them, mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the

secretary of state, or otherwise send to the proper persons all uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use.

(2) If, after the seventieth day before the day of a general or primary election, any other question, issue, or candidacy is lawfully ordered submitted to the electors voting at the general or primary election, the board shall promptly provide a separate official issue, special election, or other election ballot for submitting the question, issue, or candidacy to those electors, and the board shall promptly mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send each such separate ballot to each person to whom the board has previously mailed or sent other uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots.

(C)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, upon receiving a valid application for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots from an elector who is required to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, the board instead shall deliver to the elector a provisional uniformed or overseas absent voter's ballot, as described in section 3511.052 of the Revised Code. In all other respects, the board shall proceed as described in division (B) of this section regarding the elector.

(2) Division (C)(1) of this section does not apply to a uniformed services or overseas absent voter who submits a valid federal write-in absentee ballot in a general election for federal office as permitted under division (C) of section 3511.14 of the Revised Code.

(D) No public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall prepay the return postage for any absent voter's ballots. In mailing uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the board shall use the fastest mail service available, but the board shall not mail them by certified mail.

Sec. 3511.05. (A) The board of elections shall place uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots sent by mail in an unsealed identification envelope, gummed ready for sealing. The board shall include with uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots sent electronically, including by facsimile machine, an instruction sheet for preparing a gummed envelope in which the ballots shall be returned. The envelope for returning ballots sent by either means shall have printed or written on its face a form substantially as follows:

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter

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

My voting residence in Ohio is

_____

(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number)

of _____ (City, Village, or Township) Ohio, which is in Ward _____ Precinct _____ in that city, village, or township.

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am

providing my program participant identification number instead of my residence address: _____

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

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

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

~~(Voter must provide one of the following:)~~

My Ohio driver's license or state identification card number is _____ (Driver's license or state identification card number).

(If the voter does not have an Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the voter must provide one of the following:)

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

_____ In lieu of providing a driver's license or state identification card number or the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am enclosing a copy of my photo identification in the return envelope in which this identification envelope will be mailed.

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

_____

(Signature of Voter)

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

(B) The board shall also mail with the ballots and the unsealed identification envelope sent by mail an unsealed return envelope, gummed, ready for sealing, for use by the voter in returning the voter's marked ballots to the office of the board. The board shall send with the ballots and the instruction sheet for preparing a gummed envelope sent electronically, including by facsimile machine, an instruction sheet for preparing a second gummed envelope as described in this division, for use by the voter in returning that voter's marked ballots to the board. The return envelope shall have two parallel lines, each one quarter of an inch in width, printed across its face paralleling the top, with an intervening space of one quarter of an inch between such lines. The top line shall be one and one-quarter inches from the top of the envelope. Between the parallel lines shall be printed: "OFFICIAL ELECTION UNIFORMED SERVICES OR OVERSEAS ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOTS -- VIA AIR MAIL." Three blank lines shall be printed in the upper left corner on the face of the envelope for the use by the voter in placing the voter's complete military, naval, or mailing address on these lines. The post-office address of the office of the board shall be printed on the face of such envelope in the lower right portion below the bottom parallel line.

(C) On the back of each identification envelope and each return envelope shall be printed the following:

"Instructions to voter:

If the flap on this envelope is so firmly stuck to the

back of the envelope when received by you as to require forcible opening in order to use it, open the envelope in the manner least injurious to it, and, after marking your ballots and enclosing same in the envelope for mailing them to the board of elections, reclose the envelope in the most practicable way, by sealing or otherwise, and sign the blank form printed below.

The flap on this envelope was firmly stuck to the back of the envelope when received, and required forced opening before sealing and mailing.

_____

(Signature of voter)"

(D) Division (C) of this section does not apply when absent voter's ballots are sent electronically, including by facsimile machine.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an identification envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an elector's name and address on an identification envelope statement of voter before mailing or electronically transmitting absent voter's ballots to the elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the elector's address on the identification envelope statement of voter.

Sec. 3511.052. (A) The identification envelope of a provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot sent to an elector under division (C)(1) of section 3511.04 of

the Revised Code shall have printed or written on its face a form substantially as follows:

"Provisional Uniformed Services or Overseas Absent Voter's Ballot Affirmation

(1) Clearly print your full name: _____

(2) Write your date of birth: _____

(3)(a) Write your current address: _____

_____

(b) Have you moved without updating your voter registration?:

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, write your former address: _____

_____

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

(4) You must provide a copy of one of the following forms of photo identification that includes your name and photograph and is not expired. Place the copy in the return envelope along with this envelope. Do not place the copy inside the ballot envelope.

(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card or an interim identification form issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles;

(b) A United States passport or passport card;

(c) A United States military identification card, Ohio national guard identification card, or United States department

of veterans affairs identification card.

(5) If you do not have photo identification because you have a religious objection to being photographed, complete the enclosed affidavit of religious objection and place it in the return envelope along with this ballot envelope. Do not place the affidavit inside the ballot envelope.

(6) If you do not provide a copy of your photo identification or complete an affidavit of religious objection, you must provide a copy of your photo identification or a completed an affidavit of religious objection to the board of elections by the fourth day after the election for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

(7) Complete this section if you need to update your voter registration or if you need to verify the identification you used to register to vote. If you need to verify your identification and you do not provide the needed information on this form, you must provide the information to the board of elections by the fourth day after the election for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

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

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

(8) If you are casting a provisional ballot because you need to provide proof of citizenship, either write your full Ohio driver's license or state identification card number above or provide proof of citizenship in the return envelope along with this envelope. Do not place your proof of citizenship inside the ballot envelope. If you do not provide proof of

citizenship at this time, you must provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections by the fourth day after the election for your ballot to be eligible to be counted.

"Proof of citizenship" means evidence that you are a United States citizen, in the form of one of the following:

(a) The number of your current or expired Ohio driver's license or state identification card or a copy of the front and back of your current or expired Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or interim identification form, if you have submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles indicating that you are a United States citizen;

(b) A copy of the front and back of a current or expired driver's license or nondriver identification card issued by another state within the United States, if the issuing agency indicates on the license or card that you are a United States citizen;

(c) A copy of a birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular report of birth abroad;

(d) A copy of the identification page of a current or expired United States passport;

(e) A copy of the front and back of a United States passport card;

(f) A copy of a certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship.

If the name on your proof of citizenship is different from your current legal name, you must also provide proof of your change of name, such as a copy of a marriage license or court order.

(9) If your right to vote has been challenged, you must provide any additional required documents in the return envelope along with this envelope or provide them to the board of elections by the fourth day after the election. Do not place those documents inside the ballot envelope.

(10) Sign and date the following statement:

The within ballot or ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed in this envelope, and sealed in this envelope.

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the general election; that I have lived in this state for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct in which I am voting this provisional ballot; that I am eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this provisional ballot; and that I will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location or in any other manner for this particular election.

I understand that, if the information I provide on this provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines that I have already voted in this election, my provisional ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my current address or under my current name, this form will serve as an application to register to vote or update my registration for future elections, as long as I provide all of the

information required to register to vote or update my registration. I further understand that knowingly providing false information is a violation of law and subjects me to possible criminal prosecution.

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

_____

Signature of Voter

_____

Date

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

(B) The board of elections shall include both of the following with the provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot:

(1) An explanation of the reason the voter is required to cast a provisional ballot and the information or documentation the voter must provide in order for the voter's ballot to be counted;

(2) A blank copy of the affidavit of religious objection to being photographed described in section 3505.19 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) In addition to any information required to be included on the written affirmation, an individual casting a provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot may provide additional information to the board of elections to

assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if known.

(2) If the individual provided all of the information required under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to register to vote or to update the individual's registration on the provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot affirmation, the board of elections shall consider the affirmation to also serve as a notice of change of name, change of residence, or both, or as a voter registration form, as applicable, for that individual only for the purposes of future elections.

(D) Upon receiving a completed provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, the board of elections shall process the ballot in accordance with section 3505.183 of the Revised Code in the same manner as other provisional ballots.

(E) In all other respects, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the provisions of this chapter that apply to a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot apply in the same manner to a provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot.

Sec. 3511.09. (A) Upon receiving uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the elector shall cause the questions on the face of the identification envelope to be answered, and, by writing the elector's usual signature in the proper place on the identification envelope, the elector shall declare under penalty of election falsification that the answers to those questions are true and correct to the best of the elector's knowledge and belief. Then, the elector shall note

whether there are any voting marks on the ballot. If there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the ballot to be marked, folded separately so as to conceal the markings on it, deposited in the identification envelope, and securely sealed in the identification envelope. The elector shall sign the identification envelope not later than the close of the polls on the day of the election. The elector then shall cause the identification envelope to be placed within the return envelope, sealed in the return envelope, and mailed to the board of elections to which it is addressed.

~~(B) The~~ (B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) of this section, the elector shall provide one of the following:

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

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

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

(2) If the elector is casting a provisional uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, the elector shall provide the applicable identification and other information required by the form described in section 3511.052 of the Revised Code.

(C) Every uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot identification envelope shall be accompanied by the

following statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

(D) The elector shall cause the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots to be returned to the office of the board of elections in a manner described in division (C) of section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, provided that the elector shall not be required to prepay the postage on the return envelope if, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, no postage is required.

Sec. 3511.11. (A) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the board of elections not later than the close of the polls on election day shall be processed and counted in the manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner provided in division (D) of section 3511.052 of the Revised Code, as applicable.

(B) A return envelope is not required to be postmarked in order for a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot contained in it to be valid. Except as otherwise provided in this division, whether or not the return envelope containing the ballot is postmarked, contains a late postmark, or contains an illegible postmark, a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot that is received by mail after the close of the polls on election day through the fourth day after the election day shall be processed and counted on the fifth day after the election day at the office of the board of elections in the manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code if the voter signed the identification envelope by the close of the polls on election day. However, if a return envelope containing a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot is so

received, but the identification envelope in it is signed after the close of the polls on election day, the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot shall not be counted.

(C) The following types of uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots shall not be counted:

(1) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots that are received by the board of elections after the close of the polls on the day of the election, and that contain an identification envelope that is signed after the close of the polls on election day;

(2) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots that are received after the fourth day following the election.

The uncounted ballots shall be preserved in their identification envelopes unopened until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed.

Sec. 3511.14. (A) ~~A~~ Subject to division (C) of this section, a board of elections shall accept and process federal write-in absentee ballots cast under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 U.S.C. 20302 and 20303, for all elections for office and for all ballot questions and issues ~~as required under "The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff, et seq., as amended~~.

(B) A uniformed services or overseas voter may use the declaration accompanying a federal write-in absentee ballot to apply to register to vote simultaneously with the submission of the federal write-in absentee ballot, if the declaration is

received not later than thirty days before the day of the election. If the declaration is received after that date, the declaration shall be considered an application to register to vote for all subsequent elections.

(C) A uniformed services or overseas absent voter who otherwise would be required to cast a provisional ballot under division (B)(1) of section 3503.201 of the Revised Code, but for no other reason, may cast a federal write-in absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 U.S.C. 20302 and 20303, in a general election for federal office. The votes on such a voter's ballot shall be counted only for federal candidates and not for any state or local candidate or any ballot issue or question appearing on the ballot at the election.

Sec. 3513.07. The form of declaration of candidacy and petition of a person desiring to be a candidate for a party nomination or a candidate for election to an office or position to be voted for at a primary election shall be substantially as follows:

"DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY PARTY PRIMARY ELECTION

I, _____ (Name of Candidate), the undersigned, hereby declare under penalty of election falsification that my voting residence is in _____ precinct of the _____ (Township) or (Ward and City or Village) in the county of _____, Ohio; that my voting residence is _____ (Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number) of the _____ (City or Village) of _____, Ohio; and that I am a qualified elector in the precinct in which my voting residence is located. I am a

member of the _____ Party. I hereby declare that I desire to be _____ (a candidate for nomination as a candidate of the Party for election to the office of _____) (a candidate for election to the office or position of _____) for the _____ in the state, district, (Full term or unexpired term ending _____) county, city, or village of _____, at the primary election to be held on the _____ day of _____, ____, and I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official primary election ballot of the said _____ Party as a candidate for _____ (such nomination) or (such election) as provided by law.

I further declare that, if elected to said office or position, I will qualify therefor, and that I will support and abide by the principles enunciated by the _____ Party.

Dated this _____ day of _____, _____

_____

(Signature of candidate)

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

PETITION OF CANDIDATE

We, the undersigned, qualified electors of the state of Ohio, whose voting residence is in the county, city, village, ward, township, or school district, and precinct set opposite our names, and members of the _____ Party, hereby certify that _____ (Name of candidate) whose declaration of candidacy is filed herewith, is a member of the _____ Party, and is, in our opinion, well qualified to

perform the duties of the office or position to which that candidate desires to be elected.

Signature	Number	Street and Township	City, Village or Ward	Precinct	County	Date

(Must use address on file with the board of elections)

_____

_____

_____

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR

I, _____ (Name of circulator of petition), ~~declares~~ declare under penalty of election falsification that ~~the circulator of the petition is a qualified elector of the state of Ohio and resides~~ I reside at the address appearing below ~~the~~ my signature ~~of that circulator~~; that ~~the circulator is~~ I am a member of the _____ Party; that ~~the circulator is~~ I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing _____ (Number) signatures; that ~~the circulator~~ I witnessed the affixing of every signature; that all signers were to the best of ~~the circulator's~~ my knowledge and belief qualified to sign; and that every signature is to the best of ~~the circulator's~~ my knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. (The circulator shall personally write the number of electors whose signatures the petition paper contains.)

For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of

elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided.

I am compensated to circulate this petition by _____ (name and address). (The circulator shall complete the preceding sentence as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being compensated to circulate the petition.)

_____

(Signature of circulator)

_____

(Address of circulator's permanent residence ~~in this state~~)

~~_____~~

~~(If petition is for a statewide candidate, the name and address of person employing to circulate petition, if any)~~

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

The secretary of state shall prescribe a form of declaration of candidacy and petition, and the form shall be

substantially similar to the declaration of candidacy and petition set forth in this section, that will be suitable for joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor.

The petition provided for in this section shall be circulated only by a member of the same political party as the candidate.

Sec. 3513.261. A nominating petition may consist of one or more separate petition papers, each of which shall be substantially in the form prescribed in this section. If the petition consists of more than one separate petition paper, the statement of candidacy of the candidate or joint candidates named need be signed by the candidate or joint candidates on only one of such separate petition papers, but the statement of candidacy so signed shall be copied on each other separate petition paper before the signatures of electors are placed on it. Each nominating petition containing signatures of electors of more than one county shall consist of separate petition papers each of which shall contain signatures of electors of only one county; provided that petitions containing signatures of electors of more than one county shall not thereby be declared invalid. In case petitions containing signatures of electors of more than one county are filed, the board of elections shall determine the county from which the majority of the signatures came, and only signatures from this county shall be counted. Signatures from any other county shall be invalid.

All signatures on nominating petitions shall be written in ink or indelible pencil.

At the time of filing a nominating petition, the candidate designated in the nominating petition, and joint candidates for

governor and lieutenant governor, shall pay to the election officials with whom it is filed the fees specified for the office under divisions (A) and (B) of section 3513.10 of the Revised Code. The fees shall be disposed of by those election officials in the manner that is provided in section 3513.10 of the Revised Code for the disposition of other fees, and in no case shall a fee required under that section be returned to a candidate.

Candidates or joint candidates whose names are written on the ballot, and who are elected, shall pay the same fees under section 3513.10 of the Revised Code that candidates who file nominating petitions pay. Payment of these fees shall be a condition precedent to the granting of their certificates of election.

Each nominating petition shall contain a statement of candidacy that shall be signed by the candidate or joint candidates named in it or by an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. Such statement of candidacy shall contain a declaration made under penalty of election falsification that the candidate desires to be a candidate for the office named in it, and that the candidate is an elector qualified to vote for the office the candidate seeks.

The form of the nominating petition and statement of candidacy shall be substantially as follows:

"STATEMENT OF CANDIDACY

I, _____ (Name of candidate), the undersigned, hereby declare under penalty of election falsification that my voting residence is in _____ _____ Precinct of the

_____ (Township) or (Ward and City, or Village) in the county of _____ Ohio; that my post-office address is _____ (Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number) of the _____ (City, Village, or post office) of _____, Ohio; and that I am a qualified elector in the precinct in which my voting residence is located. I hereby declare that I desire to be a candidate for election to the office of _____ in the _____ (State, District, County, City, Village, Township, or School District) for the _____ (Full term or unexpired term ending _____) at the General Election to be held on the _____ day of _____, ____

I further declare that I am an elector qualified to vote for the office I seek. Dated this _____ day of _____, ____

_____

(Signature of candidate)

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

I, _____, hereby constitute the persons named below a committee to represent me:

Name ~~Residence~~

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

The designated agent of the committee is _____ (name). Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to this petition may be served on the agent at _____ (address).

NOMINATING PETITION

We, the undersigned, qualified electors of the state of Ohio, whose voting residence is in the County, City, Village, Ward, Township or Precinct set opposite our names, hereby nominate _____ as a candidate for election to the office of _____ in the _____ (State, District, County, City, Village, Township, or School District) for the _____ (Full term or unexpired term ending _____) to be voted for at the general election next hereafter to be held, and certify that this person is, in our opinion, well qualified to perform the duties of the office or position to which the person desires to be elected.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A	Street					
B	Address					
C	or R.F.D.					
D	(Must use					
E	address on	City,				
F	file with	Village				

G		the board of	or				Date of
H	Signature	elections)	Township	Ward	Precinct	County	Signing
_____							
_____							
_____							

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATOR

I, _____, ~~declares~~ declare under penalty of election falsification that ~~such person is a qualified elector of the state of Ohio and resides~~ I reside at the address appearing below ~~such person's~~ my signature ~~hereto~~; that ~~such person is~~ I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing _____ signatures; that ~~such person~~ I witnessed the affixing of every signature; that all signers were to the best of ~~such person's~~ my knowledge and belief qualified to sign; and that every signature is to the best of ~~such person's~~ my knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. (The circulator shall personally write the number of electors whose signatures the petition paper contains.)

For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided.

I am compensated to circulate this petition by _____ (name and address). (The circulator shall complete the preceding sentence as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being compensated to circulate the petition.)

_____

(Signature of circulator)

_____

(Address of circulator's permanent residence~~—in this state~~)

_____

~~(If petition is for a statewide candidate, the name and address of person employing circulator to circulate petition, if any)~~

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

The secretary of state shall prescribe a form of nominating petition for a group of candidates for the office of member of a board of education, township office, and offices of municipal corporations of under two thousand population.

The secretary of state shall prescribe a form of statement of candidacy and nominating petition, which shall be substantially similar to the form of statement of candidacy and nominating petition set forth in this section, that will be

suitable for joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor.

If such petition nominates a candidate whose election is to be determined by the electors of a county or a district or subdivision within the county, it shall be filed with the board of such county. If the petition nominates a candidate whose election is to be determined by the voters of a subdivision located in more than one county, it shall be filed with the board of the county in which the major portion of the population of such subdivision is located.

If the petition nominates a candidate whose election is to be determined by the electors of a district comprised of more than one county but less than all of the counties of the state, it shall be filed with the board of elections of the most populous county in such district. If the petition nominates a candidate whose election is to be determined by the electors of the state at large, it shall be filed with the secretary of state.

The secretary of state or a board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person seeking to become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the nominating petition is for a state or county office, or for any municipal or township office, for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for member of a governing board of an educational service center, if

the nominating petition is for a municipal or township office, or for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for member of a governing board of an educational service center.

Sec. 3517.01. (A)(1) A political party within the meaning of Title XXXV of the Revised Code is any group of voters that meets either of the following requirements:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, at the most recent regular state election, the group polled for its candidate for governor in the state or nominees for presidential electors at least three per cent of the entire vote cast for that office. A group that meets the requirements of this division remains a political party for a period of four years after meeting those requirements.

(b) The group filed with the secretary of state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of division (A)(1)(a) of this section, a party formation petition that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) The petition is signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least one per cent of the total vote for governor or nominees for presidential electors at the most recent election for such office.

(ii) The petition is signed by not fewer than five hundred qualified electors from each of at least a minimum of one-half of the congressional districts in this state. If an odd number of congressional districts exists in this state, the number of districts that results from dividing the number of congressional districts by two shall be rounded up to the next whole number.

(iii) The petition declares the petitioners' intention of

organizing a political party, the name of which shall be stated in the declaration, and of participating in the succeeding general election, held in even-numbered years, that occurs more than one hundred twenty-five days after the date of filing.

(iv) The petition designates a committee of not less than three nor more than five individuals of the petitioners, who shall represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the petition. Notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to the petition may be served on the ~~committee, or any of them~~ committee's agent designated under division (N)(1) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, either personally or by registered mail, or by leaving such notice at the agent's usual place of residence ~~of each of them~~.

(2) No such group of electors shall assume a name or designation that is similar, in the opinion of the secretary of state, to that of an existing political party as to confuse or mislead the voters at an election.

(B) A campaign committee shall be legally liable for any debts, contracts, or expenditures incurred or executed in its name.

(C) Notwithstanding the definitions found in section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, as used in this section and sections 3517.08 to 3517.14, 3517.99, and 3517.992 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Campaign committee" means a candidate or a combination of two or more persons authorized by a candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code to receive contributions and make expenditures.

(2) "Campaign treasurer" means an individual appointed by

a candidate under section 3517.081 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Candidate" has the same meaning as in division (H) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code and also includes any person who, at any time before or after an election, receives contributions or makes expenditures or other use of contributions, has given consent for another to receive contributions or make expenditures or other use of contributions, or appoints a campaign treasurer, for the purpose of bringing about the person's nomination or election to public office. When two persons jointly seek the offices of governor and lieutenant governor, "candidate" means the pair of candidates jointly. "Candidate" does not include candidates for election to the offices of member of a county or state central committee, presidential elector, and delegate to a national convention or conference of a political party.

(4) "Continuing association" means an association, other than a campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, political contributing entity, or labor organization, that is intended to be a permanent organization that has a primary purpose other than supporting or opposing specific candidates, political parties, or ballot issues, and that functions on a regular basis throughout the year. "Continuing association" includes organizations that are determined to be not organized for profit under subsection 501 and that are described in subsection 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), or 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

(5) "Contribution" means a loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds or anything of value, including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's

estate, and the payment by any person other than the person to whom the services are rendered for the personal services of another person, which contribution is made, received, or used for the purpose of influencing the results of an election. Any loan, gift, deposit, forgiveness of indebtedness, donation, advance, payment, or transfer of funds or of anything of value, including a transfer of funds from an inter vivos or testamentary trust or decedent's estate, and the payment by any campaign committee, political action committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, political contributing entity, or person other than the person to whom the services are rendered for the personal services of another person, that is made, received, or used by a state or county political party, other than the moneys an entity may receive under sections 3517.101, 3517.1012, and 3517.1013 of the Revised Code, shall be considered to be a "contribution" for the purpose of section 3517.10 of the Revised Code and shall be included on a statement of contributions filed under that section.

"Contribution" does not include any of the following:

(a) Services provided without compensation by individuals volunteering a portion or all of their time on behalf of a person;

(b) Ordinary home hospitality;

(c) The personal expenses of a volunteer paid for by that volunteer campaign worker;

(d) Any gift given to an entity pursuant to section 3517.101 of the Revised Code;

(e) Any contribution as defined in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code that is made, received, or used to pay the

direct costs of producing or airing an electioneering communication;

(f) Any gift given to a state or county political party for the party's restricted fund under division (A)(2) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code;

(g) Any gift given to a state political party for deposit in a Levin account pursuant to section 3517.1013 of the Revised Code. As used in this division, "Levin account" has the same meaning as in that section.

(h) Any donation given to a transition fund under section 3517.1014 of the Revised Code.

(6) "Expenditure" means the disbursement or use of a contribution for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or of making a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code. Any disbursement or use of a contribution by a state or county political party is an expenditure and shall be considered either to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election or to be made as a charitable donation under division (G) of section 3517.08 of the Revised Code and shall be reported on a statement of expenditures filed under section 3517.10 of the Revised Code. During the thirty days preceding a primary or general election, any disbursement to pay the direct costs of producing or airing a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication that refers to a clearly identified candidate shall be considered to be made for the purpose of influencing the results of that election and shall be reported as an expenditure or as an independent expenditure under section 3517.10 or 3517.105 of the Revised Code, as applicable, except that the information required to be reported regarding contributors for those expenditures or

independent expenditures shall be the same as the information required to be reported under divisions (D)(1) and (2) of section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

As used in this division, "broadcast, cable, or satellite communication" and "refers to a clearly identified candidate" have the same meanings as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

(7) "Personal expenses" includes, but is not limited to, ordinary expenses for accommodations, clothing, food, personal motor vehicle or airplane, and home telephone.

(8) "Political action committee" means a combination of two or more persons, the primary or major purpose of which is to support or oppose any candidate, political party, or issue, or to influence the result of any election through express advocacy, and that is not a political party, a campaign committee, a political contributing entity, or a legislative campaign fund. "Political action committee" does not include either of the following:

(a) A continuing association that makes disbursements for the direct costs of producing or airing electioneering communications and that does not engage in express advocacy;

(b) A political club that is formed primarily for social purposes and that consists of one hundred members or less, has officers and periodic meetings, has less than two thousand five hundred dollars in its treasury at all times, and makes an aggregate total contribution of one thousand dollars or less per calendar year.

(9) "Public office" means any state, county, municipal, township, or district office, except an office of a political

party, that is filled by an election and the offices of United States senator and representative.

(10) "Anything of value" has the same meaning as in section 1.03 of the Revised Code.

(11) "Beneficiary of a campaign fund" means a candidate, a public official or employee for whose benefit a campaign fund exists, and any other person who has ever been a candidate or public official or employee and for whose benefit a campaign fund exists.

(12) "Campaign fund" means money or other property, including contributions.

(13) "Public official or employee" has the same meaning as in section 102.01 of the Revised Code.

(14) "Caucus" means all of the members of the house of representatives or all of the members of the senate of the general assembly who are members of the same political party.

(15) "Legislative campaign fund" means a fund that is established as an auxiliary of a state political party and associated with one of the houses of the general assembly.

(16) "In-kind contribution" means anything of value other than money that is used to influence the results of an election or is transferred to or used in support of or in opposition to a candidate, campaign committee, legislative campaign fund, political party, political action committee, or political contributing entity and that is made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of the benefited candidate, committee, fund, party, or entity. The financing of the dissemination, distribution, or republication, in whole or part, of any

broadcast or of any written, graphic, or other form of campaign materials prepared by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, or their authorized agents is an in-kind contribution to the candidate and an expenditure by the candidate.

(17) "Independent expenditure" means an expenditure by a person advocating the election or defeat of an identified candidate or candidates, that is not made with the consent of, in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of any candidate or candidates or of the campaign committee or agent of the candidate or candidates. As used in division (C)(17) of this section:

(a) "Person" means an individual, partnership, unincorporated business organization or association, political action committee, political contributing entity, separate segregated fund, association, or other organization or group of persons, but not a labor organization or a corporation unless the labor organization or corporation is a political contributing entity.

(b) "Advocating" means any communication containing a message advocating election or defeat.

(c) "Identified candidate" means that the name of the candidate appears, a photograph or drawing of the candidate appears, or the identity of the candidate is otherwise apparent by unambiguous reference.

(d) "Made in coordination, cooperation, or consultation with, or at the request or suggestion of, any candidate or the campaign committee or agent of the candidate" means made pursuant to any arrangement, coordination, or direction by the candidate, the candidate's campaign committee, or the

candidate's agent prior to the publication, distribution, display, or broadcast of the communication. An expenditure is presumed to be so made when it is any of the following:

(i) Based on information about the candidate's plans, projects, or needs provided to the person making the expenditure by the candidate, or by the candidate's campaign committee or agent, with a view toward having an expenditure made;

(ii) Made by or through any person who is, or has been, authorized to raise or expend funds, who is, or has been, an officer of the candidate's campaign committee, or who is, or has been, receiving any form of compensation or reimbursement from the candidate or the candidate's campaign committee or agent;

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of section 3517.105 of the Revised Code, made by a political party in support of a candidate, unless the expenditure is made by a political party to conduct voter registration or voter education efforts.

(e) "Agent" means any person who has actual oral or written authority, either express or implied, to make or to authorize the making of expenditures on behalf of a candidate, or means any person who has been placed in a position with the candidate's campaign committee or organization such that it would reasonably appear that in the ordinary course of campaign-related activities the person may authorize expenditures.

(18) "Labor organization" means a labor union; an employee organization; a federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or other employee organizations; an auxiliary of a labor union, employee organization, or federation of labor unions, groups, locals, or other employee organizations; or any other bona fide

organization in which employees participate and that exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

(19) "Separate segregated fund" means a separate segregated fund established pursuant to the Federal Election Campaign Act.

(20) "Federal Election Campaign Act" means the "Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971," 86 Stat. 11, 2 U.S.C.A. 431, et seq., as amended.

(21) "Restricted fund" means the fund a state or county political party must establish under division (A)(1) of section 3517.1012 of the Revised Code.

(22) "Electioneering communication" has the same meaning as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

(23) "Express advocacy" means a communication that contains express words advocating the nomination, election, or defeat of a candidate or that contains express words advocating the adoption or defeat of a question or issue, as determined by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(24) "Political committee" has the same meaning as in section 3517.1011 of the Revised Code.

(25) "Political contributing entity" means any entity, including a corporation or labor organization, that may lawfully make contributions and expenditures and that is not an individual or a political action committee, continuing association, campaign committee, political party, legislative campaign fund, designated state campaign committee, or state candidate fund. For purposes of this division, "lawfully" means

not prohibited by any section of the Revised Code, or authorized by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(26) "Internet identifier of record" has the same meaning as in section 9.312 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3517.12. (A) Prior to receiving a contribution or making an expenditure, the ~~circulator or~~ committee in charge of an initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for additional signatures, for the submission of a constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any law shall appoint a treasurer and ~~shall file with the secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state,~~ include a designation of that appointment~~, including the full name and address of the treasurer and of the circulator or committee~~ on the statement described in division (B) of section 3519.02 of the Revised Code.

(B) The circulator or the committee in charge of an initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for additional signatures, for the submission of a constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any law shall, within thirty days after those petition papers are filed, file with the secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, an itemized statement, made under penalty of election falsification, showing in detail the following:

(1) All money or things of value paid, given, promised, or received for circulating the petitions;

(2) All appointments, promotions, contracts, or increases in ~~salary~~ pay, in positions which were given, promised, or received, or to obtain which assistance was given, promised, or received as a consideration for work done in circulating

petitions;

(3) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and state, of all persons to whom such payments or promises were made and of all persons from whom such payments or promises were received;

(4) Full names and addresses, including street, city, and state, of all persons who contributed anything of value to be used in circulating the petitions, and the amounts of those contributions;

(5) Time spent and ~~salaries~~ pay earned while soliciting signatures to petitions by persons who were ~~regular salaried~~ employees or contractors of some person or whom that employer authorized to solicit as part of their regular duties.

If no money or things of value were paid or received or if no promises were made or received as a consideration for work done in circulating a petition, the statement shall contain words to that effect.

(C) The treasurer designated under division (A) of this section shall file statements of contributions and expenditures in accordance with section 3517.10 of the Revised Code regarding all contributions made or received and all expenditures made by that treasurer or the circulator or committee in connection with the initiative or referendum petition, or supplementary petition for additional signatures, for the submission of a constitutional amendment, proposed law, section, or item of any law.

Sec. 3519.02. ~~The~~ (A) As used in this section, "contribution" and "expenditure" have the same meanings as in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

(B) Before circulating any initiative or referendum petition, including a petition described in section 3519.01 of the Revised Code, and before receiving a contribution or making an expenditure, the petitioners shall ~~designate in any initiative, referendum, or supplementary petition and on each of the several parts of such petition a~~ file with the secretary of state, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, a statement containing all of the following information:

(1) The full names and addresses of a committee of not less than three nor more than five of ~~their number~~ the petitioners, who shall represent them in all matters relating to such petitions~~. Notice~~ ;

(2) The full name and address of the committee's treasurer;

(3) The full name and address of an agent upon whom notice of all matters or proceedings pertaining to such petitions may be served ~~on said committee, or any of them, either personally or by registered mail, or by leaving such notice at the usual place of residence of each of them~~;

(4) A designation of one or more members or agents of the committee who consent to testify on behalf of the committee. The designation may set out the matters on which each person designated may testify.

(C) The committee promptly shall update the statement described in division (B) of this section with the secretary of state if the information in the statement changes during the time that the committee is circulating the petition. If the law, constitutional amendment, or referendum is certified to appear on the ballot, the committee promptly shall update that

information if it changes at any time before the day of the election.

(D) Each part-petition shall include the names of the members of the committee and the name and address of the committee's agent designated under division (B)(3) of this section as they exist at the time the part-petition is printed.

Sec. 3519.05. (A) If the measure to be submitted proposes a constitutional amendment, the heading of each part of the petition shall be prepared in the following form, and printed in capital letters in type of the approximate size set forth:

"INITIATIVE PETITION

Amendment to the Constitution

Proposed by Initiative Petition

To be submitted directly to the electors"

"Amendment" printed in fourteen-point boldface type shall precede the title, which shall be briefly expressed and printed in eight-point type. The summary shall then be set forth printed in ten-point type, and then shall follow the certification of the attorney general, under proper date, which shall also be printed in ten-point type. The petition shall then set forth the names ~~and addresses~~ of the members of the petition committee ~~of not less than three nor more than five to represent the petitioners in all matters relating to the petition or its circulation~~ designated under section 3519.02 of the Revised Code and the name and address of the petition committee's agent designated under division (B)(3) of that section.

Immediately above the heading of the place for signatures on each part of the petition the following notice shall be

printed in boldface type:

"NOTICE

Whoever knowingly signs this petition more than once; except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, signs a name other than one's own on this petition; or signs this petition when not a qualified voter, is liable to prosecution."

The heading of the place for signatures shall be substantially as follows:

"(Sign with ink. Your name, residence, and date of signing must be given.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A			Rural Route or			
B			other Post-			
C	Signature	County	Township	office Address	Month	Day	Year

(Voters who do not live in a municipal corporation should fill in the information called for by headings printed above.)

(Voters who reside in municipal corporations should fill in the information called for by headings printed below.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

A City Street

B or and

C Signature County Village Number Ward Precinct Month Day Year"

The text of the proposed amendment shall be printed in full, immediately following the place for signatures, and shall be prefaced by "Be it resolved by the people of the State of Ohio." Immediately following the text of the proposed amendment must appear the following form:

"I, _____, declare under penalty of election falsification that I am the circulator of the foregoing petition paper containing the signatures of _____ electors, that the signatures appended hereto were made and appended in my presence on the date set opposite each respective name, and are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be or of attorneys in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, and that the electors signing this petition did so with knowledge of the contents of same. ~~I—~~(The circulator shall personally write the number of electors whose signatures the petition paper contains.)

For the purposes of any proceeding related to this petition, I submit to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Secretary of State, and the board of elections of the county in which I have circulated this petition. I understand that I may be required to testify or to produce evidence in such a proceeding. I agree to receive any service of process at the residence address I have provided.

I am ~~employed~~ compensated to circulate this petition by _____ (Name and address~~ of employer~~). (The preceding sentence shall be completed as required by section 3501.38 of the Revised Code if the circulator is being ~~employed~~ compensated to circulate the petition.)

(Signed) _____

(Address of circulator's permanent residence~~ in this state~~)

_____

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

(B) If the measure proposes a law, the heading of each part of the petition shall be prepared as follows:

"INITIATIVE PETITION

Law proposed by initiative petition first to be submitted to the General Assembly."

In all other respects, the form shall be as provided for the submission of a constitutional amendment, except that the text of the proposed law shall be prefaced by "Be it enacted by the people of the state of Ohio."

The form for a supplementary initiative petition shall be the same as that provided for an initiative petition, with the exception that "supplementary" shall precede "initiative" in the title thereof.

(C) The general provisions set forth in this section relative to the form and order of an initiative petition shall be, so far as practical, applicable to a referendum petition,

the heading of which shall be as follows:

"REFERENDUM PETITION

To be submitted to the electors for their approval or rejection"

The title, which follows the heading, shall contain a brief legislative history of the law, section, or item of law to be referred. The text of the law so referred shall be followed by the certification of the secretary of state, in accordance with division (B)(2)(b) of section 3519.01 of the Revised Code, that it has been compared with the copy of the enrolled act, on file in the secretary of state's office, containing such law, section, or item of law, and found to be correct.

(D) The secretary of state shall prescribe a form for part petitions to be submitted during the ten-day period beginning on the first day following the date that the secretary of state notifies the ~~chairperson of the committee interested in the~~ petition committee's agent that the petition has an insufficient number of valid signatures. The secretary of state shall provide to each particular committee a different form that contains a unique identifier and that is separate from the forms prescribed in divisions (A), (B), and (C) of this section. The secretary of state shall make the form available to the committee only as described in division (F) of section 3519.16 of the Revised Code. The form shall not be considered a public record until after the secretary of state makes it available to the committee under that division.

The form shall comply with the requirements of Section 1g of Article II, Ohio Constitution and, except as otherwise provided in this division, with the requirements of divisions

(A), (B), and (C) of this section.

Sec. 3519.16. (A) Pursuant to Section 1g of Article II, Ohio Constitution, the supreme court of Ohio shall have exclusive original jurisdiction in all challenges to initiative and referendum petitions.

(B) The committee interested in a petition shall include upon each part-petition filed with the secretary of state a designation of the county in which the part-petition was circulated and a number for the part-petition. In any county where part-petitions are circulated, each part-petition shall be numbered sequentially. The committee shall sort the part-petitions by county. Upon filing the petition with the secretary of state, the committee also shall file the following:

(1) An electronic copy of the petition along with a verification that the electronic copy is a true representation of the original filed paper petition;

(2) A summary of the number of part-petitions filed per county, and the number of signatures on each part-petition;

(3) An index of the electronic copy of the petition.

(C) From the time the petition is initially filed with the secretary of state and until the part-petitions are returned to the secretary of state by the boards of elections after a determination of sufficiency under section 3519.15 of the Revised Code, any request for the inspection or copying of the original petition filed with the secretary of state under Chapter 149. of the Revised Code is fulfilled if the secretary of state permits the inspection of or provides copies of the electronic copy of the petition filed by the circulator.

(D) Discrepancies between the electronic copy of a

petition filed under division (B)(1) of this section and the original paper petition filed with the secretary of state shall not render the petition invalid. Such discrepancies, if the product of fraud, shall be subject to criminal penalties under section 3599.36 of the Revised Code.

(E) The properly verified part-petitions, together with an electronic copy of the part-petitions, shall be returned to the secretary of state not less than one hundred ten days before the election, provided that, in the case of an initiated law to be presented to the general assembly, the boards shall promptly check and return the petitions together with their report. The secretary of state shall determine the sufficiency of the signatures not later than one hundred five days before the election. The secretary of state promptly shall notify the ~~chairperson of the committee in charge of the circulation~~ petition committee's agent as to the sufficiency or insufficiency of the petition and the extent of the insufficiency.

(F) If the petition is found insufficient because of an insufficient number of valid signatures, the committee shall be allowed ten additional days after the notification by the secretary of state for the collection and filing of additional signatures to the petition. When the secretary of state makes that notification, the secretary of state simultaneously shall provide the ~~chairperson~~ petition committee's agent with both a paper copy and an electronic copy of the unique petition form described in division (D) of section 3519.05 of the Revised Code. At that time, the secretary of state also shall make the form available to the public on the secretary of state's official web site and shall transmit the form electronically to the boards of elections. Upon request, a board of elections

shall provide a paper or electronic copy of the form to any person.

No additional signatures shall be collected or submitted to the secretary of state by the committee interested in the petition, or by any person acting on behalf of the committee, during the period beginning on the date that the petition is initially submitted to the secretary of state and ending on the date that the secretary of state notifies the ~~chairperson of the committee~~ petition committee's agent that the petition has an insufficient number of valid signatures. If the committee, or any person acting on behalf of the committee, submits additional signatures, the signatures must be on the form provided by the secretary of state under this division and only signatures that were signed and collected during the ten-day period to collect and submit additional signatures may be submitted.

If additional signatures are filed, the secretary of state shall determine the sufficiency of those additional signatures not later than sixty-five days before the election. The part-petitions of the supplementary petition that appear to the secretary of state to be properly verified, upon their receipt by the secretary of state, shall forthwith be forwarded to the boards of the several counties together with the part-petitions of the original petition that have been properly verified. They shall be immediately examined and passed upon as to the validity and sufficiency of the signatures on them by each of the boards and returned within eight days to the secretary of state with the report of each board. No signature on a supplementary part-petition that is the same as a signature on an original part-petition shall be counted. The number of signatures in both the original and supplementary petitions, properly verified, shall be used by the secretary of state in determining the total

number of signatures to the petition that the secretary of state shall record and announce. If they are sufficient, the amendment, proposed law, or law shall be placed on the ballot as required by law. If the petition is found insufficient, the secretary of state shall notify the committee in charge of the circulation of the petition.

Sec. 3599.12. (A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Vote or attempt to vote in any primary, special, or general election in a precinct in which that person is not a legally qualified elector;

(2) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at the same election by any means~~, including voting or attempting to vote both by absent voter's ballots under division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by regular ballot at the polls at the same election, or voting or attempting to vote both by absent voter's ballots under division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or armed service absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3511. of the Revised Code at the same election~~;

(3) Impersonate or sign the name of another person, real or fictitious, living or dead, and vote or attempt to vote as that other person in any such election;

(4) Cast a ballot at any such election after objection has been made and sustained to that person's vote;

(5) Knowingly vote or attempt to vote a ballot other than the official ballot.

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree.

Sec. 3599.21. (A) No person shall knowingly do any of the following:

(1) Impersonate another, or make a false representation in order to obtain an absent voter's ballot;

(2) Aid or abet a person to vote an absent voter's ballot illegally;

(3) If the person is an election official, open, destroy, steal, mark, or mutilate any absent voter's ballot;

(4) Aid or abet another person to open, destroy, steal, mark, or mutilate any absent voter's ballot after the ballot has been voted;

(5) Delay the delivery of any absent voter's ballot with a view to preventing its arrival in time to be counted;

(6) Hinder or attempt to hinder the delivery or counting of such absent voter's ballot;

(7) Fail to forward to the appropriate election official an absent voter's ballot application entrusted to that person to so forward;

(8) Fail to forward to the appropriate election official an absent voter's ballot application entrusted to that person to so forward within ten days after that application is completed or within such a time period that the failure to so forward the application disenfranchises the voter with respect to a particular election, whichever is earlier;

(9) Return the absent voter's ballot of another to the office of a board of elections, unless either of the following apply:

(a) The person is ~~a relative~~ an assistant who is authorized to do so under division ~~(C)(1)~~ (D)(2), (3), or (4) of section 3509.05 of the Revised Code;

(b) The person is, and is acting as, an employee or contractor of the United States postal service or a private carrier.

(10) Except as authorized under Chapters 3509. and 3511. of the Revised Code, possess the absent voter's ballot of another.

(B)(1) Subject to division (B)(2) of this section, no person who receives compensation for soliciting persons to apply to vote by absent voter's ballots shall fail to forward to the appropriate election official an absent voter's ballot application entrusted to that person to so forward within ten days after that application is completed.

(2) No person who receives compensation for soliciting persons to apply to vote by absent voter's ballots shall fail to forward to the appropriate election official an absent voter's ballot application entrusted to that person to so forward within such a time period that the failure to so forward the application disenfranchises the voter with respect to a particular election.

(C) Whoever violates division (A) or (B) of this section is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree.

(D) As used in this section, "person who receives compensation for soliciting persons to apply to vote by absent voter's ballots" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide absent voter's ballot applications or to assist persons in completing those applications or returning them to the

director of the board of elections of the county in which the applicant's voting residence is located.

Section 2. That existing sections 303.12, 303.59, 307.94, 3501.01, 3501.38, 3501.381, 3501.39, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.33, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.09, 3511.11, 3511.14, 3513.07, 3513.261, 3517.01, 3517.12, 3519.02, 3519.05, 3519.16, 3599.12, and 3599.21 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

Section 3. A petition or part-petition described in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, as amended by this act, that is signed by one or more electors before the effective date of this section is not invalid on the ground that the petition or part-petition does not meet the requirements of the Revised Code, as amended by this act, so long as the petition or part-petition meets the requirements of the Revised Code that were in effect on the day before the effective date of this section.

Section 4. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections as presented in this act:

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

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