

As Introduced

131st General Assembly

Regular Session

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S. B. No. 158

Senator Yuko

Cosponsors: Senators Schiavoni, Brown, Thomas, Sawyer, Williams, Tavares

A BILL

To amend sections 3501.05, 3503.09, 3503.10, 1
3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 2
3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3
3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.183, 3509.03, 3509.05, 4
3511.02, 3511.09, 3599.11, and 3599.18 and to 5
enact new section 3503.11 and section 3503.20, 6
and to repeal sections 3503.11, 3503.29, and 7
3505.22 of the Revised Code to require that 8
eligible persons in certain government and 9
school databases be automatically registered to 10
vote or have their registrations updated 11
automatically unless those persons decline to do 12
so and to create an online voter registration 13
system. 14

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.05, 3503.09, 3503.10, 15
3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 16
3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.183, 3509.03, 17
3509.05, 3511.02, 3511.09, 3599.11, and 3599.18 be amended and 18
new section 3503.11 and section 3503.20 of the Revised Code be 19

enacted to read as follows:	20
Sec. 3501.05. The secretary of state shall do all of the	21
following:	22
(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;	23
(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in	24
accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members	25
of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections.	26
(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of	27
elections;	28
(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a	29
sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in	30
force;	31
(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws	32
or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;	33
(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and	34
records;	35
(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the	36
forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally	37
sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required	38
by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards;	39
(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on	40
the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution	41
to be submitted to the voters of the state;	42
(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the	43
Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots	44
and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and	45
wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall	46

appear on the ballot; 47

(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) (2) (b) of 48
section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to 49
ballot language for any local question or issue approved and 50
transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the 51
Revised Code; 52

(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on 53
state questions and issues and determine and certify to the 54
sufficiency of those petitions; 55

(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are 56
provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers 57
necessary; 58

(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the 59
several counties of the requirements of the election laws; 60

(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of 61
this section, investigate the administration of election laws, 62
frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and 63
report violations of election laws to the attorney general or 64
prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution; 65

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to 66
comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 67
3517.13, 3517.17, 3517.18, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 68
3599.031 of the Revised Code, whenever the secretary of state 69
has or should have knowledge of a failure to comply with or a 70
violation of a provision in one of those sections, by filing a 71
complaint with the Ohio elections commission under section 72
3517.153 of the Revised Code. 73

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the 74
results of elections, the cost of elections in the various 75

counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political 76
subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative 77
to elections the secretary of state considers desirable; 78

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list 79
of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition 80
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 81
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code; 82

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 83
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters 84
from the statewide voter registration database and, if 85
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in 86
each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the 87
following: 88

(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed 89
residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in 90
compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National 91
Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses 92
the national change of address service provided by the United 93
States postal system through its licensees; 94

(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under 95
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 96

(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a 97
voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter 98
registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or 99
signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason 100
for that mark or removal. 101

(R) (1) Prescribe a general program for registering voters 102
or updating voter registration information, such as name and 103
residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies, 104

offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section 3503.09 of the Revised Code;

(2) Adopt rules to implement the automatic voter registration program described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code.

(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter registration forms through boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers;

(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in this state;

(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles consistent with this chapter;

(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary of state to do all of the following:

(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities;

(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence, as for other voters;

(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of standards for the certification of voting machines, marking devices, and automatic tabulating equipment.

(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the "Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 1666, and provide training in the operation of that system;

(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result of any conference or teleconference call with a board of elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections, or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as is practicable after the completion of the conference or teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes place.

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

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter

identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and 164
other voting requirements; 165

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 166
may make available to a board of elections a ~~more recent~~ current 167
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 168
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 169
elector resides; 170

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 171
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 172
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 173
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 174
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 175
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 176
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 177
or referendum; 178

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 179
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 180
Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 181
1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of 182
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities 183
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities 184
arising from amendments to that act made by the "Military and 185
Overseas Voter Empowerment Act," Subtitle H of the "National 186
Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010," Pub. L. No. 187
111-84, 123 Stat. 3190. 188

(DD) Adopt rules, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 189
to establish procedures and standards for determining when a 190
board of elections shall be placed under the official oversight 191
of the secretary of state, placing a board of elections under 192
the official oversight of the secretary of state, a board that 193

is under official oversight to transition out of official 194
oversight, and the secretary of state to supervise a board of 195
elections that is under official oversight of the secretary of 196
state. 197

(EE) Perform other duties required by law. 198

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 199
of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 200
3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of 201
representative to congress, the secretary of state shall 202
establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline 203
required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the 204
following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy 205
and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating 206
petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of 207
protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 208
declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a 209
declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of 210
campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of 211
corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 212
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 213
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 214
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 215
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 216
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 217
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 218
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 219

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 220
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 221
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 222
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 223

fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 224
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 225

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 226
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 227
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 228
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 229
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 230
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 231

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 232
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 233
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 234
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 235
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 236
state's motion, be made a party. 237

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 238
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 239
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 240
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 241
pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 242
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 243
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 244
Franklin county. 245

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 246
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 247
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 248
state pursuant to this section. 249

The secretary of state may mail unsolicited applications 250
for absent voter's ballots to individuals only for a general 251
election and only if the general assembly has made an 252

appropriation for that particular mailing. Under no other 253
circumstance shall a public office, or a public official or 254
employee who is acting in an official capacity, mail unsolicited 255
applications for absent voter's ballots to any individuals. 256

Sec. 3503.09. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt 257
rules for the electronic transmission by boards of elections, 258
designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor 259
vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public 260
libraries, and offices of county treasurers, where applicable, 261
of change of name and change of residence ~~changes forms~~ for 262
voter registration ~~records in the statewide voter registration~~
~~database.~~ 264

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 265
purpose of improving the speed of processing new voter 266
registrations that permit information from a voter registration 267
application received by a designated agency or an office of 268
deputy registrar of motor vehicles to be made available 269
electronically, in addition to requiring the original voter 270
registration application to be transmitted to the applicable 271
board of elections under division ~~(E)~~ (D) (2) of section 3503.10 272
~~or section 3503.11~~ of the Revised Code. 273

(B) Rules adopted under division (A) of this section shall 274
do all of the following: 275

(1) Prohibit any direct electronic connection between a 276
designated agency, office of deputy registrar of motor vehicles, 277
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 278
office of a county treasurer and the statewide voter 279
registration database; 280

(2) Require any updated voter registration information to 281

be verified by the secretary of state or a board of elections 282
before the information is added to the statewide voter 283
registration database for the purpose of modifying an existing 284
voter registration; 285

(3) Require each designated agency or office of deputy 286
registrar of motor vehicles that transmits voter registration 287
information electronically to transmit an identifier for data 288
relating to each new voter registration that shall be used by 289
the secretary of state or a board of elections to match the 290
electronic data to the original voter registration application. 291

(C) This section does not apply to information transmitted 292
to the secretary of state under section 3503.11 of the Revised 293
Code. 294

Sec. 3503.10. (A) Each designated agency shall designate 295
one person within that agency to serve as coordinator for the 296
voter registration program within the agency and its 297
departments, divisions, and programs. The designated person 298
shall be trained under a program designed by the secretary of 299
state and shall be responsible for administering all aspects of 300
the voter registration program for that agency as prescribed by 301
the secretary of state. The designated person shall receive no 302
additional compensation for performing such duties. 303

(B) Every designated agency, public high school and 304
vocational school, public library, and office of a county 305
treasurer shall provide in each of its offices or locations 306
voter registration applications and assistance in the 307
registration of persons qualified to register to vote, in 308
accordance with this chapter. 309

(C) Every designated agency shall distribute to its 310

applicants, prior to or in conjunction with distributing a voter registration application, a form prescribed by the secretary of state that includes all of the following:

(1) The question, "Do you want to register to vote or update your current voter registration?"--followed by boxes for the applicant to indicate whether the applicant would like to register or decline to register to vote, and the statement, highlighted in bold print, "If you do not check either box, you will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at this time.";

(2) If the agency provides public assistance, the statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.";

(3) The statement, "If you would like help in filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private.";

(4) The statement, "If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the prosecuting attorney of your county or with the secretary of state," with the address and telephone number for each such official's office.

(D) Each designated agency shall distribute a voter registration form prescribed by the secretary of state to each applicant with each application for service or assistance, and

with each written application or form for recertification, 340
renewal, or change of address. 341

(E) Each designated agency shall do all of the following: 342

(1) Have employees trained to administer the voter 343
registration program in order to provide to each applicant who 344
wishes to register to vote and who accepts assistance, the same 345
degree of assistance with regard to completion of the voter 346
registration application as is provided by the agency with 347
regard to the completion of its own form; 348

(2) Accept completed voter registration applications, 349
voter registration change of residence forms, and voter 350
registration change of name forms, regardless of whether the 351
application or form was distributed by the designated agency, 352
for transmittal to the office of the board of elections in the 353
county in which the agency is located. Each designated agency 354
and the appropriate board of elections shall establish a method 355
by which the voter registration applications and other voter 356
registration forms are transmitted to that board of elections 357
within five days after being accepted by the agency. 358

(3) If the designated agency is one that is primarily 359
engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities under 360
a state-funded program, and that agency provides services to a 361
person with disabilities at a person's home, provide the 362
services described in divisions (E) (1) and (2) of this section 363
at the person's home; 364

(4) Keep as confidential, except as required by the 365
secretary of state for record-keeping purposes, the identity of 366
an agency through which a person registered to vote or updated 367
the person's voter registration records, and information 368

relating to a declination to register to vote made in connection 369
with a voter registration application issued by a designated 370
agency. 371

(F) The secretary of state shall prepare and transmit 372
written instructions on the implementation of the voter 373
registration program within each designated agency, public high 374
school and vocational school, public library, and office of a 375
county treasurer. The instructions shall include directions as 376
follows: 377

(1) That each person designated to assist with voter 378
registration maintain strict neutrality with respect to a 379
person's political philosophies, a person's right to register or 380
decline to register, and any other matter that may influence a 381
person's decision to register or not register to vote; 382

(2) That each person designated to assist with voter 383
registration not seek to influence a person's decision to 384
register or not register to vote, not display or demonstrate any 385
political preference or party allegiance, and not make any 386
statement to a person or take any action the purpose or effect 387
of which is to lead a person to believe that a decision to 388
register or not register has any bearing on the availability of 389
services or benefits offered, on the grade in a particular class 390
in school, or on credit for a particular class in school; 391

(3) Regarding when and how to assist a person in 392
completing the voter registration application, what to do with 393
the completed voter registration application or voter 394
registration update form, and when the application must be 395
transmitted to the appropriate board of elections; 396

(4) Regarding what records must be kept by the agency and 397

where and when those records should be transmitted to satisfy 398
reporting requirements imposed on the secretary of state under 399
the National Voter Registration Act of 1993; 400

(5) Regarding whom to contact to obtain answers to 401
questions about voter registration forms and procedures. 402

(G) If the voter registration activity is part of an in- 403
class voter registration program in a public high school or 404
vocational school, whether prescribed by the secretary of state 405
or independent of the secretary of state, the board of education 406
shall do all of the following: 407

(1) Establish a schedule of school days and hours during 408
these days when the person designated to assist with voter 409
registration shall provide voter registration assistance; 410

(2) Designate a person to assist with voter registration 411
from the public high school's or vocational school's staff; 412

(3) Make voter registration applications and materials 413
available, as outlined in the voter registration program 414
established by the secretary of state pursuant to section 415
3501.05 of the Revised Code; 416

(4) Distribute the statement, "applying to register or 417
declining to register to vote will not affect or be a condition 418
of your receiving a particular grade in or credit for a school 419
course or class, participating in a curricular or 420
extracurricular activity, receiving a benefit or privilege, or 421
participating in a program or activity otherwise available to 422
pupils enrolled in this school district's schools."; 423

(5) Establish a method by which the voter registration 424
application and other voter registration forms are transmitted 425
to the board of elections within five days after being accepted 426

by the public high school or vocational school. 427

(H) Any person employed by the designated agency, public 428
high school or vocational school, public library, or office of a 429
county treasurer may be designated to assist with voter 430
registration pursuant to this section. The designated agency, 431
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 432
office of a county treasurer shall provide the designated 433
person, and make available such space as may be necessary, 434
without charge to the county or state. 435

(I) The secretary of state shall prepare and cause to be 436
displayed in a prominent location in each designated agency a 437
notice that identifies the person designated to assist with 438
voter registration, the nature of that person's duties, and 439
where and when that person is available for assisting in the 440
registration of voters. 441

A designated agency may furnish additional supplies and 442
services to disseminate information to increase public awareness 443
of the existence of a person designated to assist with voter 444
registration in every designated agency. 445

(J) This section does not limit any authority a board of 446
education, superintendent, or principal has to allow, sponsor, 447
or promote voluntary election registration programs within a 448
high school or vocational school, including programs in which 449
pupils serve as persons designated to assist with voter 450
registration, provided that no pupil is required to participate. 451

(K) Each public library and office of the county treasurer 452
shall establish a method by which voter registration forms are 453
transmitted to the board of elections within five days after 454
being accepted by the public library or office of the county 455

treasurer. 456

~~(L) The department of job and family services and its 457
departments, divisions, and programs shall limit administration 458
of the aspects of the voter registration program for the 459
department to the requirements prescribed by the secretary of 460
state and the requirements of this section and the National 461
Voter Registration Act of 1993. 462~~

Sec. 3503.11. (A) (1) (a) The bureau of motor vehicles and 463
each designated agency shall provide to the secretary of state, 464
in accordance with a schedule established by rule by the 465
secretary of state, electronic records concerning each person 466
who appears to be eligible to register to vote or to update the 467
person's registration and about whom the bureau or agency 468
possesses the information listed in division (A) (2) of this 469
section for the purpose of automatically registering the person 470
to vote or updating the person's registration in accordance with 471
this section. 472

(b) Each public or private secondary school shall provide 473
to the secretary of state, in accordance with a schedule 474
established by rule by the secretary of state, electronic 475
records concerning each person who graduates from the school, 476
who appears to be eligible to register to vote or to update the 477
person's registration, and about whom the school possesses the 478
information listed in division (A) (2) of this section for the 479
purpose of automatically registering the person to vote or 480
updating the person's registration in accordance with this 481
section. 482

(2) A bureau, agency, or school that is required to 483
transmit information concerning a person under division (A) (1) 484
of this section shall transmit all of the following information 485

<u>concerning that person:</u>	486
<u>(a) The person's legal name;</u>	487
<u>(b) The person's residence address;</u>	488
<u>(c) The person's date of birth;</u>	489
<u>(d) The number of the person's driver's license or state</u>	490
<u>identification card or the last four digits of the person's</u>	491
<u>social security number;</u>	492
<u>(e) Whether the person is a United States citizen;</u>	493
<u>(f) An electronic image of the person's signature.</u>	494
<u>(B) (1) Upon receiving information concerning a person</u>	495
<u>under division (A) of this section, the secretary of state shall</u>	496
<u>transmit that information to the board of elections of the</u>	497
<u>county in which the person resides. The board shall determine</u>	498
<u>whether the person is eligible to register to vote or to update</u>	499
<u>the person's registration and, if the person is eligible, shall</u>	500
<u>send the person a notice, on a form prescribed by the secretary</u>	501
<u>of state, that contains all of the following information:</u>	502
<u>(a) The fact that the person will be registered to vote or</u>	503
<u>have the person's registration updated unless the person</u>	504
<u>declines to be registered to vote or to update the person's</u>	505
<u>registration;</u>	506
<u>(b) The procedure to decline to be registered to vote or</u>	507
<u>to update the person's registration;</u>	508
<u>(c) The bureau, agency, or school that provided the</u>	509
<u>information that will be used to register the person to vote or</u>	510
<u>to update the person's registration;</u>	511
<u>(d) The precinct in which the person will be registered to</u>	512

vote; 513

(e) In bold type as follows: 514

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 515
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 516
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 517
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 518
paycheck, or other government document, other than a voter 519
registration notice, that shows the voter's name and current 520
address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will 521
still be able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters 522
who do not have any of the above forms of identification, 523
including a social security number, will still be able to vote 524
by signing an affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under 525
penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional 526
ballot." 527

(2) The notice shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 528
notice is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 529
the notice to be delivered to the correct address. 530

(C) (1) Except as provided in division (C) (3) (a) of this 531
section, not earlier than twenty-one days after sending the 532
notice described in division (B) of this section to a person, 533
the board of elections shall register the person to vote or 534
update the person's registration, as applicable. The electronic 535
record transmitted to the board of elections under this section 536
shall be considered to be the person's voter registration form. 537

(2) (a) If, after investigating as required under division 538
(B) (2) of this section, the board is unable to verify the 539
person's correct address, it shall register the person to vote 540
and shall cause the person's name in the official registration 541

list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to be marked to 542
indicate that the person's notice was returned to the board. 543

At the first election at which an elector whose name has 544
been so marked appears to vote, the elector shall be required to 545
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 546
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 547
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) 548
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 549
that elector's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 550
indication that the elector's notice was returned from that 551
elector's name on the official registration list and on the poll 552
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 553
counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of 554
section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the elector's registration 555
shall be canceled. The board shall notify the elector by United 556
States mail of the cancellation. 557

(b) If the notice described in division (B) (1) of this 558
section is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned 559
undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided in 560
division (C) (1) of this section and sent a confirmation notice 561
by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to the 562
confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or vote 563
by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) (a) of this 564
section in any election during the period of two federal 565
elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, 566
the person's registration shall be canceled. 567

(3) (a) A board of elections shall not register a person to 568
vote or update an elector's registration under this section if 569
the board determines that the person is not eligible to register 570
or if the person declines to register or to update the elector's 571

registration. 572

(b) If, after a person has been registered to vote under this section, the person declines to register, the board of elections shall treat the declination as a request to cancel the person's registration. 573
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(c) If, after an elector's registration has been updated under this section, the elector declines to update the elector's registration, the board of elections shall correct the elector's registration to reflect the name, address, or both, as applicable, that it contained before the board updated the elector's registration under this section. 577
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(D) (1) Before prescribing the form of the notice described in division (B) of this section, the secretary of state shall engage the services of one or more usability, disability, and user interface design experts to test, review, and approve the proposed form of the notice. 583
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(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules to implement this section. 588
589

Sec. 3503.12. All registrations shall be carefully 590
checked, and in case any person is found to have ~~registered~~ more 591
than ~~one~~ one registration form, the additional registration 592
forms shall be canceled by the board of elections. 593

Six weeks prior to the day of a special, primary, or 594
general election, the board shall publish notices in one or more 595
newspapers of general circulation advertising the places, dates, 596
times, methods of registration, and voter qualifications for 597
registration. 598

The board shall establish a schedule or program to assure 599
to the extent reasonably possible that, on or before November 1, 600

1980, all registration places shall be free of barriers that 601
would impede the ingress and egress of handicapped persons. 602
Entrances shall be level or shall be provided with a nonskid 603
ramp of not over eight per cent gradient, and doors shall be a 604
minimum of thirty-two inches wide. Registration places located 605
at polling places shall, however, comply with the requirements 606
of section 3501.29 of the Revised Code for the elimination of 607
barriers. 608

As used in this section, "handicapped" means having lost 609
the use of one or both legs, one or both arms, or any 610
combination thereof, or being blind or so severely disabled as 611
to be unable to move about without the aid of crutches or a 612
wheelchair. 613

Sec. 3503.13. (A) Except as otherwise provided by state or 614
federal law, registration forms ~~submitted by applicants~~ and the 615
statewide voter registration database established under section 616
3503.15 of the Revised Code shall be open to public inspection 617
at all times when the office of the board of elections is open 618
for business, under such regulations as the board adopts, 619
provided that no person shall be permitted to inspect voter 620
registration forms except in the presence of an employee of the 621
board. 622

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized 623
signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures 624
on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the 625
secretary of state, provided that the board includes the 626
required voter registration information in the statewide voter 627
registration database established under section 3503.15 of the 628
Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials 629
have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner 630

required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code. 631

Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 632
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 633
and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall 634
meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 635
1993 and shall include spaces for all of the following: 636

(1) The voter's name; 637

(2) The voter's address; 638

(3) The current date; 639

(4) The voter's date of birth; 640

(5) The voter to provide one or more of the following: 641

(a) The voter's driver's license number, if any; 642

(b) The last four digits of the voter's social security 643
number, if any; 644

(c) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a 645
copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current 646
utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or 647
other government document, other than a notice of voter 648
registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 649
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the voter's name and 650
address. 651

(6) The voter's signature. 652

~~The registration form shall include a space on which the~~ 653
~~person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and~~ 654
~~provide the person's address and a space on which the person~~ 655
~~registering an applicant shall name the employer who is~~ 656
~~employing that person to register the applicant.~~ 657

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 658
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 659
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 660
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 661
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 662
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 663
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 664
that data to the statewide voter registration database 665
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 666

~~(B) None of the following persons who are registering an 667
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal 668
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's 669
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to 670
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section: 671~~

~~(1) An election official; 672~~

~~(2) A county treasurer; 673~~

~~(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 674~~

~~(4) An employee of a designated agency; 675~~

~~(5) An employee of a public high school; 676~~

~~(6) An employee of a public vocational school; 677~~

~~(7) An employee of a public library; 678~~

~~(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer; 679~~

~~(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles; 680~~

~~(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 681~~

~~(11) An employee of an election official. 682~~

~~(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised 683~~

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) 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.~~

(C) A voter registration application 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.

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

(2) (a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the department of health, ~~bureau of motor vehicles, department of job and family services,~~ 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 established pursuant to this section, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. 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.

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

~~(c) Except for cases in which an elector's registration is updated automatically pursuant to section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, a board of elections shall contact a registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D) (7) of this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if that information does not conform with information provided under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the discrepancy would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot.~~

(3) (a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 743
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 744
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 745
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 746
statewide voter registration database established pursuant to 747
this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (3) (b) 748
of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any 749
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 750
confidential in the possession of the state providing the data 751
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 752
state. 753

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 754
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 755
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 756
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 757
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 758
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 759
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 760
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 761
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 762
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 763
that receives confidential information or data under this 764
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 765
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 766
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 767
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 768
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 769
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 770
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 771

(4) No person or entity that receives information or data 772
under division (A) (3) of this section shall sell the information 773

or data or use the information or data for profit. 774

(B) The statewide voter registration database established 775
under this section shall be the official list of registered 776
voters for all elections conducted in this state. 777

(C) The statewide voter registration database established 778
under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the 779
following: 780

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of 781
elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and 782
with the offices of all other boards of elections; 783

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records 784
contained in the database with records maintained by each board 785
of elections; 786

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to 787
the records contained in the database by each board of elections 788
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, 789
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct 790
updates of the database; 791

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered 792
voters and their registration information by name, driver's 793
license number, birth date, social security number, or current 794
address; 795

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the 796
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter 797
registration information is maintained; 798

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records 799
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to 800
record the reason for their cancellation. 801

(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following:

(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be converted to electronic files 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;

(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;

~~(6) Establishing, 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 (A) (2) (a) of this section and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information and data;~~

~~(7) Establishing 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 (A) (2) (a) or (3)~~

(a) 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.

(E) 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 (D) (3) of this section after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code.

(F) 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.

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

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

- (i) The voter's name;
- (ii) The voter's address;
- (iii) The voter's precinct number;
- (iv) The voter's voting history.

(b) 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 a voter to search for the 859
polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot. 860

(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule 861
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for 862
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes 863
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of 864
updating the information made available on the secretary of 865
state's web site under division (G) (1) (b) of this section. Those 866
rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days 867
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the 868
secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 869
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 870

(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 871
general election, not later than one business day after 872
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G) 873
(2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 874
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 875
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 876
of division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 877

Sec. 3503.16. (A) Whenever a registered elector changes 878
the place of residence of that registered elector from one 879
precinct to another within a county or from one county to 880
another, or has a change of name, that registered elector shall 881
report the change by ~~delivering~~ doing any of the following: 882

(1) Delivering a change of residence or change of name 883
form, whichever is appropriate, as prescribed by the secretary 884
of state under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to the state 885
or local office of a designated agency, a public high school or 886
vocational school, a public library, the office of the county 887
treasurer, the office of the secretary of state, any office of 888

the registrar or deputy registrar of motor vehicles, or any 889
office of a board of elections in person or by a third person. 890
Any voter registration, change of address, or change of name 891
application, returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary 892
of state or the board of elections. 893

~~A registered elector also may update the registration of~~ 894
~~that registered elector by filing~~ 895

(2) Submitting the elector's current residence or name 896
information to the bureau of motor vehicles or to a designated 897
agency in the manner directed by the bureau or by the designated 898
agency, as applicable; 899

(3) Submitting the elector's current residence or name 900
information to a public high school or vocational school in the 901
manner directed by the school and graduating from the school; 902

(4) Submitting an application through the online voter 903
registration system created under section 3503.20 of the Revised 904
Code; 905

(5) Filing a change of residence or change of name form on 906
the day of a special, primary, or general election at the 907
polling place in the precinct in which that registered elector 908
resides or at the board of elections or at another site 909
designated by the board. 910

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 911
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 912
special election and has not ~~filed a notice of reported the~~ 913
change of residence in accordance with the board of elections 914
division (A) of this section may vote in that election by going 915
to that registered elector's assigned polling place, completing 916
and signing a notice of change of residence, showing 917

identification in the form of a current and valid photo 918
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 919
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 920
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 921
voter registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 922
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the name and current 923
address of the elector, and casting a ballot. 924

(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that 925
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to 926
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 927
~~filed a notice of~~ reported the change of name in accordance with 928
~~the board of elections~~ division (A) of this section may vote in 929
that election by going to that registered elector's assigned 930
polling place, completing and signing a notice of a change of 931
name, and casting a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 932
the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides to the 933
precinct election officials proof of a legal name change, such 934
as a marriage license or court order that includes the elector's 935
current and prior names, the elector may complete and sign a 936
notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot. 937

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 938
another within a county or moves from one precinct to another 939
and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to 940
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 941
~~filed a notice of~~ reported the change of residence or change of 942
name, whichever is appropriate, in accordance with ~~the board of~~ 943
~~elections~~ division (A) of this section may vote in that election 944
if that registered elector complies with division (G) of this 945
section or does all of the following: 946

(a) Appears at anytime during regular business hours on or 947

after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that 948
registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on 949
the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day 950
prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the 951
election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any 952
time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 953
election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on 954
the day of the election at either of the following locations: 955

(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that 956
registered elector resides; 957

(ii) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 958
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 959
has designated another location in the county at which 960
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 961
the office of the board of elections. 962

(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 963
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 964
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence 965
or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 966

(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 967
the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the 968
board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 969
3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another 970
location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at 971
that other location instead of the office of the board of 972
elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which 973
that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered 974
elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 975

(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 976

falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 977
elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, 978
on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional 979
ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that 980
registered elector resides, at the office of the board of 981
elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of 982
the Revised Code the board has designated another location in 983
the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 984
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 985
whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 986
at any other location for that particular election. 987

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 988
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 989
general, primary, or special election and has not ~~registered to~~ 990
~~vote in the county to which that registered elector moved~~ 991
reported the change of residence in accordance with division (A) 992
of this section may vote in that election if that registered 993
elector complies with division (G) of this section or does all 994
of the following: 995

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 996
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 997
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 998
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 999
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 1000
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 1001
or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 1002
Revised Code the board has designated another location in the 1003
county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 1004
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1005
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1006
election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1007

to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1008
has designated another location in the county at which 1009
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1010
the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of 1011
the election at the office of the board of elections or, if 1012
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1013
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1014
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1015
the office of the board of elections; 1016

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1017
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1018
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1019

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1020
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 1021
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1022
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1023
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1024
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 1025
that registered elector has moved; 1026

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1027
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1028
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1029
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1030
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 1031
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 1032
another location in the county at which registered electors may 1033
vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 1034
of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1035
location for that particular election. 1036

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1037

to division (G) of this section shall not make written 1038
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 1039
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 1040
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 1041
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 1042
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 1043
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 1044
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 1045
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 1046
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1047
to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 1048
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 1049
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 1050

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 1051
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 1052
different from the office of the board at which registered 1053
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 1054
section. 1055

(E) ~~Upon~~ Except as provided in section 3503.11 of the 1056
Revised Code, upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 1057
change of name form, the board of elections shall immediately 1058
send the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of 1059
residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall 1060
update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is 1061
incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the 1062
acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the 1063
information necessary to complete or update that registrant's 1064
registration. 1065

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 1066
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 1067

completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 1068
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 1069
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 1070
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1071

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 1072
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 1073
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 1074
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 1075
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 1076
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 1077
within five days after receiving them. 1078

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1079
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1080
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1081
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1082
has designated another location in the county at which 1083
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 1084
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1085
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1086
of the following: 1087

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 1088
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 1089
to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or 1090
after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the 1091
registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday 1092
prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's 1093
ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector 1094
has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address 1095
of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a 1096
change of name; 1097

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 1098
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 1099
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 1100
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 1101
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 1102
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 1103
infirmity; 1104

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 1105
voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 1106
address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice 1107
of change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1108

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1109
falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector 1110
has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before 1111
the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of 1112
personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that 1113
prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of 1114
elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1115
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other 1116
location or address for that particular election. 1117

Sec. 3503.19. (A) (1) Persons qualified to register or to 1118
change their registration because of a change of address or 1119
change of name may register or change their registration ~~in~~ by 1120
any of the following methods: 1121

(a) In person at any state or local office of a designated 1122
agency, at the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar 1123
of motor vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, 1124
at a public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at 1125
a branch office established by the board of elections, ~~or in~~ ; 1126

(b) In person, through another person, or by mail at the 1127
office of the secretary of state or at the office of a board of 1128
elections. ~~A registered elector may also change the elector's~~ 1129
~~registration on;~~ 1130

(c) By submitting the required information to the bureau 1131
of motor vehicles or to a designated agency in the manner 1132
directed by the bureau or by the designated agency, as 1133
applicable; 1134

(d) By submitting the required information to a public or 1135
private secondary school in the manner directed by the school 1136
and graduating from the school; 1137

(e) By submitting an application through the online voter 1138
registration system created under section 3503.20 of the Revised 1139
Code; 1140

(f) On election day at any polling place where the elector 1141
is eligible to vote, in the manner provided under section 1142
3503.16 of the Revised Code. 1143

(2) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1144
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1145
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1146
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any 1147
voter registration application or change of registration form 1148
that it receives to the board of elections of the county in 1149
which the state or local office is located, within five days 1150
after receiving the voter registration application or change of 1151
registration form. 1152

~~An~~ (3) (a) Except as provided in division (A) (3) (b) of this 1153
section, an otherwise valid voter registration application that 1154
is returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1155

received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1156
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1157
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1158
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 1159
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 1160
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1161
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 1162
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 1163
registration application received after that day entitles the 1164
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 1165

(b) (i) Information transmitted to the secretary of state 1166
by the bureau of motor vehicles or a designated agency under 1167
division (A) (1) (a) of section 3503.11 of the Revised Code 1168
concerning a person who is eligible to register to vote must 1169
have been submitted to the bureau or agency by the person not 1170
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1171
general election for the person to be registered to vote and to 1172
qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. 1173
Otherwise valid information transmitted under that division that 1174
was submitted after that day entitles the person to be 1175
registered to vote and to vote at all subsequent elections. 1176

(ii) Information transmitted to the secretary of state by 1177
a public or private secondary school under division (A) (1) (b) of 1178
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code concerning a person who is 1179
eligible to register to vote must have been transmitted to the 1180
secretary of state not later than the thirtieth day preceding a 1181
primary, special, or general election for the person to be 1182
registered to vote and to qualify as an elector eligible to vote 1183
at that election. Otherwise valid information transmitted under 1184
that division that was submitted after that day entitles the 1185
person to be registered to vote and to vote at all subsequent 1186

elections. 1187

(4) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1188
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1189
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1190
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 1191
registration application or change of name or change of address 1192
form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the 1193
identity of the state or local office that receives the 1194
registration. 1195

(5) Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, 1196
that are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of 1197
state or to the office of a board of elections must be 1198
postmarked no later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, 1199
special, or general election in order for the person to qualify 1200
as an elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise 1201
valid voter registration application that is returned by mail 1202
does not bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration 1203
shall be valid for that election if received by the office of 1204
the secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1205
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1206
general election. 1207

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1208
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1209
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1210
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1211
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1212
1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 1213
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 1214
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 1215
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 1216

Revised Code. 1217

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 1218
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 1219
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 1220
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 1221
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 1222
the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 1223
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 1224
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 1225
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 1226
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 1227
elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 1228
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1229

~~(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an~~ 1230
An applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 1231
through another person to any board of elections or the office 1232
of the secretary of state. 1233

~~(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a~~ 1234
~~voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that~~ 1235
~~person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the~~ 1236
~~office of the secretary of state.~~ 1237

~~(d)~~ If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 1238
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 1239
~~or (c)~~ of this section before the thirtieth day before an 1240
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 1241
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 1242
elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 1243
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 1244
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 1245
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 1246

(B) (2) (b) ~~or (c)~~ of this section on or after the thirtieth day 1247
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 1248
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 1249
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 1250
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 1251
election. 1252

(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter 1253
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 1254
statements made in the registration form shall register the 1255
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 1256
the application, unless that application is received during the 1257
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The 1258
board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of 1259
the following: 1260

(a) The applicant's registration; 1261

(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote; 1262

(c) In bold type as follows: 1263

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1264
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1265
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1266
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1267
paycheck, or other government document, other than ~~this a voter~~ 1268
registration notification, that shows the voter's name and 1269
current address. Voters who do not provide one of these 1270
documents will still be able to vote by casting a provisional 1271
ballot. Voters who do not have any of the above forms of 1272
identification, including a social security number, will still 1273
be able to vote by signing an affirmation swearing to the 1274
voter's identity under penalty of election falsification and by 1275

casting a provisional ballot." 1276

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 1277
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 1278
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 1279

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 1280
(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's 1281
correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official 1282
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1283
be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned 1284
to the board. 1285

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been 1286
so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to 1287
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 1288
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1289
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) 1290
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 1291
that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 1292
indication that the voter's notification was returned from that 1293
voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll 1294
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 1295
counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of 1296
section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration 1297
shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United 1298
States mail of the cancellation. 1299

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid 1300
registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is 1301
returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided 1302
in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation 1303
notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to 1304
the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or 1305

vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C)(2) of 1306
this section in any election during the period of two federal 1307
elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, 1308
the person's registration shall be canceled. 1309

Sec. 3503.20. (A) As used in this section, "applicant" 1310
means a person who meets both of the following requirements: 1311

(1) The person is qualified to register to vote under this 1312
chapter. 1313

(2) The person has a current and valid Ohio driver's 1314
license or identification card issued under Chapter 4507. of the 1315
Revised Code or a social security number. 1316

(B) The secretary of state, by rule, shall establish a 1317
secure online process for voter registration. The rules shall 1318
provide for an applicant to submit all of the following to the 1319
secretary of state online through the internet: 1320

(1) An application to register as a first-time voter in 1321
Ohio or an application to change the applicant's name, address, 1322
or both, as set forth in the applicant's existing voter 1323
registration record; 1324

(2) Information to establish that the applicant is 1325
qualified to register to vote under this chapter; 1326

(3) All of the following information: 1327

(a) The applicant's name; 1328

(b) The applicant's address; 1329

(c) The applicant's date of birth; 1330

(d) One of the following forms of identification: 1331

(i) The number of the applicant's current and valid Ohio 1332

driver's license or identification card issued under Chapter 1333
4507. of the Revised Code; 1334

(ii) The last four digits of the applicant's social 1335
security number. 1336

(e) The applicant's attestation to the truth and accuracy 1337
of the information submitted in the online application under 1338
penalty of perjury. 1339

(C) The online voter registration application established 1340
under division (B) of this section shall include the following 1341
language: 1342

"I affirm all of the following under penalty of perjury: 1343

(1) I am the person whose name and identifying information 1344
is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or 1345
update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio. 1346

(2) All of the information I have provided on this form is 1347
true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form. 1348

(3) If an electronic copy of my signature is on file in a 1349
government database, I understand and agree that the Secretary 1350
of State will obtain that signature and use it to validate this 1351
electronic voter registration application as if I had signed 1352
this form personally. 1353

(4) If an electronic copy of my signature is not on file 1354
in a government database, I understand and agree that my 1355
signature on an election petition will not be considered valid 1356
until I provide my signature to the board of elections by 1357
signing and returning the signature card that will be mailed to 1358
me or by signing a notice of change of name or residence, a 1359
pollbook, a provisional ballot affirmation, or an application 1360

for absent voter's ballots." 1361

(D) (1) When an applicant submits a voter registration 1362
application under this section, the secretary of state shall 1363
compare the information in the application with the information 1364
in a government database associated with the applicant's 1365
driver's license or state identification card number or the 1366
applicant's social security number. 1367

(2) If the secretary of state determines that the 1368
application is valid, the secretary of state shall submit the 1369
application to the board of elections of the county in which the 1370
applicant resides, and the board shall register the applicant. 1371

(3) If the secretary of state determines that the 1372
application is not valid, the secretary of state shall notify 1373
the applicant of that fact. 1374

(E) (1) If an applicant who is to be registered under 1375
division (D) (2) of this section has an electronic signature on 1376
file with a government agency, the secretary of state shall 1377
obtain the electronic signature and shall transmit it to the 1378
board of elections to be used as the applicant's signature on 1379
voter registration records for all election and signature- 1380
matching purposes. 1381

(2) If an applicant who is to be registered under division 1382
(D) (2) of this section does not have an electronic signature on 1383
file with a government agency and the applicant is a registered 1384
elector who is updating the elector's address, the board of 1385
elections of the county in which the applicant is currently 1386
registered shall create a legible digitized copy of the 1387
signature on the elector's existing registration record. That 1388
signature shall be used as the elector's signature on voter 1389

registration records for all election and signature-matching 1390
purposes. 1391

(3) If an applicant who is to be registered under division 1392
(D)(2) of this section does not have an electronic signature on 1393
file with a government agency and is not a registered elector 1394
who is updating the elector's address, all of the following 1395
shall apply: 1396

(a)(i) The board of elections shall include with the 1397
applicant's notification of registration a signature card that 1398
instructs the applicant to sign the card and return it to the 1399
office of the board. The card shall notify the applicant that 1400
until the applicant signs and returns the card or signs a notice 1401
of change of name or residence, a poll list or signature 1402
pollbook, a provisional ballot affirmation, or an application 1403
for absent voter's ballots, the applicant's signature on an 1404
election petition is not valid. 1405

(ii) If the applicant signs and returns the signature card 1406
to the board of elections, the board shall create a legible 1407
digitized copy of the signature on the card, and that signature 1408
shall be used as the applicant's signature on voter registration 1409
records for all election and signature-matching purposes. 1410

(iii) The board shall prepay the return postage for the 1411
signature card. 1412

(iv) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 1413
the signature card. 1414

(b) If the applicant does not sign and return the 1415
signature card, both of the following shall apply: 1416

(i) The first time the applicant signs a notice of change 1417
of name or residence, a poll list or signature pollbook, a 1418

provisional ballot affirmation, or an application for absent voter's ballots, the board of elections shall create a legible digitized copy of that signature. The signature shall be used as the applicant's signature on voter registration records for all election and signature-matching purposes.

(ii) Until the board of elections has obtained the applicant's signature from a signature card, a notice of change of name or residence, a poll list or signature pollbook, a provisional ballot affirmation, or an application for absent voter's ballots, the applicant's signature on an election petition is not valid.

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, 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 1448
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 1449
5122.301 of the Revised Code; 1450

(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a 1451
location outside the county of registration in accordance with 1452
division (B) of this section; 1453

(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having 1454
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the 1455
following: 1456

(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during 1457
a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include 1458
two general federal elections; 1459

(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least 1460
once during a period of four consecutive years, which period 1461
shall include two general federal elections; 1462

(8) The declination of an elector who has been 1463
automatically registered under section 3503.11 of the Revised 1464
Code to register to vote, as described in division (C) (3) (b) of 1465
that section. 1466

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 1467
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 1468
residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting 1469
residence to a location outside the registrant's current county 1470
of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division 1471
shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with 1472
the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may 1473
prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of 1474
the national change of address service provided by the United 1475
States postal system through its licensees. Any program so 1476

prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior 1477
to the date of any primary or general election for federal 1478
office. 1479

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having 1480
changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the 1481
elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled 1482
unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form 1483
prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to 1484
respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the 1485
registration and fails to vote in any election during the period 1486
of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the 1487
confirmation notice. 1488

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 1489
canceled except as provided in this section, division (Q) of 1490
section 3501.05 of the Revised Code, division (C)(3)(b) of 1491
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, division (C)(2) of section 1492
3503.19 of the Revised Code, or division (C) of section 3503.24 1493
of the Revised Code. 1494

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter 1495
registration information to the secretary of state as required 1496
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 1497
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 1498
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 1499
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 1500
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 1501
the information to the national change of address service 1502
described in division (B) of this section and request that 1503
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 1504
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 1505
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 1506

each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 1507
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 1508
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary 1509
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of 1510
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return 1511
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or 1512
correct the change of address information. 1513

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 1514
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 1515
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 1516
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 1517
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 1518
the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or 1519
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 1520

(F) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 1521
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 1522
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 1523
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 1524
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 1525
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 1526
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 1527
the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 1528
error. 1529

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to 1530
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be 1531
restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 1532

Sec. 3503.28. (A) The secretary of state shall develop an 1533
information brochure regarding voter registration. The brochure 1534
shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following 1535
information: 1536

(1) The applicable deadlines for registering to vote or 1537
for ~~returning~~ submitting an applicant's completed registration 1538
~~form~~ application; 1539

~~(2) The applicable deadline for returning an applicant's~~ 1540
~~completed registration form if the person returning the form is~~ 1541
~~being compensated for registering voters;~~ 1542

~~(3) The locations to~~ and manner in which a person may 1543
~~return an applicant's completed registration form~~ register to 1544
vote; 1545

~~(4) The location to which a person who is compensated for~~ 1546
~~registering voters may return an applicant's completed~~ 1547
~~registration form;~~ 1548

~~(5) The registration and affirmation requirements~~ 1549
~~applicable to persons who are compensated for registering voters~~ 1550
~~under section 3503.29 of the Revised Code;~~ 1551

~~(6)~~ (3) The manner in which a person may opt out of 1552
automatic voter registration; 1553

(4) A notice, which shall be written in bold type, stating 1554
as follows: 1555

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1556
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1557
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1558
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1559
paycheck, or other government document, other than a voter 1560
registration notification sent by a board of elections, that 1561
shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not 1562
provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by 1563
casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the 1564
above forms of identification, including a social security 1565

number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation 1566
swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election 1567
falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1568

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this 1569
section, a board of elections, designated agency, public high 1570
school, public vocational school, public library, office of a 1571
county treasurer, or deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall 1572
distribute a copy of the brochure developed under division (A) 1573
of this section to any person who requests more than two voter 1574
registration forms at one time. 1575

(C) (1) The secretary of state shall provide the 1576
information required to be included in the brochure developed 1577
under division (A) of this section to any person who prints a 1578
voter registration form that is made available on a web site of 1579
the office of the secretary of state. 1580

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web 1581
site, the board shall provide the information required to be 1582
included in the brochure developed under division (A) of this 1583
section to any person who prints a voter registration form that 1584
is made available on that web site. 1585

(D) A board of elections shall not be required to 1586
distribute a copy of a brochure under division (B) of this 1587
section to any of the following officials or employees who are 1588
requesting more than two voter registration forms at one time in 1589
the course of the official's or employee's normal duties: 1590

(1) An election official; 1591

(2) A county treasurer; 1592

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 1593

- (4) An employee of a designated agency; 1594
- (5) An employee of a public high school; 1595
- (6) An employee of a public vocational school; 1596
- (7) An employee of a public library; 1597
- (8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer; 1598
- (9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles; 1599
- (10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 1600
- (11) An employee of an election official. 1601

~~(E) As used in this section, "registering voters" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.~~ 1602
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Sec. 3503.30. (A) When by mistake a qualified elector has caused ~~himself~~ the elector to be registered in a precinct ~~which was that is not his~~ the elector's place of residence, the board of elections, on full and satisfactory proof that such error was committed by mistake, may, on ~~his~~ the elector's personal application and proof of ~~his~~ the elector's true residence, correct ~~his~~ the elector's registration form. The board may correct all errors occurring in the registration of electors when it finds that the errors subject to correction were not of fraudulent intent. 1606
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(B) When by mistake a qualified elector has been registered automatically under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code in a precinct that is not the elector's place of residence, the board of elections, upon application of the elector and proof of the elector's true residence, shall correct the 1616
1617
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elector's registration form. 1621

Sec. 3503.33. (A) If an elector applying for registration 1622
is already registered in another state or in another county 1623
within this state, the elector shall declare this fact to the 1624
registration officer and shall sign on the registration form, 1625
which shall operate as an authorization to cancel the previous 1626
registration on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. 1627

(B) When the board of elections registers a person to vote 1628
or updates a person's registration under section 3503.11 of the 1629
Revised Code, if the board is aware of the person's previous 1630
residence address and that address is located in another state 1631
or in another county within this state, the board shall create a 1632
notice to cancel the previous registration for the purpose of 1633
complying with division (C) of this section. 1634

(C) (1) The director of the board of elections shall mail 1635
all such authorizations and notices described in division (A) or 1636
(B) of this section to the board of elections or comparable 1637
agency of the proper state and county. Upon In the case of a 1638
notice described in division (B) of this section, the board 1639
shall include with the notice a copy of the elector's most 1640
recent registration form. 1641

(a) (i) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (1) (a) 1642
(ii) of this section, upon the receipt of this an authorization 1643
described in division (A) of this section from the forwarding 1644
county, the director of a board of elections in Ohio, upon a 1645
comparison of the elector's signature with the elector's 1646
signature as it appears on the registration files, shall remove 1647
the elector's registration from the files, and place it with the 1648
cancellation authorization in a separate file which shall be 1649
kept for a period of two calendar years. 1650

(ii) It shall not be necessary for the board of elections to compare the elector's signature with the elector's signature as it appears on the registration files if the authorization does not include the elector's signature because of the circumstances described in division (E) (3) of section 3503.20 of the Revised Code. 1651
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(b) Upon the receipt of a notice described in division (B) of this section from the forwarding county, the board of elections in Ohio shall compare the elector's signature on the copy of the registration form received with the notice with the elector's signature as it appears on the registration files, shall remove the elector's registration from the files, and shall place it with the notice in a separate file, which shall be kept for a period of two calendar years. 1657
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(2) The board shall notify the elector at the present address as shown on the cancellation authorization or notice that his the elector's prior registration has been canceled. 1665
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(D) If, after the cancellation of an elector's prior registration under division (C) (1) (b) of this section, the board of elections that sent the notice under division (B) of this section receives a declination to register or to update the elector's registration under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the board shall notify the board of elections or comparable agency to which the board sent the notice under division (B) of this section to restore the elector's previous registration and treat it as though it were never canceled. 1668
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Sec. 3505.18. (A) (1) When an elector appears in a polling place to vote, the elector shall announce to the precinct election officials the elector's full name and current address and provide proof of the elector's identity in the form of a 1677
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current and valid photo identification, a military 1681
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1682
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1683
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1684
board of elections ~~under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code,~~ 1685
that shows the name and current address of the elector. 1686

(2) If an elector does not have or is unable to provide to 1687
the precinct election officials any of the forms of 1688
identification required under division (A)(1) of this section, 1689
the elector may cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 1690
of the Revised Code and do either of the following: 1691

(a) Write the elector's driver's license or state 1692
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1693
elector's social security number on the provisional ballot 1694
envelope; or 1695

(b) Appear at the office of the board of elections not 1696
later than the seventh day after the day of the election and 1697
provide the identification required under division (A)(1) of 1698
this section, the elector's driver's license or state 1699
identification card number, or the last four digits of the 1700
elector's social security number. 1701

(B) (1) After the elector has announced the elector's full 1702
name and current address and provided any of the forms of 1703
identification required under division (A)(1) of this section, 1704
the elector shall ~~write the elector's name and address at the~~ 1705
~~proper place in~~ sign the poll list or signature pollbook 1706
provided for the purpose, except that if, for any reason, an 1707
elector is unable to ~~write the elector's name and current~~ 1708
~~address in~~ sign the poll list or signature pollbook, the elector 1709
may make the elector's mark at the place intended for the 1710

elector's ~~name~~signature, and a precinct election official shall 1711
write the name of the elector at the proper place on the poll 1712
list or signature pollbook following the elector's mark. The 1713
making of such a mark shall be attested by the precinct election 1714
official, who shall evidence the same by signing the precinct 1715
election official's name on the poll list or signature pollbook 1716
as a witness to the mark. Alternatively, if applicable, an 1717
attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the 1718
Revised Code may sign the elector's signature in the poll list 1719
or signature pollbook in accordance with that section. 1720

~~The (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2)~~ 1721
~~(b) of this section, the~~ elector's signature in the poll list or 1722
signature pollbook then shall be compared with the elector's 1723
signature on the elector's registration form or a digitized 1724
signature list as provided for in section 3503.13 of the Revised 1725
Code, and if, in the opinion of a majority of the precinct 1726
election officials, the signatures are the signatures of the 1727
same person, the election officials shall enter the date of the 1728
election on the registration form or shall record the date by 1729
other means prescribed by the secretary of state. If, in the 1730
opinion of a majority of the precinct officers, the signatures 1731
are not the signatures of the same person, the elector shall be 1732
permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1733
the Revised Code. The validity of an attorney in fact's 1734
signature on behalf of an elector shall be determined in 1735
accordance with section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. 1736

(b) If the elector's registration form does not include a 1737
signature because of the circumstances described in division (E) 1738
(3) of section 3503.20 of the Revised Code, it shall not be 1739
necessary to compare the elector's signature in the poll list or 1740
signature pollbook with the signature on the elector's 1741

registration form or a digitized signature list. 1742

(3) If the right of the elector to vote is not then 1743
challenged, or, if being challenged, the elector establishes the 1744
elector's right to vote, the elector shall be allowed to proceed 1745
to use the voting machine. If voting machines are not being used 1746
in that precinct, the precinct election official in charge of 1747
ballots shall then detach the next ballots to be issued to the 1748
elector from Stub B attached to each ballot, leaving Stub A 1749
attached to each ballot, hand the ballots to the elector, and 1750
call the elector's name and the stub number on each of the 1751
ballots. The precinct election official shall enter the stub 1752
numbers opposite the signature of the elector in the pollbook. 1753
The elector shall then retire to one of the voting compartments 1754
to mark the elector's ballots. No mark shall be made on any 1755
ballot which would in any way enable any person to identify the 1756
person who voted the ballot. 1757

Sec. 3505.181. (A) All of the following individuals shall 1758
be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election: 1759

(1) An individual who declares that the individual is a 1760
registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires 1761
to vote and that the individual is eligible to vote in an 1762
election, but the name of the individual does not appear on the 1763
official list of eligible voters for the precinct or an election 1764
official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote; 1765

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to 1766
provide to the election officials any of the forms of 1767
identification required under division (A)(1) of section 3505.18 1768
of the Revised Code; 1769

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature 1770

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) (a) of section 3503.11 or division (C) (2) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code;

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code or whose application or challenge hearing has been postponed until after the day of the election under division (D) (1) of section 3503.24 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 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 division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code;

(7) ~~An~~ Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) (b) of section 3505.18 of the Revised Code, an individual whose signature, in the opinion of the precinct officers under that ~~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, 1829
the reason that the vote was not counted. 1830

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 1831
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 1832
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 1833
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 1834
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 1835
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 1836
established under this division also shall provide to an 1837
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 1838
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 1839
elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 1840
individual's voter registration. 1841

The appropriate state or local election official shall 1842
establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 1843
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 1844
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 1845
access system established under this division. The system shall 1846
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 1847
the individual's own provisional ballot. 1848

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 1849
ballot, the individual provides identification in the form of a 1850
current and valid photo identification, a military 1851
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1852
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1853
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1854
board of elections ~~under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code,~~ 1855
that shows the individual's name and current address, or 1856
provides the individual's driver's license or state 1857
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1858

individual's social security number, the individual shall record 1859
the type of identification provided or the driver's license, 1860
state identification card, or social security number information 1861
and include that information on the provisional ballot 1862
affirmation under division (B) (3) of this section. 1863

(7) During the seven days after the day of an election, an 1864
individual who casts a provisional ballot because the individual 1865
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1866
any of the required forms of identification or because the 1867
individual has been successfully challenged under section 1868
3505.20 of the Revised Code shall appear at the office of the 1869
board of elections and provide to the board any additional 1870
information necessary to determine the eligibility of the 1871
individual who cast the provisional ballot. 1872

(a) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who 1873
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1874
any of the required forms of identification to be eligible to be 1875
counted, the individual who cast that ballot, within seven days 1876
after the day of the election, shall do either of the following: 1877

(i) Provide to the board of elections proof of the 1878
individual's identity in the form of a current and valid photo 1879
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1880
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1881
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1882
voter registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 1883
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the individual's name 1884
and current address; or 1885

(ii) Provide to the board of elections the individual's 1886
driver's license or state identification card number or the last 1887
four digits of the individual's social security number. 1888

(b) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 1889
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 1890
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 1891
cast that ballot, within seven days after the day of that 1892
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 1893
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 1894
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 1895
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 1896

(C) (1) If an individual declares that the individual is 1897
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 1898
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 1899
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 1900
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 1901
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 1902
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 1903
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 1904
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 1905
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 1906
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 1907
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 1908
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 1909
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 1910

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 1911
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 1912
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 1913
ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this 1914
section. If the individual is in the correct polling location 1915
for the precinct in which the individual is registered and 1916
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, 1917
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes 1918
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's 1919

provisional ballot affirmation:	1920
(a) The name or number of the individual's correct precinct;	1921 1922
(b) A statement that the election official instructed the individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote;	1923 1924
(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;	1925 1926 1927 1928
(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the individual is casting a provisional ballot; and	1929 1930
(e) The name of the polling location in which the individual is casting a provisional ballot.	1931 1932
(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place on the day of each election.	1933 1934 1935
(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 3505.183 of the Revised Code:	1936 1937
(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the following:	1938 1939
(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;	1940 1941 1942 1943
(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	1944 1945 1946

precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides	1947
in the county.	1948
(2) "Voting information" means all of the following:	1949
(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for	1950
that election;	1951
(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the	1952
hours during which polling places will be open;	1953
(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a	1954
vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;	1955
(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time	1956
voters under applicable federal and state laws;	1957
(e) General information on voting rights under applicable	1958
federal and state laws, including information on the right of an	1959
individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how	1960
to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged	1961
to have been violated;	1962
(f) General information on federal and state laws	1963
regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and	1964
misrepresentation.	1965
(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the	1966
Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised	1967
Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to	1968
receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two	1969
precinct election officials of different political parties. A	1970
blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in	1971
marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the	1972
required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may	1973
receive assistance on the day of an election under that section.	1974

Sec. 3505.183. (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to 1975
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall 1976
separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the 1977
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one 1978
member of each major political party shall place the sealed 1979
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the 1980
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes 1981
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those 1982
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 1983
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 1984
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 1985
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 1986
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 1987
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 1988
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 1989

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 1990
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 1991
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 1992
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 1993
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 1994
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 1995
provisional ballot under division (B) (2) of section 3505.181 of 1996
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in 1997
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to 1998
be eligible to be counted: 1999

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of 2000
birth, and current address; 2001

(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter 2002
in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted; 2003

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in 2004

the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted. 2005

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 2006
in an affirmation under division (B)(1) of this section, in 2007
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 2008
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 2009
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 2010
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 2011
provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 2012
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 2013
during the seven days after the day of the election under 2014
division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, to 2015
assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility to 2016
vote. 2017

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 2018
additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this 2019
section and comparing the information required under division 2020
(B)(1) of this section with the elector's information in the 2021
statewide voter registration database, the board determines that 2022
all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope 2023
shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box 2024
to be counted: 2025

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 2026
registered to vote. 2027

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to 2028
cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election in which the 2029
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2030

(c) The individual provided all of the information 2031
required under division (B)(1) of this section in the 2032
affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2033

individual cast the provisional ballot. 2034

(d) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2035
number or the elector's driver's license number or state 2036
identification card number are not different from the last four 2037
digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's 2038
driver's license number or state identification card number 2039
contained in the statewide voter registration database. 2040

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 2041
month and day of the elector's date of birth are not different 2042
from the day and month of the elector's date of birth contained 2043
in the statewide voter registration database. 2044

This division does not apply to an elector's provisional 2045
ballot if either of the following is true: 2046

(i) The elector's date of birth contained in the statewide 2047
voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 2048

(ii) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 2049
least three of its members, that the elector has met all other 2050
requirements of division (B) (3) of this section. 2051

(f) The elector's current address is not different from 2052
the elector's address contained in the statewide voter 2053
registration database, unless the elector indicated that the 2054
elector is casting a provisional ballot because the elector has 2055
moved and has not submitted a notice of change of address, as 2056
described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised 2057
Code. 2058

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional 2059
information required under division (B) (7) of section 3505.181 2060
of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of the 2061
election. 2062

(h) If applicable, the hearing conducted under division 2063
(B) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code after the day of the 2064
election resulted in the individual's inclusion in the official 2065
registration list. 2066

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of 2067
this section, if, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation 2068
and additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of 2069
this section and comparing the information required under 2070
division (B) (1) of this section with the elector's information 2071
in the statewide voter registration database, the board 2072
determines that any of the following applies, the provisional 2073
ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be 2074
counted: 2075

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2076
qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 2077

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2078
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 2079
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2080

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the 2081
information required under division (B) (1) of this section in 2082
the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2083
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2084

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the 2085
election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2086

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any 2087
additional information required under division (B) (7) of section 2088
3505.181 of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of 2089
the election. 2090

(vi) If applicable, the hearing conducted under division 2091

(B) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code after the day of the election did not result in the individual's inclusion in the official registration list.

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

(viii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number are different from the last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number contained in the statewide voter registration database.

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

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

(I) The elector'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 elector has met all of the

requirements of division (B) (3) of this section, other than the 2121
requirements of division (B) (3) (e) of this section. 2122

(x) The elector's current address is different from the 2123
elector's address contained in the statewide voter registration 2124
database, unless the elector indicated that the elector is 2125
casting a provisional ballot because the elector has moved and 2126
has not submitted a notice of change of address, as described in 2127
division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 2128

(b) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 2129
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2130
section and comparing the information required under division 2131
(B) (1) of this section with the elector's information in the 2132
statewide voter registration database, the board is unable to 2133
determine either of the following, the provisional ballot 2134
envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be 2135
counted: 2136

(i) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 2137
qualified or properly registered to vote; 2138

(ii) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is 2139
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 2140
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2141

(C) For each provisional ballot rejected under division 2142
(B) (4) of this section, the board shall record the name of the 2143
provisional voter who cast the ballot, the identification number 2144
of the provisional ballot envelope, the names of the election 2145
officials who determined the validity of that ballot, the date 2146
and time that the determination was made, and the reason that 2147
the ballot was not counted, unless the board has already 2148
recorded that information in another database. 2149

(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 2180
eligible to be counted under division (B) (3) or (D) of this 2181
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 2182
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 2183
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 2184
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 2185
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of 2186
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 2187
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 2188
that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 2189
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 2190
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 2191
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 2192
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 2193
ballot. 2194

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (2) of 2195
this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a board of 2196
elections from examining provisional ballot affirmations and 2197
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2198
section to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to 2199
be counted during the ten days after the day of an election. 2200

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional 2201
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions 2202
(B) (1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by 2203
an individual who must provide additional information to the 2204
board of elections under division (B) (7) of section 3505.181 of 2205
the Revised Code for the board to determine the individual's 2206
eligibility until the individual provides that information, 2207
until any hearing required to be conducted under section 3503.24 2208
of the Revised Code with regard to the provisional voter is 2209
held, or until the eleventh day after the day of the election, 2210

whichever is earlier. 2211

Sec. 3509.03. Except as provided in division (B) of 2212
section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, any qualified elector 2213
desiring to vote absent voter's ballots at an election shall 2214
make written application for those ballots to the director of 2215
elections of the county in which the elector's voting residence 2216
is located. The application need not be in any particular form 2217
but shall contain all of the following: 2218

(A) The elector's name; 2219

(B) The elector's signature; 2220

(C) The address at which the elector is registered to 2221
vote; 2222

(D) The elector's date of birth; 2223

(E) One of the following: 2224

(1) The elector's driver's license number; 2225

(2) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2226
number; 2227

(3) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2228
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2229
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2230
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2231
voter registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 2232
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the name and address of 2233
the elector. 2234

(F) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2235
voter's ballots are requested; 2236

(G) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2237

a qualified elector; 2238

(H) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2239
elector's party affiliation; 2240

(I) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the 2241
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed. 2242

Each application for absent voter's ballots shall be 2243
delivered to the director not earlier than the first day of 2244
January of the year of the elections for which the absent 2245
voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days 2246
before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be 2247
voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of 2248
the third day before the day of the election at which the 2249
ballots are to be voted, or not later than six p.m. on the last 2250
Friday before the day of the election at which the ballots are 2251
to be voted if the application is delivered in person to the 2252
office of the board. 2253

A board of elections that mails an absent voter's ballot 2254
application to an elector under this section shall not prepay 2255
the return postage for that application. 2256

Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2257
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 2258
official shall not fill out any portion of an application for 2259
absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary 2260
of state or a board of elections may preprint only an 2261
applicant's name and address on an application for absent 2262
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 2263
applicant. 2264

Sec. 3509.05. (A) When an elector receives an absent 2265
voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, 2266

the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note 2267
whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any 2268
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the 2269
board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 2270
ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and 2271
the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the 2272
board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and 2273
sealed within the identification envelope received from the 2274
director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 2275
cause the statement of voter on the outside of the 2276
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under 2277
penalty of election falsification. 2278

If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's 2279
license number or the last four digits of the elector's social 2280
security number on the statement of voter on the identification 2281
envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope 2282
with the identification envelope a copy of the elector's current 2283
valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, 2284
or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government 2285
check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a 2286
notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections 2287
~~under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the name 2288
and address of the elector. 2289

The elector shall mail the identification envelope to the 2290
director from whom it was received in the return envelope, 2291
postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver it to the 2292
director, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, 2293
father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, 2294
or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, 2295
adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 2296
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 2297

director. The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 2298
director in no other manner, except as provided in section 2299
3509.08 of the Revised Code. 2300

When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at 2301
the office of the board, the elector may retire to a voting 2302
compartment provided by the board and there mark the ballots. 2303
Thereupon, the elector shall fold them, place them in the 2304
identification envelope provided, seal the envelope, fill in and 2305
sign the statement on the envelope under penalty of election 2306
falsification, and deliver the envelope to the director of the 2307
board. 2308

Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 2309
section, all other envelopes containing marked absent voter's 2310
ballots shall be delivered to the director not later than the 2311
close of the polls on the day of an election. Absent voter's 2312
ballots delivered to the director later than the times specified 2313
shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the 2314
sealed identification envelopes in which they are delivered to 2315
the director, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 2316
Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at 2317
the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they 2318
shall be destroyed. 2319

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 2320
this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to 2321
the day of the election shall be delivered to the director prior 2322
to the eleventh day after the election. Ballots delivered in 2323
envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election that are 2324
received after the close of the polls on election day through 2325
the tenth day thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at 2326
the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) 2327

and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code. Any such ballots 2328
that are received by the director later than the tenth day 2329
following the election shall not be counted, but shall be kept 2330
by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as provided 2331
in division (A) of this section. 2332

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section shall not apply to any 2333
mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, 2334
including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1. 2335

Sec. 3511.02. Notwithstanding any section of the Revised 2336
Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 2337
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 2338
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 2339
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973ff 2340
(1986), this application shall be sufficient for voter 2341
registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. 2342
Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be 2343
obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 2344
3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the 2345
secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in 2346
which the person's voting residence is located in accordance 2347
with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the 2348
director of the board of elections of the county in which the 2349
person's voting residence is located, in one of the following 2350
ways: 2351

(A) That person may make written application for those 2352
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to 2353
the director or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send 2354
it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such 2355
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 2356
of state, or otherwise send it to the director. The application 2357

need not be in any particular form but shall contain all of the 2358
following information: 2359

- (1) The elector's name; 2360
- (2) The elector's signature; 2361
- (3) The address at which the elector is registered to 2362
vote; 2363
- (4) The elector's date of birth; 2364
- (5) One of the following: 2365
 - (a) The elector's driver's license number; 2366
 - (b) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2367
number; 2368
 - (c) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2369
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2370
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2371
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2372
voter registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 2373
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the name and address of 2374
the elector. 2375
- (6) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2376
voter's ballots are requested; 2377
- (7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2378
a qualified elector; 2379
- (8) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed 2380
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff- 2381
6; 2382
- (9) A statement of the elector's length of residence in 2383
the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, 2384

immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the 2385
service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United 2386
States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 2387
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 2388
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 2389
United States, whichever is applicable; 2390

(10) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2391
elector's party affiliation; 2392

(11) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the 2393
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed; 2394

(12) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the 2395
elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they 2396
shall be so sent; 2397

(13) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the 2398
elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of 2399
elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, 2400
the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact 2401
information. 2402

(B) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division 2403
(C) of this section may use a single federal post card 2404
application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent 2405
voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in 2406
a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 2407
that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the 2408
Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated 2409
by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting 2410
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to 2411
the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application 2412
shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 2413

3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied 2414
separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 2415
ballots for each election. 2416

(C) Application to have uniformed services or overseas 2417
absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to 2418
such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father- 2419
in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or 2420
sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting 2421
parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, 2422
son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The 2423
application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only 2424
by the director or on a single federal post card as provided in 2425
division (B) of this section. The form of the application shall 2426
be prescribed by the secretary of state. The director shall 2427
furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in 2428
this division desiring to make the application, only upon the 2429
request of such a relative made in person at the office of the 2430
board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to 2431
the office of the board. The application, subscribed and sworn 2432
to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following: 2433

(1) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are 2434
requested; 2435

(2) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed 2436
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff- 2437
6; 2438

(3) The address at which the elector is registered to 2439
vote; 2440

(4) A statement identifying the elector's length of 2441
residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of 2442

service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or 2443
near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the 2444
United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 2445
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 2446
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 2447
United States, as the case may be; 2448

(5) The elector's date of birth; 2449

(6) One of the following: 2450

(a) The elector's driver's license number; 2451

(b) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2452
number; 2453

(c) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2454
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2455
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2456
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2457
voter registration mailed by a board of elections ~~under section~~ 2458
~~3503.19 of the Revised Code~~, that shows the name and address of 2459
the elector. 2460

(7) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2461
voter's ballots are requested; 2462

(8) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2463
a qualified elector; 2464

(9) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2465
elector's party affiliation; 2466

(10) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship 2467
to the elector as specified in division (C) of this section; 2468

(11) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the 2469

telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile 2470
machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be 2471
sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by 2472
the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet 2473
contact information to which ballots shall be sent through 2474
internet delivery; 2475

(12) The signature and address of the person making the 2476
application. 2477

Each application for uniformed services or overseas absent 2478
voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director not earlier 2479
than the first day of January of the year of the elections for 2480
which the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots 2481
are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of 2482
the election at which the ballots are to be voted, whichever is 2483
earlier, and not later than twelve noon of the third day 2484
preceding the day of the election, or not later than six p.m. on 2485
the last Friday before the day of the election at which those 2486
ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in 2487
person to the office of the board. 2488

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is 2489
entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors 2490
only, the applicant shall submit to the director in addition to 2491
the requirements of divisions (A), (B), and (C) of this section, 2492
a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to vote 2493
for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no other 2494
offices. 2495

(E) A board of elections that mails a federal post card 2496
application or other absent voter's ballot application to an 2497
elector under this section shall not prepay the return postage 2498
for that application. 2499

(F) 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 a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. 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.

Sec. 3511.09. 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 then shall cause the identification envelope to be placed within the return envelope, sealed in the return envelope, and mailed to the director of the board of elections to whom it is addressed. The ballot shall be submitted for mailing not later than 12:01 a.m. at the place where the voter completes the ballot, on the date of the election. If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's license number or the last four digits of the elector's social security number on the statement of voter on

the identification envelope, the elector also shall include in 2531
the return envelope with the identification envelope a copy of 2532
the elector's current valid photo identification, a copy of a 2533
military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, 2534
bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 2535
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 2536
board of elections ~~under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code,~~ 2537
that shows the name and address of the elector. Each elector who 2538
will be outside the United States on the day of the election 2539
shall check the box on the return envelope indicating this fact 2540
and shall mail the return envelope to the director prior to the 2541
close of the polls on election day. 2542

Every uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot 2543
identification envelope shall be accompanied by the following 2544
statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION 2545
FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE. 2546

Sec. 3599.11. (A) No person shall knowingly register or 2547
make application or attempt to register in a precinct in which 2548
the person is not a qualified voter; or knowingly aid or abet 2549
any person to so register; or attempt to register or knowingly 2550
induce or attempt to induce any person to so register; or 2551
knowingly impersonate another or write or assume the name of 2552
another, real or fictitious, in registering or attempting to 2553
register; or by false statement or other unlawful means procure, 2554
aid, or attempt to procure the erasure or striking out on the 2555
register or duplicate list of the name of a qualified elector 2556
therein; or knowingly induce or attempt to induce a registrar or 2557
other election authority to refuse registration in a precinct to 2558
an elector thereof; or knowingly swear or affirm falsely upon a 2559
lawful examination by or before any registering officer; or 2560
make, print, or issue any false or counterfeit certificate of 2561

registration or knowingly alter any certificate of registration. 2562

No person shall knowingly register under more than one 2563
name or knowingly induce any person to so register. 2564

No person shall knowingly make any false statement on any 2565
form for registration or change of registration or upon any 2566
application or return envelope for an absent voter's ballot. 2567

Whoever violates this division is guilty of a felony of 2568
the fifth degree. 2569

(B) (1) No person who helps another person register outside 2570
an official voter registration place shall knowingly destroy, or 2571
knowingly help another person to destroy, any completed 2572
registration form. 2573

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2574
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree. 2575

(2) ~~(a)~~ No person who helps another person register outside 2576
an official voter registration place shall knowingly fail to 2577
~~return-cause~~ any registration form entrusted to that person to 2578
be returned to any board of elections or the office of the 2579
secretary of state within ten days after that ~~registration-~~ 2580
registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth 2581
day before the election, whichever day is earlier, unless the 2582
registration form is received by the person within twenty-four 2583
hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case 2584
the person shall ~~return-cause~~ the registration form to be 2585
returned to any board of elections or the office of the 2586
secretary of state within ten days of its receipt. 2587

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2588
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2589
has not previously been convicted of a violation of this 2590

~~division (B) (2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this~~ 2591
~~section,~~ the violation of this division does not cause any 2592
person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to 2593
any election, and the number of voter registration forms that 2594
the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed 2595
forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a 2596
misdemeanor of the first degree. 2597

~~(b) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, no person~~ 2598
~~who helps another person register outside an official~~ 2599
~~registration place shall knowingly return any registration form~~ 2600
~~entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of~~ 2601
~~elections or the office of the secretary of state.~~ 2602

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election~~ 2603
~~falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person~~ 2604
~~has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)~~ 2605
~~(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the~~ 2606
~~violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any~~ 2607
~~voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the~~ 2608
~~number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed~~ 2609
~~to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the~~ 2610
~~violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 2611

~~(C) (1) No person who receives compensation for registering~~ 2612
~~a voter shall knowingly fail to return any registration form~~ 2613
~~entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office~~ 2614
~~of the secretary of state within ten days after that voter~~ 2615
~~registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth~~ 2616
~~day before the election, whichever is earlier, unless the~~ 2617
~~registration form is received by the person within twenty four~~ 2618
~~hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case~~ 2619
~~the person shall return the registration form to any board of~~ 2620

~~elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days
of its receipt.~~ 2621
2622

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed
to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 2623
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~~(2) No person who receives compensation for registering a
voter shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to
that person to any location other than any board of elections or
the office of the secretary of state.~~ 2632
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~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed
to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 2636
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~~(D) As used in division (C) of this section, "registering
a voter" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or
returning those forms.~~ 2645
2646
2647
2648

Sec. 3599.18. (A) No election official, person assisting 2649

in the registration of electors, or police officer shall 2650
knowingly do any of the following: 2651

(1) Refuse, neglect, or unnecessarily delay, hinder, or 2652
prevent the registration of a qualified elector, who in a lawful 2653
manner applies for registration or who should be registered 2654
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code; 2655

(2) Enter or consent to the entry of a fictitious name on 2656
a voter registration list; 2657

(3) Alter the name on or remove or destroy the 2658
registration card or form of any qualified elector; 2659

(4) Neglect, unlawfully execute, or fail to execute any 2660
duty enjoined upon that person as an election official, person 2661
assisting in the registration of electors, or police officer. 2662

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 2663
guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 2664

Section 2. That existing sections 3501.05, 3503.09, 2665
3503.10, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 2666
3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.183, 2667
3509.03, 3509.05, 3511.02, 3511.09, 3599.11, and 3599.18 and 2668
sections 3503.11, 3503.29, and 3505.22 of the Revised Code are 2669
hereby repealed. 2670

Section 3. Section 3501.05 of the Revised Code is 2671
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 2672
by both Am. Sub. S.B. 109 and Sub. S.B. 205 of the 130th General 2673
Assembly. 2674

Section 3505.18 of the Revised Code is presented in this 2675
act as a composite of the section as amended by Sub. S.B. 47, 2676
Am. Sub. S.B. 109, and Sub. S.B. 216, all of the 130th General 2677

Assembly. 2678

The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in 2679
division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments 2680
are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous 2681
operation, finds that the composites are the resulting versions 2682
of those sections in effect prior to the effective dates of the 2683
sections as presented in this act. 2684

2685