

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

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H. B. No. 687

Representatives Hicks-Hudson, Sweeney

Cosponsors: Representatives Blair, Boggs, Boyd, Brent, Brown, Cera, Clites, Crawley, Denson, Galonski, Howse, Ingram, Kelly, Leland, Lepore-Hagan, Lightbody, Liston, Miller, J., Miranda, O'Brien, Patterson, Robinson, Rogers, Russo, Sheehy, Smith, K., Sobecki, Sykes, Upchurch, Weinstein, West, Skindell

A BILL

To amend sections 3501.05, 3501.10, 3501.11, 1
3501.22, 3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 2
3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3
3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3509.02, 4
3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.09, 5
3511.09, 3511.11, and 3599.11; to enact sections 6
3509.052 and 3509.053; and to repeal section 7
3503.29 of the Revised Code to make changes to 8
the Election Law. 9

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

Section 1. That sections 3501.05, 3501.10, 3501.11, 10
3501.22, 3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 3503.16, 3503.19, 11
3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.182, 12
3505.183, 3509.02, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.09, 13
3511.09, 3511.11, and 3599.11 be amended and sections 3509.052 14
and 3509.053 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 15

Sec. 3501.05. The secretary of state shall do all of the 16

following:	17
(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;	18
(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections.	19 20 21
(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of elections;	22 23
(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in force;	24 25 26
(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;	27 28
(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and records;	29 30
(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards;	31 32 33 34
(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution to be submitted to the voters of the state;	35 36 37
(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall appear on the ballot;	38 39 40 41 42
(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) (2) (b) of	43

section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to 44
ballot language for any local question or issue approved and 45
transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the 46
Revised Code; 47

(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on 48
state questions and issues and determine and certify to the 49
sufficiency of those petitions; 50

(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are 51
provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers 52
necessary; 53

(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the 54
several counties of the requirements of the election laws; 55

(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of 56
this section, investigate the administration of election laws, 57
frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and 58
report violations of election laws to the attorney general or 59
prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution; 60

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to 61
comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 62
3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised 63
Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have 64
knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a 65
provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with 66
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 67
Revised Code. 68

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the 69
results of elections, the cost of elections in the various 70
counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political 71
subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative 72

to elections the secretary of state considers desirable; 73

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list 74
of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition 75
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 76
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code; 77

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 78
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters 79
from the statewide voter registration database and, if 80
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in 81
each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the 82
following: 83

(1) A process for ~~the removal of using information~~ 84
obtained from the national change of address service provided by 85
the United States postal service system through its licensees to 86
remove voters who have changed residence, which to a location 87
outside this state. That process shall be uniform, 88
nondiscriminatory, and in compliance with the Voting Rights Act 89
of 1965 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, 90
~~including a program that uses the national change of address~~ 91
~~service provided by the United States postal system through its~~ 92
~~licensees;~~ 93

(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under 94
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 95

(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a 96
voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter 97
registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or 98
signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason 99
for that mark or removal. 100

(R) Prescribe a general program for registering voters or 101

updating voter registration information, such as name and 102
residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies, 103
offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high 104
schools and vocational schools, public libraries, public 105
employment offices as described in section 4141.04 of the 106
Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs centers as defined in section 107
6301.01 of the Revised Code, and offices of county treasurers 108
consistent with the requirements of section 3503.09 of the 109
Revised Code; 110

(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter 111
registration forms through boards of elections, designated 112
agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of 113
motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, 114
public libraries, public employment offices as described in 115
section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs centers as 116
defined in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, and offices of 117
county treasurers; 118

(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and 119
upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in 120
this state; 121

(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised 122
Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering 123
voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the 124
offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles 125
consistent with this chapter; 126

(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with 127
Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary 128
of state to do all of the following: 129

(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there 130

is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities; 131

(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each 132
voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the 133
same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy 134
and independence, as for other voters; 135

(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of 136
standards for the certification of voting machines, marking 137
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment. 138

(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide 139
database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15 140
of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the 141
"Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 142
1666, and provide training in the operation of that system; 143

(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other 144
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result 145
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of 146
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for 147
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections, 148
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or 149
other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted 150
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as 151
is practicable after the completion of the conference or 152
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on 153
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes 154
place. 155

(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the 156
secretary of state not later than one month after the completion 157
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and 158
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent 159

voter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were 160
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the 161
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election. 162
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web 163
site in an archive format for each subsequent election. 164

(Z) Conduct a comprehensive voter education program 165
outlining voter identification, absent ~~voters ballot~~voter's 166
ballots, provisional ballot, and other voting requirements 167
through the use of broadcast, cable, or satellite 168
communications, radio stations, print media, or internet social 169
media outlets; 170

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 171
may make available to a board of elections a more recent 172
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 173
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 174
elector resides; 175

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 176
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 177
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 178
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 179
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 180
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 181
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 182
or referendum; 183

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 184
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 185
Voting Act," ~~Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42-52 U.S.C.~~ 186
~~1973ff, 20301~~ et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary 187
of state may delegate to the boards of elections 188
responsibilities for the implementation of that act, including 189

responsibilities arising from amendments to that act made by the 190
"Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act," Subtitle H of the 191
"National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010," Pub. 192
L. No. 111-84, 123 Stat. 3190. 193

(DD) Adopt rules, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 194
to establish procedures and standards for determining when a 195
board of elections shall be placed under the official oversight 196
of the secretary of state, placing a board of elections under 197
the official oversight of the secretary of state, a board that 198
is under official oversight to transition out of official 199
oversight, and the secretary of state to supervise a board of 200
elections that is under official oversight of the secretary of 201
state. 202

(EE) Adopt rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to 203
establish procedures for maintaining election administration 204
plans required under division (BB) of section 3501.11 of the 205
Revised Code, including whether any information in an election 206
administration plan is not a public record under section 149.433 207
of the Revised Code. 208

(FF) Perform other duties required by law. 209

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 210
of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 211
3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of 212
representative to congress, the secretary of state shall 213
establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline 214
required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the 215
following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy 216
and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating 217
petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of 218
protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 219

declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a 220
declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of 221
campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of 222
corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 223
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 224
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 225
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 226
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 227
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 228
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 229
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 230

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 231
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 232
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 233
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 234
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 235
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 236

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 237
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 238
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 239
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 240
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 241
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 242

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 243
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 244
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 245
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 246
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 247
state's motion, be made a party. 248

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 249

hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 250
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 251
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 252
pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 253
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 254
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 255
Franklin county. 256

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 257
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 258
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 259
state pursuant to this section. 260

The secretary of state may mail unsolicited applications 261
for absent voter's ballots to individuals only for a general 262
election and only if the general assembly has made an 263
appropriation for that particular mailing. Under no other 264
circumstance shall a public office, or a public official or 265
employee who is acting in an official capacity, mail unsolicited 266
applications for absent voter's ballots to any individuals. 267

Sec. 3501.10. (A) The board of elections shall, as an 268
expense of the board, provide suitable rooms for its offices and 269
records and the necessary and proper furniture and supplies for 270
those rooms. The board may lease such offices and rooms, 271
necessary to its operation, for the length of time and upon the 272
terms the board deems in the best interests of the public, 273
provided that the term of any such lease shall not exceed 274
fifteen years. 275

Thirty days prior to entering into such a lease, the board 276
shall notify the board of county commissioners in writing of its 277
intent to enter into the lease. The notice shall specify the 278
terms and conditions of the lease. Prior to the thirtieth day 279

after receiving that notice and before any lease is entered 280
into, the board of county commissioners may reject the proposed 281
lease by a majority vote. After receiving written notification 282
of the rejection by the board of county commissioners, the board 283
of elections shall not enter into the lease that was rejected, 284
but may immediately enter into additional lease negotiations, 285
subject to the requirements of this section. 286

The board of elections in any county may, by resolution, 287
request that the board of county commissioners submit to the 288
electors of the county, in accordance with section 133.18 of the 289
Revised Code, the question of issuing bonds for the acquisition 290
of real estate and the construction on it of a suitable building 291
with necessary furniture and equipment for the proper 292
administration of the duties of the board of elections. The 293
resolution declaring the necessity for issuing such bonds shall 294
relate only to the acquisition of real estate and to the 295
construction, furnishing, and equipping of a building as 296
provided in this division. 297

(B) The board of elections in each county shall keep its 298
offices, or one or more of its branch registration offices, open 299
for the performance of its duties until nine p.m. on the last 300
day of registration before a general or primary election. At all 301
other times during each week, the board shall keep its offices 302
and rooms open for a period of time that the board considers 303
necessary for the performance of its duties. 304

(C) The board of elections may maintain permanent or 305
temporary branch offices at any place within the county, 306
~~provided that, if the board of elections permits electors to~~ 307
~~vote at a branch office, electors shall not be permitted to vote~~ 308
~~at any other branch office or any other office of the board of~~ 309

elections.	310
Sec. 3501.11. Each board of elections shall exercise by a	311
majority vote all powers granted to the board by Title XXXV of	312
the Revised Code, shall perform all the duties imposed by law,	313
and shall do all of the following:	314
(A) Establish, define, provide, rearrange, and combine	315
election precincts;	316
(B) Fix and provide the places for registration and for	317
holding primaries and elections;	318
(C) Provide for the purchase, preservation, and	319
maintenance of booths, ballot boxes, books, maps, flags, blanks,	320
cards of instructions, and other forms, papers, and equipment	321
used in registration, nominations, and elections;	322
(D) Appoint and remove its director, deputy director, and	323
employees and all registrars, precinct election officials, and	324
other officers of elections, fill vacancies, and designate the	325
ward or district and precinct in which each shall serve;	326
(E) Make and issue rules and instructions, not	327
inconsistent with law or the rules, directives, or advisories	328
issued by the secretary of state, as it considers necessary for	329
the guidance of election officers and voters;	330
(F) Advertise and contract for the printing of all ballots	331
and other supplies used in registrations and elections;	332
(G) Provide for the issuance of all notices,	333
advertisements, and publications concerning elections, except as	334
otherwise provided in division (G) of section 3501.17 and	335
divisions (F) and (G) of section 3505.062 of the Revised Code;	336
(H) Provide for the delivery of ballots, pollbooks, and	337

other required papers and material to the polling places; 338

(I) Cause the polling places to be suitably provided with 339
voting machines, marking devices, automatic tabulating 340
equipment, stalls, and other required supplies. In fulfilling 341
this duty, each board of a county that uses voting machines, 342
marking devices, or automatic tabulating equipment shall conduct 343
a full vote of the board during a public session of the board on 344
the allocation and distribution of voting machines, marking 345
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment for each precinct in 346
the county. 347

(J) Investigate irregularities, nonperformance of duties, 348
or violations of Title XXXV of the Revised Code by election 349
officers and other persons; administer oaths, issue subpoenas, 350
summon witnesses, and compel the production of books, papers, 351
records, and other evidence in connection with any such 352
investigation; and report the facts to the prosecuting attorney 353
or the secretary of state; 354

(K) (1) Review, examine, and certify the sufficiency and 355
validity of petitions and nomination papers, and, after 356
certification, return to the secretary of state all petitions 357
and nomination papers that the secretary of state forwarded to 358
the board; 359

(2) Examine each initiative petition, or a petition filed 360
under section 307.94 or 307.95 of the Revised Code, received by 361
the board to determine whether the petition falls within the 362
scope of authority to enact via initiative and whether the 363
petition satisfies the statutory prerequisites to place the 364
issue on the ballot, as described in division (M) of section 365
3501.38 of the Revised Code. The petition shall be invalid if 366
any portion of the petition is not within the initiative power. 367

(L) Receive the returns of elections, canvass the returns,	368
make abstracts of them, and transmit those abstracts to the	369
proper authorities;	370
(M) Issue certificates of election on forms to be	371
prescribed by the secretary of state;	372
(N) Make an annual report to the secretary of state, on	373
the form prescribed by the secretary of state, containing a	374
statement of the number of voters registered, elections held,	375
votes cast, appropriations received, expenditures made, and	376
other data required by the secretary of state;	377
(O) Prepare and submit to the proper appropriating officer	378
a budget estimating the cost of elections for the ensuing fiscal	379
year;	380
(P) Perform other duties as prescribed by law or the	381
rules, directives, or advisories of the secretary of state;	382
(Q) Investigate and determine the residence qualifications	383
of electors;	384
(R) Administer oaths in matters pertaining to the	385
administration of the election laws;	386
(S) Prepare and submit to the secretary of state, whenever	387
the secretary of state requires, a report containing the names	388
and residence addresses of all incumbent county, municipal,	389
township, and board of education officials serving in their	390
respective counties;	391
(T) Establish and maintain a voter registration database	392
of all qualified electors in the county who offer to register;	393
(U) Maintain voter registration records, make reports	394
concerning voter registration as required by the secretary of	395

state, and remove ineligible electors from voter registration 396
lists in accordance with law and directives of the secretary of 397
state; 398

(V) Give approval to ballot language for any local 399
question or issue and transmit the language to the secretary of 400
state for the secretary of state's final approval; 401

(W) Prepare and cause the following notice to be displayed 402
in a prominent location in every polling place: 403

"NOTICE 404

Ohio law prohibits any person from voting or attempting to 405
vote more than once at the same election. 406

Violators are guilty of a felony of the fourth degree and 407
shall be imprisoned and additionally may be fined in accordance 408
with law." 409

(X) In all cases of a tie vote or a disagreement in the 410
board, if no decision can be arrived at, the director or 411
chairperson shall submit the matter in controversy, not later 412
than fourteen days after the tie vote or the disagreement, to 413
the secretary of state, who shall summarily decide the question, 414
and the secretary of state's decision shall be final. 415

(Y) Assist each designated agency, deputy registrar of 416
motor vehicles, public high school and vocational school, public 417
library, public employment office as described in section 418
4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs center as defined in 419
section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, and office of a county 420
treasurer in the implementation of a program for registering 421
voters at all voter registration locations as prescribed by the 422
secretary of state. Under this program, each board of elections 423
shall direct to the appropriate board of elections any voter 424

registration applications for persons residing outside the 425
county where the board is located within five days after 426
receiving the applications. 427

(Z) On any day on which an elector may vote in person at 428
the office of the board or at another site designated by the 429
board, consider the board or other designated site a polling 430
place for that day. All requirements or prohibitions of law that 431
apply to a polling place shall apply to the office of the board 432
or other designated site on that day. 433

(AA) Perform any duties with respect to voter registration 434
and voting by uniformed services and overseas voters that are 435
delegated to the board by law or by the rules, directives, or 436
advisories of the secretary of state. 437

(BB) Prepare and submit to the secretary of state not 438
later than sixty days before a presidential primary election and 439
one hundred twenty days before a general election an election 440
administration plan. The election administration plan shall be 441
on a template prescribed by the secretary of state. The election 442
administration plan shall include procedures in case of an 443
emergency on election day. 444

Sec. 3501.22. (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 445
division (A) (2) of this section, on or before the fifteenth day 446
of September in each year, the board of elections by a majority 447
vote shall, after careful examination and investigation as to 448
their qualifications, appoint for each election precinct four 449
residents of the county in which the precinct is located, as 450
precinct election officials. Except as otherwise provided in 451
division (C) of this section, all precinct election officials 452
shall be qualified electors. The precinct election officials 453
shall constitute the election officers of the precinct. Not more 454

than one-half of the total number of precinct election officials 455
shall be members of the same political party. The term of such 456
precinct officers shall be for one year. The board may, at any 457
time, designate any number of election officers, not more than 458
one-half of whom shall be members of the same political party, 459
to perform their duties at any precinct in any election. The 460
board may appoint additional officials, equally divided between 461
the two major political parties, when necessary to expedite 462
voting. If the board of elections determines that four precinct 463
election officials are not required in a precinct for a special 464
election, the board of elections may select two of the 465
precinct's election officers, who are not members of the same 466
political party, to serve as the precinct election officials for 467
that precinct in that special election. 468

Vacancies for unexpired terms shall be filled by the 469
board. When new precincts have been created, the board shall 470
appoint precinct election officials for those precincts for the 471
unexpired term. Any precinct election official may be summarily 472
removed from office at any time by the board for neglect of 473
duty, malfeasance, or misconduct in office or for any other good 474
and sufficient reason. 475

Precinct election officials shall perform all of the 476
duties provided by law for receiving the ballots and supplies, 477
opening and closing the polls, and overseeing the casting of 478
ballots during the time the polls are open, and any other duties 479
required by section 3501.26 of the Revised Code. 480

A board of elections may designate two precinct election 481
officials as counting officials to count and tally the votes 482
cast and certify the results of the election at each precinct, 483
and perform other duties as provided by law. To expedite the 484

counting of votes at each precinct, the board may appoint 485
additional officials, not more than one-half of whom shall be 486
members of the same political party. 487

Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of this 488
section, the board shall designate one of the precinct election 489
officials who is a member of the dominant political party to 490
serve as a voting location manager, whose duty it is to deliver 491
the returns of the election and all supplies to the office of 492
the board. For these services, the voting location manager shall 493
receive additional compensation in an amount, consistent with 494
section 3501.28 of the Revised Code, determined by the board of 495
elections. 496

The board shall issue to each precinct election official a 497
certificate of appointment, which the official shall present to 498
the voting location manager at the time the polls are opened. 499

(2) If the board of elections, by a vote of at least three 500
members of the board, opts to have a single voting location 501
serve more than one precinct, the board may do any of the 502
following: 503

(a) Designate a single voting location manager for the 504
voting location. The voting location manager shall be a member 505
of the political party whose candidate received the highest 506
number of votes for governor at the most recent general election 507
for that office in the precincts whose polling places are 508
located at the applicable voting location, when tallying the 509
combined vote for governor in all such precincts. 510

(b) Combine the pollbooks for those precincts to create a 511
single pollbook for the voting location; 512

(c) If electronic pollbooks are being used in the voting 513

location, as described in section 3506.021 of the Revised Code, 514
appoint not less than two precinct election officials for each 515
precinct, so long as the board approves the decision to reduce 516
the number of precinct election officials by the affirmative 517
vote of at least three of its members. 518

(B) If the board of elections determines that not enough 519
qualified electors in a precinct are available to serve as 520
precinct officers, it may appoint persons to serve as precinct 521
officers at a primary, special, or general election who are at 522
least seventeen years of age and are registered to vote in 523
accordance with section 3503.07 of the Revised Code. 524

(C) (1) A board of elections, in conjunction with the board 525
of education of a city, local, or exempted village school 526
district, the governing authority of a community school 527
established under Chapter 3314. of the Revised Code, or the 528
chief administrator of a nonpublic school may establish a 529
program permitting certain high school students to apply and, if 530
appointed by the board of elections, to serve as precinct 531
officers at a primary, special, or general election. 532

In addition to the requirements established by division 533
(C) (2) of this section, a board of education, governing 534
authority, or chief administrator that establishes a program 535
under this division in conjunction with a board of elections may 536
establish additional criteria that students shall meet to be 537
eligible to participate in that program. 538

(2) (a) To be eligible to participate in a program 539
established under division (C) (1) of this section, a student 540
shall be a United States citizen, a resident of the county, at 541
least seventeen years of age, and enrolled in the junior or 542
senior year of high school. 543

(b) Any student applying to participate in a program 544
established under division (C) (1) of this section, as part of 545
the student's application process, shall declare the student's 546
political party affiliation with the board of elections. 547

(3) No student appointed as a precinct officer pursuant to 548
a program established under division (C) (1) of this section 549
shall be designated as a voting location manager. 550

(4) Any student participating in a program established 551
under division (C) (1) of this section shall be excused for that 552
student's absence from school on the day of an election at which 553
the student is serving as a precinct officer. 554

(D) In any precinct with six or more precinct officers, up 555
to two students participating in a program established under 556
division (C) (1) of this section who are under eighteen years of 557
age may serve as precinct officers. Not more than one precinct 558
officer in any given precinct with fewer than six precinct 559
officers shall be under eighteen years of age. 560

Sec. 3501.29. (A) The board of elections shall provide for 561
each precinct a polling place and provide adequate facilities at 562
each polling place for conducting the election. The board shall 563
provide a sufficient number of screened or curtained voting 564
compartments to which electors may retire and conveniently mark 565
their ballots, protected from the observation of others. Each 566
voting compartment shall be provided at all times with writing 567
implements, instructions how to vote, and other necessary 568
conveniences for marking the ballot. The voting location manager 569
shall ensure that the voting compartments at all times are 570
adequately lighted and contain the necessary supplies. The board 571
shall utilize, in so far as practicable, rooms in public schools 572
and other public buildings for polling places. Upon application 573

of the board of elections, the authority which has the control 574
of any building or grounds supported by taxation under the laws 575
of this state, shall make available the necessary space therein 576
for the purpose of holding elections and adequate space for the 577
storage of voting machines, without charge for the use thereof. 578
A reasonable sum may be paid for necessary janitorial service. 579
When polling places are established in private buildings, the 580
board may pay a reasonable rental therefor, and also the cost of 581
liability insurance covering the premises when used for election 582
purposes, or the board may purchase a single liability policy 583
covering the board and the owners of the premises when used for 584
election purposes. When removable buildings are supplied by the 585
board, they shall be constructed under the contract let to the 586
lowest and best bidder, and the board shall observe all 587
ordinances and regulations then in force as to safety. The board 588
shall remove all such buildings from streets and other public 589
places within thirty days after an election, unless another 590
election is to be held within ninety days. 591

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the 592
board shall ensure all of the following: 593

(a) That polling places are free of barriers that would 594
impede ingress and egress of handicapped persons; 595

(b) That the minimum number of special parking locations, 596
also known as handicapped parking spaces or disability parking 597
spaces, for handicapped persons are designated at each polling 598
place in accordance with 28 C.F.R. Part 36, Appendix A, and in 599
compliance with division (E) of section 4511.69 of the Revised 600
Code; 601

(c) That the entrances of polling places are level or are 602
provided with a nonskid ramp that meets the requirements of the 603

"Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 104 Stat. 327, 42 604
U.S.C. 12101; 605

(d) That doors are a minimum of thirty-two inches wide; 606

(e) That polling places, in accordance with any orders 607
issued under section 3701.13, 3701.14, 3709.20, 3709.21, or 608
5502.22 of the Revised Code, allow for adequate distance between 609
voters and precinct election officials, sanitation of voting 610
compartments and supplies, and use of face masks or coverings. 611

(2) Notwithstanding division (B) (1) (a), (c), or (d) of 612
this section, certain polling places may be specifically 613
exempted by the secretary of state upon certification by a board 614
of elections that a good faith, but unsuccessful, effort has 615
been made to modify, or change the location of, such polling 616
places. 617

(C) At any polling place that is exempted from compliance 618
by the secretary of state, the board of elections shall permit 619
any handicapped elector who travels to that elector's polling 620
place, but who is unable to enter the polling place, to vote, 621
with the assistance of two polling place officials of major 622
political parties, in the vehicle that conveyed that elector to 623
the polling place, or to receive and cast that elector's ballot 624
at the door of the polling place. 625

(D) The secretary of state shall: 626

(1) Work with other state agencies to facilitate the 627
distribution of information and technical assistance to boards 628
of elections to meet the requirements of division (B) of this 629
section; 630

(2) Work with organizations that represent or provide 631
services to handicapped, disabled, or elderly citizens to effect 632

a wide dissemination of information about the availability of 633
absentee voting, voting in the voter's vehicle or at the door of 634
the polling place, or other election services to handicapped, 635
disabled, or elderly citizens. 636

(E) Before the day of an election, the director of the 637
board of elections of each county shall sign a statement 638
verifying that each polling place that will be used in that 639
county at that election meets the requirements of division (B) 640
(1)(b) of this section. The signed statement shall be sent to 641
the secretary of state by certified mail or electronically. 642

(F) As used in this section, "handicapped" means having 643
lost the use of one or both legs, one or both arms, or any 644
combination thereof, or being blind or so severely disabled as 645
to be unable to move about without the aid of crutches or a 646
wheelchair. 647

(G) No board of elections shall establish fewer polling 648
places than were established for the general election held on 649
November 6, 2018. 650

Sec. 3503.09. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt 651
rules for the electronic transmission by boards of elections, 652
designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor 653
vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public 654
libraries, public employment offices as described in section 655
4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs centers as defined in 656
section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, and offices of county 657
treasurers, where applicable, of name and residence changes for 658
voter registration records in the statewide voter registration 659
database. 660

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 661

purpose of improving the speed of processing new voter 662
registrations that permit information from a voter registration 663
application received by a designated agency or an office of 664
deputy registrar of motor vehicles to be made available 665
electronically, in addition to requiring the original voter 666
registration application to be transmitted to the applicable 667
board of elections under division (E) (2) of section 3503.10 or 668
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code. 669

(B) Rules adopted under division (A) of this section shall 670
do all of the following: 671

(1) Prohibit any direct electronic connection between a 672
designated agency, office of deputy registrar of motor vehicles, 673
public high school or vocational school, public library, public 674
employment office as described in section 4141.04 of the Revised 675
Code, OhioMeansJobs center as defined in section 6301.01 of the 676
Revised Code, or office of a county treasurer and the statewide 677
voter registration database; 678

(2) Require any updated voter registration information to 679
be verified by the secretary of state or a board of elections 680
before the information is added to the statewide voter 681
registration database for the purpose of modifying an existing 682
voter registration; 683

(3) Require each designated agency or office of deputy 684
registrar of motor vehicles that transmits voter registration 685
information electronically to transmit an identifier for data 686
relating to each new voter registration that shall be used by 687
the secretary of state or a board of elections to match the 688
electronic data to the original voter registration application. 689

Sec. 3503.10. (A) Each designated agency shall designate 690

one person within that agency to serve as coordinator for the voter registration program within the agency and its departments, divisions, and programs. The designated person shall be trained under a program designed by the secretary of state and shall be responsible for administering all aspects of the voter registration program for that agency as prescribed by the secretary of state. The designated person shall receive no additional compensation for performing such duties.

(B) Every designated agency, public high school and vocational school, public library, public employment office as described in section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs center as defined in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, and office of a county treasurer shall provide in each of its offices or locations voter registration applications and assistance in the registration of persons qualified to register to vote, in accordance with this chapter.

(C) Every designated agency shall distribute to its 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."; 721

(3) The statement, "If you would like help in filling out 722
the voter registration application form, we will help you. The 723
decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill 724
out the application form in private."; 725

(4) The statement, "If you believe that someone has 726
interfered with your right to register or to decline to register 727
to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register 728
or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your 729
own political party or other political preference, you may file 730
a complaint with the prosecuting attorney of your county or with 731
the secretary of state," with the address and telephone number 732
for each such official's office. 733

(D) Each designated agency shall distribute a voter 734
registration form prescribed by the secretary of state to each 735
applicant with each application for service or assistance, and 736
with each written application or form for recertification, 737
renewal, or change of address. 738

(E) Each designated agency shall do all of the following: 739

(1) Have employees trained to administer the voter 740
registration program in order to provide to each applicant who 741
wishes to register to vote and who accepts assistance, the same 742
degree of assistance with regard to completion of the voter 743
registration application as is provided by the agency with 744
regard to the completion of its own form; 745

(2) Accept completed voter registration applications, 746
voter registration change of residence forms, and voter 747
registration change of name forms, regardless of whether the 748
application or form was distributed by the designated agency, 749

for transmittal to the office of the board of elections in the 750
county in which the agency is located. Each designated agency 751
and the appropriate board of elections shall establish a method 752
by which the voter registration applications and other voter 753
registration forms are transmitted to that board of elections 754
within five days after being accepted by the agency. 755

(3) If the designated agency is one that is primarily 756
engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities under 757
a state-funded program, and that agency provides services to a 758
person with disabilities at a person's home, provide the 759
services described in divisions (E) (1) and (2) of this section 760
at the person's home; 761

(4) Keep as confidential, except as required by the 762
secretary of state for record-keeping purposes, the identity of 763
an agency through which a person registered to vote or updated 764
the person's voter registration records, and information 765
relating to a declination to register to vote made in connection 766
with a voter registration application issued by a designated 767
agency. 768

(F) The secretary of state shall prepare and transmit 769
written instructions on the implementation of the voter 770
registration program within each designated agency, public high 771
school and vocational school, public library, public employment 772
office as described in section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, 773
OhioMeansJobs center as defined in section 6301.01 of the 774
Revised Code, and office of a county treasurer. The instructions 775
shall include directions as follows: 776

(1) That each person designated to assist with voter 777
registration maintain strict neutrality with respect to a 778
person's political philosophies, a person's right to register or 779

decline to register, and any other matter that may influence a 780
person's decision to register or not register to vote; 781

(2) That each person designated to assist with voter 782
registration not seek to influence a person's decision to 783
register or not register to vote, not display or demonstrate any 784
political preference or party allegiance, and not make any 785
statement to a person or take any action the purpose or effect 786
of which is to lead a person to believe that a decision to 787
register or not register has any bearing on the availability of 788
services or benefits offered, on the grade in a particular class 789
in school, or on credit for a particular class in school; 790

(3) Regarding when and how to assist a person in 791
completing the voter registration application, what to do with 792
the completed voter registration application or voter 793
registration update form, and when the application must be 794
transmitted to the appropriate board of elections; 795

(4) Regarding what records must be kept by the agency and 796
where and when those records should be transmitted to satisfy 797
reporting requirements imposed on the secretary of state under 798
the National Voter Registration Act of 1993; 799

(5) Regarding whom to contact to obtain answers to 800
questions about voter registration forms and procedures. 801

(G) If the voter registration activity is part of an in- 802
class voter registration program in a public high school or 803
vocational school, whether prescribed by the secretary of state 804
or independent of the secretary of state, the board of education 805
shall do all of the following: 806

(1) Establish a schedule of school days and hours during 807
these days when the person designated to assist with voter 808

registration shall provide voter registration assistance; 809

(2) Designate a person to assist with voter registration 810
from the public high school's or vocational school's staff; 811

(3) Make voter registration applications and materials 812
available, as outlined in the voter registration program 813
established by the secretary of state pursuant to section 814
3501.05 of the Revised Code; 815

(4) Distribute the statement, "applying to register or 816
declining to register to vote will not affect or be a condition 817
of your receiving a particular grade in or credit for a school 818
course or class, participating in a curricular or 819
extracurricular activity, receiving a benefit or privilege, or 820
participating in a program or activity otherwise available to 821
pupils enrolled in this school district's schools."; 822

(5) Establish a method by which the voter registration 823
application and other voter registration forms are transmitted 824
to the board of elections within five days after being accepted 825
by the public high school or vocational school. 826

(H) Any person employed by the designated agency, public 827
high school or vocational school, public library, public 828
employment office as described in section 4141.04 of the Revised 829
Code, OhioMeansJobs center as defined in section 6301.01 of the 830
Revised Code, or office of a county treasurer may be designated 831
to assist with voter registration pursuant to this section. The 832
designated agency, public high school or vocational school, 833
public library, public employment office, OhioMeansJobs center, 834
or office of a county treasurer shall provide the designated 835
person, and make available such space as may be necessary, 836
without charge to the county or state. 837

(I) The secretary of state shall prepare and cause to be 838
displayed in a prominent location in each designated agency a 839
notice that identifies the person designated to assist with 840
voter registration, the nature of that person's duties, and 841
where and when that person is available for assisting in the 842
registration of voters. 843

A designated agency may furnish additional supplies and 844
services to disseminate information to increase public awareness 845
of the existence of a person designated to assist with voter 846
registration in every designated agency. 847

(J) This section does not limit any authority a board of 848
education, superintendent, or principal has to allow, sponsor, 849
or promote voluntary election registration programs within a 850
high school or vocational school, including programs in which 851
pupils serve as persons designated to assist with voter 852
registration, provided that no pupil is required to participate. 853

(K) Each public library, public employment office as 854
described in section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs 855
center as defined in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, and 856
office of the county treasurer shall establish a method by which 857
voter registration forms are transmitted to the board of 858
elections within five days after being accepted by the public 859
library, public employment office, OhioMeansJobs center, or 860
office of the county treasurer. 861

(L) The department of job and family services and its 862
departments, divisions, and programs shall limit administration 863
of the aspects of the voter registration program for the 864
department to the requirements prescribed by the secretary of 865
state and the requirements of this section and the National 866
Voter Registration Act of 1993. 867

Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 868
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 869
and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall 870
meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 871
1993 and shall include spaces for all of the following: 872

(1) The voter's name; 873

(2) The voter's address; 874

(3) The current date; 875

(4) The voter's date of birth; 876

(5) The voter to provide one or more of the following: 877

(a) The voter's driver's license number, if any; 878

(b) The last four digits of the voter's social security 879
number, if any; 880

(c) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a 881
copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current 882
utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or 883
other government document, other than a notice of voter 884
registration mailed by a board of elections under section 885
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the voter's name and 886
address. 887

(6) The voter's signature. 888

~~The registration form shall include a space on which the 889
person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and 890
provide the person's address and a space on which the person 891
registering an applicant shall name the employer who is 892
employing that person to register the applicant. 893~~

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 894

under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 895
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 896
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 897
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 898
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 899
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 900
that data to the statewide voter registration database 901
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 902

~~(B) None of the following persons who are registering an 903
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal 904
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's 905
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to 906
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section: 907~~

~~(1) An election official; 908~~

~~(2) A county treasurer; 909~~

~~(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 910~~

~~(4) An employee of a designated agency; 911~~

~~(5) An employee of a public high school; 912~~

~~(6) An employee of a public vocational school; 913~~

~~(7) An employee of a public library; 914~~

~~(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer; 915~~

~~(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles; 916~~

~~(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 917~~

~~(11) An employee of an election official. 918~~

~~(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised 919
Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own 920~~

name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by 921
the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling 922
out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an 923
applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate 924
in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or 925
to change the applicant's name or residence. ~~The person~~ 926
~~registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that~~ 927
~~the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register~~ 928
~~to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.~~ 929

~~(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of~~ 930
~~name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person~~ 931
~~registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or~~ 932
~~failed to name the employer who is employing that person to~~ 933
~~register the applicant as required under division (A) of this~~ 934
~~section.~~ 935

~~(E)~~ (C) A voter registration application submitted online 936
through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised 937
Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered 938
valid. The signature obtained under division ~~(B)~~ (C) of that 939
section or the signature obtained the first time the applicant 940
votes shall be considered the applicant's signature for all 941
election and signature-matching purposes. 942

~~(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant"~~ 943
~~includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter~~ 944
~~registration forms or to assist persons in completing or~~ 945
~~returning those forms.~~ 946

Sec. 3503.16. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 947
(E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever a registered 948
elector changes the place of residence of that registered 949
elector from one precinct to another within a county or from one 950

county to another, or has a change of name, that registered 951
elector shall report the change by delivering a change of 952
residence or change of name form, whichever is appropriate, as 953
prescribed by the secretary of state under section 3503.14 of 954
the Revised Code to the state or local office of a designated 955
agency, a public high school or vocational school, a public 956
library, a public employment office as described in section 957
4141.04 of the Revised Code, an OhioMeansJobs center as defined 958
in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, the office of the county 959
treasurer, the office of the secretary of state, any office of 960
the registrar or deputy registrar of motor vehicles, or any 961
office of a board of elections in person or by a third person. 962
Any voter registration, change of address, or change of name 963
application, returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary 964
of state or the board of elections. 965

A registered elector also may update the registration of 966
that registered elector by filing a change of residence or 967
change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general 968
election at the polling place in the precinct in which that 969
registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at 970
another site designated by the board. 971

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 972
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 973
special election and has not filed a notice of change of 974
residence with the board of elections may vote in that election 975
by going to that registered elector's assigned polling place, 976
completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing 977
identification in the form of a current and valid photo 978
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 979
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 980
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 981

voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 982
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current 983
address of the elector, and casting a ballot. 984

(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that 985
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to 986
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 987
filed a notice of change of name with the board of elections may 988
vote in that election by going to that registered elector's 989
assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a 990
change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section 991
3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides 992
to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change, 993
such as a marriage license or court order that includes the 994
elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and 995
sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot. 996

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 997
another within a county or moves from one precinct to another 998
and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to 999
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 1000
filed a notice of change of residence or change of name, 1001
whichever is appropriate, with the board of elections may vote 1002
in that election if that registered elector complies with 1003
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 1004

(a) Appears at anytime during regular business hours on or 1005
after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that 1006
registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on 1007
the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day 1008
prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the 1009
election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any 1010
time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1011

election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on 1012
the day of the election at either of the following locations: 1013

(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that 1014
registered elector resides; 1015

(ii) The office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant~~ 1016
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 1017
~~has designated~~ another location in the county at which 1018
registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location instead of~~ 1019
~~the office of the board of elections.~~ 1020

(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1021
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1022
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence 1023
or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1024

(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1025
the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the 1026
board of elections, or, ~~if pursuant to division (C) of section~~ 1027
~~3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated~~ at another 1028
location in the county at which registered electors may vote, ~~at~~ 1029
~~that other location instead of the office of the board of~~ 1030
~~elections, whichever is appropriate,~~ using the address to which 1031
that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered 1032
elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 1033

(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1034
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1035
elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, 1036
on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional 1037
ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that 1038
registered elector resides, at the office of the board of 1039
elections, or, ~~if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of~~ 1040

~~the Revised Code the board has designated at another location in~~ 1041
~~the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other~~ 1042
~~location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 1043
~~whichever is appropriate,~~ and will not vote or attempt to vote 1044
at any other location for that particular election. 1045

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 1046
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 1047
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 1048
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 1049
vote in that election if that registered elector complies with 1050
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 1051

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 1052
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 1053
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 1054
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 1055
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 1056
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 1057
or, ~~if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the~~ 1058
~~Revised Code the board has designated at another location in the~~ 1059
county at which registered electors may vote, ~~at that other~~ 1060
~~location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 1061
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1062
election at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant~~ 1063
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 1064
~~has designated at another location in the county at which~~ 1065
registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location instead of~~ 1066
~~the office of the board of elections,~~ or appears on the day of 1067
the election at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if~~ 1068
~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code~~ 1069
~~the board has designated at another location in the county at~~ 1070
which registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location~~ 1071

~~instead of the office of the board of elections;~~ 1072

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1073
falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1074
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1075

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1076
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if~~ 1077
~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code~~ 1078
~~the board has designated~~ at another location in the county at 1079
which registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location~~ 1080
~~instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ using the 1081
address to which that registered elector has moved; 1082

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1083
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1084
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1085
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1086
office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant to division (C)~~ 1087
~~of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated~~ 1088
at another location in the county at which registered electors 1089
may vote, ~~at that other location instead of the office of the~~ 1090
~~board of elections,~~ and will not vote or attempt to vote at any 1091
other location for that particular election. 1092

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1093
to division (G) of this section shall not make written 1094
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 1095
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 1096
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 1097
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 1098
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 1099
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 1100
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 1101

voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 1102
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1103
to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 1104
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 1105
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 1106

~~Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised~~ 1107
~~Code, a~~ A board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a 1108
site different from, or in addition to, the office of the board 1109
at which registered electors may vote pursuant to division (B) 1110
or (C) of this section. 1111

(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 1112
change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send 1113
the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of 1114
residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall 1115
update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is 1116
incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the 1117
acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the 1118
information necessary to complete or update that registrant's 1119
registration. 1120

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 1121
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 1122
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 1123
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 1124
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 1125
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1126

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 1127
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 1128
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 1129
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 1130
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 1131

shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 1132
within five days after receiving them. 1133

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1134
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1135
appear at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant~~ 1136
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 1137
~~has designated~~ at another location in the county at which 1138
registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location,~~ on account 1139
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1140
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1141
of the following: 1142

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 1143
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 1144
to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or 1145
after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the 1146
registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday 1147
prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's 1148
ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector 1149
has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address 1150
of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a 1151
change of name; 1152

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 1153
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 1154
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 1155
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 1156
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 1157
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 1158
infirmity; 1159

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 1160
voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 1161

address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice 1162
of change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1163

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1164
falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector 1165
has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before 1166
the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of 1167
personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that 1168
prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of 1169
elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1170
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other 1171
location or address for that particular election. 1172

Sec. 3503.19. (A) Persons qualified to register or to 1173
change their registration because of a change of address or 1174
change of name may register or change their registration in 1175
person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at 1176
the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1177
vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a 1178
public library, at a public employment office as described in 1179
section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, at an OhioMeansJobs center 1180
as defined in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, at the office 1181
of a county treasurer, or at a branch office established by the 1182
board of elections, or in person, through another person, or by 1183
mail at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of 1184
a board of elections. A registered elector may also change the 1185
elector's registration on election day at any polling place 1186
where the elector is eligible to vote, in the manner provided 1187
under section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 1188

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1189
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1190
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1191

library, a public employment office as described in section 1192
4141.04 of the Revised Code, an OhioMeansJobs center as defined 1193
in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, or the office of a 1194
county treasurer shall transmit any voter registration 1195
application or change of registration form that it receives to 1196
the board of elections of the county in which the state or local 1197
office is located, within five days after receiving the voter 1198
registration application or change of registration form. 1199

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 1200
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1201
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1202
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1203
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1204
library, a public employment office as described in section 1205
4141.04 of the Revised Code, an OhioMeansJobs center as defined 1206
in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, the office of a county 1207
treasurer, the office of the secretary of state, or the office 1208
of a board of elections no later than the thirtieth day 1209
preceding a primary, special, or general election for the person 1210
to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. An 1211
otherwise valid registration application received after that day 1212
entitles the elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 1213

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1214
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1215
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1216
library, a public employment office as described in section 1217
4141.04 of the Revised Code, an OhioMeansJobs center as defined 1218
in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, or the office of a 1219
county treasurer shall date stamp a registration application or 1220
change of name or change of address form it receives using a 1221
date stamp that does not disclose the identity of the state or 1222

local office that receives the registration. 1223

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 1224
are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 1225
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 1226
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1227
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 1228
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 1229
voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 1230
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 1231
valid for that election if received by the office of the 1232
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1233
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1234
general election. 1235

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1236
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1237
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1238
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1239
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42-52 1240
U.S.C. ~~1973ff-6-20310~~ also may apply for voter registration 1241
forms by electronic means to the office of the secretary of 1242
state or to the board of elections of the county in which the 1243
person's voting residence is located pursuant to section 1244
3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1245

~~(2)(a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed~~ 1246
~~registration form in person or by mail to any state or local~~ 1247
~~office of a designated agency, to a public high school or~~ 1248
~~vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a~~ 1249
~~county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to~~ 1250
~~the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible~~ 1251
~~to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in~~ 1252

~~accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the~~ 1253
~~applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to~~ 1254
~~the office of the secretary of state or to the board of~~ 1255
~~elections of the county in which the person's voting residence~~ 1256
~~is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code.~~ 1257

~~(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an~~ 1258
~~applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form~~ 1259
~~through another person to any board of elections or the office~~ 1260
~~of the secretary of state.~~ 1261

~~(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a~~ 1262
~~voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that~~ 1263
~~person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the~~ 1264
~~office of the secretary of state.~~ 1265

~~(d) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary~~ 1266
~~of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b)~~ 1267
~~or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an~~ 1268
~~election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as~~ 1269
~~applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of~~ 1270
~~elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to~~ 1271
~~register to vote within ten days after receiving the~~ 1272
~~application. If a board of elections or the office of the~~ 1273
~~secretary of state receives a registration form under division~~ 1274
~~(B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day~~ 1275
~~before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of~~ 1276
~~state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the~~ 1277
~~board of elections of the county in which the applicant is~~ 1278
~~seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that~~ 1279
~~election.~~ 1280

(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter 1281
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 1282

statements made in the registration form shall register the 1283
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 1284
the application, unless that application is received during the 1285
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The 1286
board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of 1287
the following: 1288

(a) The applicant's registration; 1289

(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote; 1290

(c) In bold type as follows: 1291

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1292
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1293
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1294
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1295
paycheck, or other government document, other than this 1296
notification, that shows the voter's name and current address. 1297
Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be 1298
able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not 1299
have any of the above forms of identification, including a 1300
social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an 1301
affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of 1302
election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1303

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 1304
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 1305
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 1306

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 1307
(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's 1308
correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official 1309
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1310
be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned 1311

to the board. 1312

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been 1313
so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to 1314
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 1315
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1316
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to ~~division (B) (3)~~ 1317
~~of~~ section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 1318
that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 1319
indication that the voter's notification was returned from that 1320
voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll 1321
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 1322
counted ~~pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of~~ 1323
~~section 3505.183 of the Revised Code~~ on the basis that the voter 1324
is not eligible to vote, the voter's registration shall be 1325
canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United States mail 1326
of the cancellation. 1327

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid 1328
registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is 1329
returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided 1330
in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation 1331
notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to 1332
the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or 1333
vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of 1334
this section in any election during the period of two federal 1335
elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, 1336
the person's registration shall be canceled. 1337

Sec. 3503.20. (A) As used in this section, "applicant" 1338
means a person who meets both of the following requirements: 1339

(1) The person is qualified to register to vote under this 1340
chapter; and 1341

(2) The person has a current and valid Ohio driver's 1342
license or identification card issued under Chapter 4507. of the 1343
Revised Code or a social security number. 1344

(B) The secretary of state shall establish a secure online 1345
voter registration system. The system shall provide for all of 1346
the following: 1347

(1) An applicant to submit a voter registration 1348
application to the secretary of state online through the 1349
internet; 1350

(2) The online applicant to be registered to vote, if all 1351
of the following apply: 1352

(a) The application contains all of the following 1353
information: 1354

(i) The applicant's name; 1355

(ii) The applicant's address; 1356

(iii) The applicant's date of birth; 1357

(iv) ~~The~~ Identification in the form of either the last 1358
four digits of the applicant's social security number; 1359

~~(v) The,~~ or the applicant's Ohio driver's license number 1360
or the number of the applicant's state identification card 1361
issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code. 1362

(b) ~~The applicant's name, address, and date of birth, the~~ 1363
~~last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and~~ 1364
~~the applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of~~ 1365
~~the applicant's state identification card as they are provided~~ 1366
~~in the application are not inconsistent with the information on~~ 1367
~~file with the bureau of motor vehicles;~~ 1368

~~(e)~~—The applicant is a United States citizen, will have 1369
lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the 1370
next election, will be at least eighteen years of age on or 1371
before the day of the next general election, and is otherwise 1372
eligible to register to vote; 1373

~~(d)~~—(c) The applicant attests to the truth and accuracy of 1374
the information submitted in the online application under 1375
penalty of election falsification. 1376

~~(B)~~—(C) If an individual registers to vote or a registered 1377
elector updates the elector's name, address, or both under this 1378
section and provides an Ohio driver's license number or number 1379
of the individual's state identification card, the secretary of 1380
state shall obtain an electronic copy of the applicant's or 1381
elector's signature that is on file with the bureau of motor 1382
vehicles. That electronic signature shall be used as the 1383
applicant's or elector's signature on voter registration 1384
records, for all election and signature-matching purposes. If an 1385
individual does not have an electronic signature, the individual 1386
shall provide the individual's signature when the individual 1387
votes for the first time. 1388

~~(C)~~—(D) The secretary of state shall employ whatever 1389
security measures the secretary of state considers necessary to 1390
ensure the integrity and accuracy of voter registration 1391
information submitted electronically pursuant to this section. 1392
Errors in processing voter registration applications in the 1393
online system shall not prevent an applicant from becoming 1394
registered or from voting. 1395

~~(D)~~—(E) The online voter registration application 1396
established under division ~~(A)~~—(B) of this section shall include 1397
the following language: 1398

"By clicking the box below, I affirm all of the following 1399
under penalty of election falsification, which is a felony of 1400
the fifth degree: 1401

(1) I am the person whose name and identifying information 1402
is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or 1403
update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio. 1404

(2) All of the information I have provided on this form is 1405
true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form. 1406

(3) I am a United States citizen. 1407

(4) I will have lived in Ohio for thirty days immediately 1408
preceding the next election. 1409

(5) I will be at least eighteen years of age on or before 1410
the day of the next general election. 1411

(6) If an electronic copy of my signature is on file with 1412
the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, I authorize the Bureau of Motor 1413
Vehicles to transmit to the Ohio Secretary of State my signature 1414
that is on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and I 1415
understand and agree that the signature transmitted by the 1416
Bureau of Motor Vehicles will be used by the Secretary of State 1417
to validate this electronic voter registration application as if 1418
I had signed this form personally." 1419

In order to register to vote or update a voter 1420
registration under division ~~(A)~~ (B) of this section, an 1421
applicant or elector shall be required to mark the box in the 1422
online voter registration application that appears in 1423
conjunction with the previous statement. 1424

~~(E) The online voter registration process established~~ 1425
~~under division (A) of this section shall be in operation and~~ 1426

~~available for use by individuals who wish to register to vote or~~ 1427
~~update their voter registration information online not earlier~~ 1428
~~than January 1, 2017.~~ (F) (1) When an applicant submits a voter 1429
registration application under this section, the secretary of 1430
state shall compare the information in the application with the 1431
information on file with the bureau of motor vehicles, as 1432
applicable. 1433

(2) If the secretary of state determines that the 1434
application is valid, the secretary of state shall submit the 1435
application to the board of elections of the county in which the 1436
applicant resides, and the board shall register the applicant. 1437

(3) If the secretary of state determines that the 1438
application is not valid, the secretary of state shall notify 1439
the applicant of that fact and provide the applicant with a 1440
voter registration form and instruct the applicant to submit 1441
that voter registration form. 1442

(G) (1) If an applicant who is to be registered under 1443
division (F) (2) of this section has an electronic signature on 1444
file with the bureau of motor vehicles, the secretary of state 1445
shall obtain the electronic signature and shall transmit it to 1446
the board of elections to be used as the applicant's signature 1447
for all election and signature-matching purposes. 1448

(2) If an applicant who is to be registered under division 1449
(F) (2) of this section does not have an electronic signature on 1450
file with the bureau of motor vehicles and the applicant is 1451
updating the elector's address, the board of elections of the 1452
county in which the applicant currently is registered shall 1453
create a legible digitized copy of the signature of the 1454
elector's existing registration record. That signature shall be 1455
used as the elector's signature on voter registration records 1456

for all election and signature-matching purposes. 1457

(3) If an applicant who is to be registered under division 1458
(F) (2) of this section does not have an electronic signature on 1459
file with the bureau of motor vehicles and is not a registered 1460
elector who is updating the elector's address, all of the 1461
following shall apply: 1462

(a) (i) The board of elections shall include with the 1463
applicant's notification of registration a signature card that 1464
instructs the applicant to sign the card and return it to the 1465
office of the board. The card shall notify the applicant that 1466
until the applicant signs and returns the card or signs a notice 1467
of change of name or residence, a poll list or signature 1468
pollbook, a provisional ballot affirmation, or an application 1469
for absent voter's ballots, the applicant's signature on an 1470
election petition is not valid. 1471

(ii) If the applicant signs and returns the signature card 1472
to the board of elections, the board shall create a legible 1473
digitized copy of the signature on the card, and that signature 1474
shall be used as the applicant's signature on voter registration 1475
records for all election and signature-matching purposes. 1476

(iii) The board of elections shall prepay the return 1477
postage for the signature card. 1478

(iv) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 1479
the signature card. 1480

(b) If the applicant does not sign and return the 1481
signature card, both of the following apply: 1482

(i) The first time an applicant signs a notice of change 1483
of name or residence, a poll list or signature pollbook, a 1484
provisional ballot affirmation, or an application for absent 1485

voter's ballots, the board of elections shall create a legible 1486
digitized copy of that signature. The signature shall be used as 1487
the applicant's signature on voter registration records for all 1488
election and signature-matching purposes. 1489

(ii) Until the board of elections has obtained the 1490
applicant's signature from a signature card, a notice of change 1491
of name or residence, a poll list or signature pollbook, a 1492
provisional ballot affirmation, or an application for absent 1493
voter's ballots, the applicant's signature on an election 1494
petition is not valid. 1495

(H) During the period beginning on the first day after the 1496
close of voter registration before an election and ending on the 1497
day of the election, the online voter registration system shall 1498
display a notice indicating that the applicant will not be 1499
registered to vote for the purposes of that election. 1500

~~(F)~~ (I) Notwithstanding section 1.50 of the Revised Code, 1501
if any provision of this section or of division ~~(E)~~ (C) of 1502
section 3503.14 of the Revised Code is held invalid, or if the 1503
application of any provision of this section or of that division 1504
to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then this section 1505
and that division cease to operate. 1506

Sec. 3503.21. (A) The registration of a registered elector 1507
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 1508

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 1509
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 1510
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 1511
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 1512
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 1513
reregistering to vote at any time. 1514

- (2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code; 1515
1516
- (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; 1517
1518
1519
1520
1521
- (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; 1522
1523
1524
- (5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code; 1525
1526
1527
- (6) The registration of the registered elector to vote in another county in this state in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section; 1528
1529
1530
- (7) The change of residence of the registered elector to a location outside ~~the county of registration~~ this state in accordance with division (B) (2) of this section; 1531
1532
1533
- ~~(7)~~ (8) The failure of the registered elector, after having been mailed a confirmation notice, to do ~~either any of~~ the following at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections: 1534
1535
1536
1537
- (a) Respond to ~~such a~~ confirmation notice ~~and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections;~~ 1538
1539
1540
- (b) Update the elector's registration ~~and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period~~ 1541
1542

~~shall include two general federal elections;~~ 1543

(c) Vote in an election. 1544

~~(8)-(9) The receipt by the board of elections of a~~ 1545
~~cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the~~ 1546
~~Revised Code.~~ 1547

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 1548
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 1549
residence of any registrant who ~~changes the registrant's voting~~ 1550
~~residence to a location outside the registrant's current~~ 1551
registers to vote in another county of registration in this 1552
state. Any procedures prescribed in this division shall be 1553
uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with the Voting 1554
Rights Act of 1965. ~~The secretary of state may prescribe~~ 1555
~~procedures under this division that include the use of the~~ 1556
~~national change of address service provided by the United States~~ 1557
~~postal system through its licensees. Any program so prescribed~~ 1558
~~shall be completed not later than ninety days prior to the date~~ 1559
~~of any primary or general election for federal office.~~ 1560

(2) ~~The registration of any elector identified as having~~ 1561
~~changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the~~ 1562
~~elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled~~ 1563
~~unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form~~ 1564
~~prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to~~ 1565
~~respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the~~ 1566
~~registration and fails to vote in any election during the period~~ 1567
~~of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the~~ 1568
~~confirmation notice.~~The secretary of state shall prescribe a 1569
process to use the national change of address service provided 1570
by the United States postal service system through its licensees 1571
to identify and send a confirmation notice to any registrant who 1572

changes the elector's voting residence to a location outside of 1573
this state. That process shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, 1574
shall comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and shall be 1575
completed not later than ninety days before the date of any 1576
primary or general election for federal office. 1577

(3) The secretary of state or a board of elections shall 1578
not mail a confirmation notice to an elector under division (B) 1579
of this section unless the secretary of state or the board 1580
possesses reliable evidence from the national change of address 1581
service that the elector has changed the elector's voting 1582
residence to a location outside this state. 1583

(C) The secretary of state or a board of elections shall 1584
not mail a confirmation notice to an elector solely on the basis 1585
that the elector has failed to update the elector's registration 1586
or vote during a given period. 1587

(D) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 1588
canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 of 1589
the Revised Code, division (Q) of section 3501.05 of the Revised 1590
Code, division (C) (2) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, or 1591
division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised Code. 1592

~~(D)~~ (E) Boards of elections shall send their voter 1593
registration information to the secretary of state as required 1594
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 1595
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 1596
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 1597
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 1598
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 1599
the information to the national change of address service 1600
described in division (B) of this section and request that 1601
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 1602

voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved to a 1603
location outside this state within the last twelve months. The 1604
secretary of state shall transmit to each appropriate board of 1605
elections whatever lists the secretary of state receives from 1606
that service. The board shall send a notice to each person on 1607
the list transmitted by the secretary of state requesting 1608
confirmation of the person's change of address, together with a 1609
postage prepaid, preaddressed return envelope containing a form 1610
on which the voter may verify or correct the change of address 1611
information. 1612

~~(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 1613
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 1614
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 1615
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 1616
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 1617
the four year period in which the elector fails to vote or 1618
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 1619~~

(F) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 1620
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 1621
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 1622
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 1623
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 1624
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 1625
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 1626
the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the 1627
error. 1628

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to 1629
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be 1630
restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 1631

(G) Any voter registration that, before the effective date 1632

of this amendment, was canceled after the elector was sent a 1633
confirmation notice for either of the following reasons shall 1634
promptly be restored and treated as though it were never 1635
canceled, if the secretary of state or a board of elections has 1636
a record of that voter registration and cancellation: 1637

(1) The elector failed to update the elector's 1638
registration or vote at least once during a given period. 1639

(2) The elector was identified as having moved to another 1640
county in this state. 1641

Sec. 3503.28. (A) The secretary of state shall develop an 1642
information brochure regarding voter registration. The brochure 1643
shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following 1644
information: 1645

(1) The applicable deadlines for registering to vote or 1646
for returning an applicant's completed registration form; 1647

(2) The applicable deadline for returning an applicant's 1648
completed registration form if the person returning the form is 1649
being compensated for registering voters; 1650

(3) The locations to which a person may return an 1651
applicant's completed registration form; 1652

~~(4) The location to which a person who is compensated for~~ 1653
~~registering voters may return an applicant's completed~~ 1654
~~registration form;~~ 1655

~~(5) The registration and affirmation requirements~~ 1656
~~applicable to persons who are compensated for registering voters~~ 1657
~~under section 3503.29 of the Revised Code;~~ 1658

~~(6)~~ A notice, which shall be written in bold type, stating 1659
as follows: 1660

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

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, a board of elections, designated agency, public high school, public vocational school, public library, public employment office as described in section 4141.04 of the Revised Code, OhioMeansJobs center as defined in section 6301.01 of the Revised Code, office of a county treasurer, or deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall distribute a copy of the brochure developed under division (A) of this section to any person who requests more than two voter registration forms at one time.

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

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web site, the board shall provide the information required to be included in the brochure developed under division (A) of this

section to any person who prints a voter registration form that 1691
is made available on that web site. 1692

(D) A board of elections shall not be required to 1693
distribute a copy of a brochure under division (B) of this 1694
section to any of the following officials or employees who are 1695
requesting more than two voter registration forms at one time in 1696
the course of the official's or employee's normal duties: 1697

(1) An election official; 1698

(2) A county treasurer; 1699

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 1700

(4) An employee of a designated agency; 1701

(5) An employee of a public high school; 1702

(6) An employee of a public vocational school; 1703

(7) An employee of a public library; 1704

(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer; 1705

(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles; 1706

(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 1707

(11) An employee of an election official; 1708

(12) An employee of a public employment office as 1709
described in section 4141.04 of the Revised code; 1710

(13) An employee of an OhioMeansJobs center as defined in 1711
section 6301.01 of the Revised Code. 1712

~~(E) As used in this section, "registering voters" includes~~ 1713
~~any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration~~ 1714
~~forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those~~ 1715

~~forms.~~ 1716

Sec. 3505.18. (A) (1) When an elector appears in a polling 1717
place to vote, the elector shall announce to the precinct 1718
election officials the elector's full name and current address 1719
and provide proof of the elector's identity in the form of a 1720
current and valid photo identification, a military 1721
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1722
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1723
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1724
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 1725
that shows the name and current address of the elector. 1726

(2) If an elector does not have or is unable to provide to 1727
the precinct election officials any of the forms of 1728
identification required under division (A) (1) of this section, 1729
the elector may cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 1730
of the Revised Code and do either of the following: 1731

(a) Write the elector's driver's license or state 1732
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1733
elector's social security number on the provisional ballot 1734
envelope; or 1735

(b) ~~Appear at the office of the board of elections not~~ 1736
~~later than the seventh day after the day of the election and~~ 1737
~~provide~~ Provide the identification required under division (A) 1738
(1) of this section, the elector's driver's license or state 1739
identification card number, or the last four digits of the 1740
elector's social security number to the board of elections not 1741
later than the seventh business day after the day of the 1742
election. 1743

(B) (1) After the elector has announced the elector's full 1744

name and current address and provided any of the forms of 1745
identification required under division (A) (1) of this section, 1746
the elector shall write the elector's name and address at the 1747
proper place in the poll list or signature pollbook provided for 1748
the purpose, except that if, for any reason, an elector is 1749
unable to write the elector's name and current address in the 1750
poll list or signature pollbook, the elector may make the 1751
elector's mark at the place intended for the elector's name, and 1752
a precinct election official shall write the name of the elector 1753
at the proper place on the poll list or signature pollbook 1754
following the elector's mark. The making of such a mark shall be 1755
attested by the precinct election official, who shall evidence 1756
the same by signing the precinct election official's name on the 1757
poll list or signature pollbook as a witness to the mark. 1758
Alternatively, if applicable, an attorney in fact acting 1759
pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code may sign the 1760
elector's signature in the poll list or signature pollbook in 1761
accordance with that section. 1762

~~The~~ (2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) 1763
(b) of this section, the elector's signature in the poll list or 1764
signature pollbook then shall be compared with the elector's 1765
signature on the elector's registration form or a digitized 1766
signature list as provided for in section 3503.13 of the Revised 1767
Code, and if, in the opinion of a majority of the precinct 1768
election officials, the signatures are the signatures of the 1769
same person, the election officials shall enter the date of the 1770
election on the registration form or shall record the date by 1771
other means prescribed by the secretary of state. The validity 1772
of an attorney in fact's signature on behalf of an elector shall 1773
be determined in accordance with section 3501.382 of the Revised 1774
Code. 1775

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

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

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

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

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

provide to the election officials any of the forms of 1806
identification required under division (A) (1) of section 3505.18 1807
of the Revised Code; 1808

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature 1809
pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the 1810
Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a 1811
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that 1812
election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 1813

(4) An individual whose notification of registration has 1814
been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose 1815
name in the official registration list and in the poll list or 1816
signature pollbook has been marked under division (C) (2) of 1817
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code; 1818

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged 1819
under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code; 1820

(6) An individual who changes the individual's name and 1821
remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name 1822
change under division (B) (1) (b) of section 3503.16 of the 1823
Revised Code, moves from one precinct to another within a 1824
county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the 1825
individual's name, or moves from one county to another within 1826
the state, and completes and signs the required forms and 1827
statements under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the 1828
Revised Code; 1829

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the 1830
precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is 1831
not that of the person who signed that name in the registration 1832
forms. 1833

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional 1834

ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to 1835
cast a provisional ballot as follows: 1836

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify 1837
the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot 1838
in that election. 1839

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 1840
section, the individual shall complete and execute a written 1841
affirmation before an election official at the polling place 1842
stating that the individual is both of the following: 1843

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the 1844
individual desires to vote; 1845

(b) Eligible to vote in that election. 1846

(3) An election official at the polling place shall 1847
transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter 1848
information contained in the written affirmation executed by the 1849
individual under division (B)(2) of this section to an 1850
appropriate local election official for verification under 1851
division (B)(4) of this section. 1852

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the 1853
ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under 1854
division (B)(3) of this section determines that the individual 1855
is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall 1856
be counted as a vote in that election. 1857

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional 1858
ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the 1859
individual written information that states that any individual 1860
who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under 1861
the system established under division (B)(5)(b) of this section 1862
whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, 1863

the reason that the vote was not counted. 1864

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 1865
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 1866
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 1867
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 1868
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 1869
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 1870
established under this division also shall provide to an 1871
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 1872
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 1873
elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 1874
individual's voter registration. 1875

The appropriate state or local election official shall 1876
establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 1877
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 1878
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 1879
access system established under this division. The system shall 1880
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 1881
the individual's own provisional ballot. 1882

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 1883
ballot, the individual provides identification in the form of a 1884
current and valid photo identification, a military 1885
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1886
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1887
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1888
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 1889
that shows the individual's name and current address, or 1890
provides the individual's driver's license or state 1891
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1892
individual's social security number, the individual shall record 1893

the type of identification provided or the driver's license, 1894
state identification card, or social security number information 1895
and include that information on the provisional ballot 1896
affirmation under division (B) (3) of this section. 1897

(7) During the seven business days after the day of an 1898
election, an individual who casts a provisional ballot because 1899
the individual does not have or is unable to provide to the 1900
election officials any of the required forms of identification 1901
or because the individual has been successfully challenged under 1902
section 3505.20 of the Revised Code, or whose provisional ballot 1903
affirmation otherwise is incomplete or incorrect, ~~shall appear~~ 1904
~~at the office of the board of elections and may~~ provide to the 1905
board of elections any additional information necessary to 1906
determine the eligibility of the individual who cast the 1907
provisional ballot, as described in division (G) (1) of section 1908
3505.183 of the Revised Code. 1909

(a) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who 1910
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1911
any of the required forms of identification to be eligible to be 1912
counted, the individual who cast that ballot, within seven 1913
business days after the day of the election, ~~shall may~~ do either 1914
of the following: 1915

(i) Provide to the board of elections proof of the 1916
individual's identity in the form of a current and valid photo 1917
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1918
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1919
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1920
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 1921
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the individual's name 1922
and current address; or 1923

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

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

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

~~(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this section. If the individual is in the correct polling location~~

~~for the precinct in which the individual is registered and
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign,
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's
provisional ballot affirmation:~~

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates	1982
that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is	1983
at a polling place in that county to determine the correct	1984
precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides	1985
in the county.	1986
(2) "Voting information" means all of the following:	1987
(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for	1988
that election;	1989
(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the	1990
hours during which polling places will be open;	1991
(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a	1992
vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;	1993
(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time	1994
voters under applicable federal and state laws;	1995
(e) General information on voting rights under applicable	1996
federal and state laws, including information on the right of an	1997
individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how	1998
to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged	1999
to have been violated;	2000
(f) General information on federal and state laws	2001
regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and	2002
misrepresentation.	2003
(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the	2004
Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised	2005
Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to	2006
receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two	2007
precinct election officials of different political parties. A	2008
blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in	2009

marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the 2010
required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may 2011
receive assistance on the day of an election under that section. 2012

Sec. 3505.182. Each individual who casts a provisional 2013
ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code shall execute 2014
a written affirmation. The form of the written affirmation shall 2015
be printed upon the face of the provisional ballot envelope and 2016
shall be as follows: 2017

"Provisional Ballot Affirmation 2018

(A) Clearly print your full name: _____ 2019

(B) Write your date of birth: _____ 2020

(C) (1) Write your current address: _____ 2021

_____ 2022

(2) Have you moved without updating your voter 2023
registration?: 2024

Yes _____ No _____ 2025

If yes, write your former address: _____ 2026

_____ 2027

Failure to provide your former address will not cause your 2028
provisional ballot to be rejected. 2029

(D) Provide one of the following forms of identification: 2030

(1) Write your full Ohio driver's license or state 2031
identification card number: _____ 2032

(2) Write the last four digits of your Social Security 2033
number: _____ 2034

(3) If you did not write your full Ohio driver's license
or state identification card number or the last four digits of
your Social Security number, you ~~must~~ may show one of the
following forms of identification to the precinct election
official. If you do not check one of the following boxes
affirming the type of identification you showed to the precinct
election official, the board of elections will conclude that you
did not show identification to your precinct election official
and that you ~~must show~~ may provide identification ~~at to~~ the
board of elections during the seven business days after the
election ~~for your vote to be eligible to be counted.~~

_____ A form of photo identification that was issued by
the United States government or the State of Ohio, that contains
your name and current address (or your former address if the
identification is an Ohio driver's license or state
identification card), and that has an expiration date that has
not passed;

_____ A military identification card; or

_____ 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,
that contains your name and current address.

(4) If you fail to provide identification at this time,
you ~~must go to the board of elections on or before the seventh-~~
~~day following this election to~~ may provide a qualifying form of
identification ~~in order for this ballot to count to the board of~~
elections on or before the seventh business day following this
election.

(E) If your right to vote has been challenged, you ~~must~~

may provide any required additional information to the board of 2064
elections on or before the seventh business day following this 2065
election. 2066

(F) Sign and date the following statement: 2067

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the 2068
United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the 2069
time of the general election; that I have lived in this state 2070
for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am 2071
voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct 2072
in which I am voting this provisional ballot; and that I am 2073
eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this 2074
provisional ballot. 2075

I understand that, if the information I provide on this 2076
provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and 2077
correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not 2078
registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to 2079
vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines 2080
that I have already voted in this election, my provisional 2081
ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not 2082
currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my 2083
current address or under my current name, this form will serve 2084
as an application to register to vote or update my registration 2085
for future elections, as long as I provide all of the 2086
information required to register to vote or update my 2087
registration. I further understand that knowingly providing 2088
false information is a violation of law and subjects me to 2089
possible criminal prosecution. 2090

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2091
that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my 2092
knowledge and belief. 2093

Signature of Voter

Date

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

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

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

Sec. 3505.183. (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall
separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one
member of each major political party shall place the sealed
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those

ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 2123
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 2124
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 2125
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 2126
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 2127
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 2128
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 2129

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 2130
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 2131
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 2132
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 2133
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 2134
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 2135
provisional ballot under division (B) (2) of section 3505.181 of 2136
the Revised Code. ~~The following information shall be included in~~ 2137
~~the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to~~ 2138
~~be eligible to be counted:~~ 2139

~~(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of~~ 2140
~~birth, and current address;~~ 2141

~~(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter~~ 2142
~~in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted;~~ 2143

~~(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in~~ 2144
~~the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted.~~ 2145

(2) ~~In addition to the information required to be included~~ 2146
~~in an affirmation under division (B) (1) of this section, in~~ 2147
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 2148
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 2149
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 2150
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 2151

provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 2152
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 2153
during the seven business days after the day of the election 2154
under division ~~(B) (7)–(G) (1) of this section 3505.181 of the~~ 2155
~~Revised Code~~, to assist the board in determining the 2156
individual's eligibility to vote. 2157

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 2158
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2159
section and comparing the information ~~required under division~~ 2160
~~(B) (1) of this section provided~~ with the elector's information 2161
in the statewide voter registration database, the board 2162
determines that ~~all~~ both of the following apply, the provisional 2163
ballot envelope shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed 2164
in a ballot box to be counted: 2165

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 2166
registered to vote. 2167

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to 2168
cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election in which the 2169
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2170

~~(c) The individual provided all of the information~~ 2171
~~required under division (B) (1) of this section in the~~ 2172
~~affirmation that the individual executed at the time the~~ 2173
~~individual cast the provisional ballot.~~ 2174

~~(d) The last four digits of the elector's social security~~ 2175
~~number or the elector's driver's license number or state~~ 2176
~~identification card number are not different from the last four~~ 2177
~~digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's~~ 2178
~~driver's license number or state identification card number~~ 2179
~~contained in the statewide voter registration database.~~ 2180

~~(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the month and day of the elector's date of birth are not 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 other requirements of division (B) (3) of this section.~~

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

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

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

ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be counted: 2210
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(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 2212
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(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2214
2215
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~~(iii) The individual did not provide all of the information required under division (B)(1) of this section in the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the individual cast the provisional ballot.~~ 2217
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~~(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.~~ 2221
2222

~~(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any additional information required under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of the election.~~ 2223
2224
2225
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~~(vi) 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.~~ 2227
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~~(vii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or~~ 2237
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~~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.~~

~~(viii) 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
requirements of division (B) (3) (c) of this section.~~

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

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

counted:	2268
(i) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is qualified or properly registered to vote;	2269 2270
(ii) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.	2271 2272 2273
(C) For each provisional ballot rejected under division (B) (4) of this section, the board shall record the name of the provisional voter who cast the ballot, the identification number of the provisional ballot envelope, the names of the election officials who determined the validity of that ballot, the date and time that the determination was made, and the reason that the ballot was not counted, unless the board has already recorded that information in another database.	2274 2275 2276 2277 2278 2279 2280 2281
(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 <u>in this state</u> , 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.	2282 2283 2284 2285 2286 2287 2288 2289 2290 2291 2292
(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	2293 2294 2295 2296

individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 2297
individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 2298
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 2299
which the individual was eligible to vote. 2300

~~(3) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 2301
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 2302
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 2303
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 2304
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 2305
shall not be counted. 2306~~

(E) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division 2307
(B) (4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be 2308
preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until 2309
the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 2310
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 2311
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 2312

(F) Provisional ballots that the board determines are 2313
eligible to be counted under division (B) (3) or (D) of this 2314
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 2315
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 2316
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 2317
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 2318
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of 2319
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 2320
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 2321
that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 2322
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 2323
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 2324
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 2325
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 2326

ballot. 2327

(G) (1) ~~Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (2) of~~ 2328
~~this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a~~ The board 2329
~~of elections from examining~~ shall examine all provisional ballot 2330
~~affirmations and additional information under divisions (B) (1)~~ 2331
~~and (2) of this section promptly after the day of the election~~ 2332
~~to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to be~~ 2333
~~counted during the ten days after the day of an election whether~~ 2334
~~the information provided is incomplete or incorrect. If the~~ 2335
~~board finds that a provisional ballot affirmation is incomplete~~ 2336
~~or that the information contained in the affirmation does not~~ 2337
~~conform to the information contained in the statewide voter~~ 2338
~~registration database concerning the voter, the board shall mail~~ 2339
~~a written notice to the voter, informing the voter of the nature~~ 2340
~~of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that the voter~~ 2341
~~may provide the necessary information to the board of elections~~ 2342
~~in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state~~ 2343
~~not later than the seventh day after the day of the election.~~ 2344
~~The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in~~ 2345
~~person or by mail.~~ 2346

(2) A board of elections shall not ~~examine the~~ make a 2347
final determination concerning whether a provisional ballot 2348
~~affirmation and additional information under divisions (B) (1)~~ 2349
~~and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by an~~ 2350
~~individual who must~~ may provide additional or corrected 2351
~~information to the board of elections under division (B) (7)~~ (G) 2352
(1) of this section 3505.181 of the Revised Code for the board 2353
~~to determine the individual's eligibility is eligible to be~~ 2354
counted until the individual provides that information or until 2355
the eleventh day after the day of the election, whichever is 2356
earlier. 2357

Sec. 3509.02. (A) Any qualified elector may vote by absent voter's ballots at an election. 2358
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(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the office of the board of elections or, ~~if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated~~ at another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, ~~at that other location~~ on account of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves from one county to another county within the state, on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name may vote by absent voter's ballots in that election as specified in division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 2360
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Sec. 3509.05. (A) (1) When an elector receives an absent voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and sealed within the identification envelope received from the director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall cause the statement of voter on the outside of the identification envelope to be completed and signed, under penalty of election falsification. 2373
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(2) If the elector does not provide the elector's driver's 2387

license number or the last four digits of the elector's social 2388
security number on the statement of voter on the identification 2389
envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope 2390
with the identification envelope a copy of the elector's current 2391
valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, 2392
or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government 2393
check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a 2394
notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections 2395
under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name 2396
and address of the elector. 2397

(3) (a) The elector shall ~~mail~~ place the identification 2398
envelope to the director from whom it was received in the return 2399
envelope and return it to the board of elections by one of the 2400
following methods: 2401

(i) By mailing it, postage prepaid, ~~or the elector may to~~ 2402
the office of the board; 2403

(ii) By personally ~~deliver~~ delivering it to the director, 2404
~~or office of the board or to a ballot drop box in the county~~ 2405
~~described in section 3509.052 of the Revised Code;~~ 2406

(iii) By having another person of the ~~spouse of the~~ 2407
~~elector, the father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law,~~ 2408
~~grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or~~ 2409
~~half blood, or the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted~~ 2410
~~child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of~~ 2411
~~the elector may~~ elector's choice deliver it to the ~~director~~ 2412
office of the board or to a ballot drop box in the county 2413
described in section 3509.052 of the Revised Code. ~~The~~ 2414

(b) The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 2415
~~director~~ board of elections in no other manner, except as 2416

provided in section 3509.08 of the Revised Code. 2417

(4) When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an 2418
elector at the office of the board, the elector may retire to a 2419
voting compartment provided by the board and there mark the 2420
ballots. Thereupon, the elector shall fold them, place them in 2421
the identification envelope provided, seal the envelope, fill in 2422
and sign the statement on the envelope under penalty of election 2423
falsification, and deliver the envelope to the ~~director~~ election 2424
officials at the office of the board. 2425

(5) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 2426
section, all other envelopes containing marked absent voter's 2427
ballots shall be ~~delivered to the director~~ received at the 2428
office of the board or at a ballot drop box in the county not 2429
later than the close of the polls on the day of an election. 2430
Absent voter's ballots ~~delivered to the director~~ received at the 2431
office of the board later than the times specified shall not be 2432
counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed 2433
identification envelopes in which they are delivered ~~to the~~ 2434
~~director~~, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 2435
Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at 2436
the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they 2437
shall be destroyed. 2438

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 2439
this section, any return envelope that is returned by mail and 2440
is postmarked prior to or otherwise dated or marked by the 2441
United States postal service on or before the day of the 2442
election shall be ~~delivered to~~ received at the ~~director~~ office 2443
of the board prior to the eleventh day after the election. 2444
Ballots delivered in envelopes that are postmarked prior to or 2445
otherwise dated or marked by the United States postal service on 2446

or before the day of the election that are received after the 2447
close of the polls on election day through the tenth day 2448
thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at the board of 2449
elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) and (D) of 2450
section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner provided in 2451
division (E) of that section, as applicable. Any such ballots 2452
that are received ~~by the director~~ later than the tenth day 2453
following the election shall not be counted, but shall be kept 2454
by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as provided 2455
in division (A) of this section. 2456

(2) Division (B)(1) of this section shall not apply to any 2457
mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, 2458
including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1. 2459

Sec. 3509.051. Notwithstanding section 3509.05 or any 2460
other provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, all of the 2461
following shall apply to the casting of absent voter's ballots 2462
in person: 2463

(A) The absent voter shall provide identification to the 2464
election officials in the same manner as one of the following: 2465

(1) As a voter who casts a ballot in person on the day of 2466
an election is required to provide identification under section 2467
3505.18 of the Revised Code; or 2468

(2) As a voter who casts an absent voter's ballot is 2469
required to submit a completed written application for an absent 2470
voter's ballot under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code. 2471

(B) The absent voter shall not be required to complete a 2472
statement of voter on an absent voter's ballot identification 2473
envelope. 2474

(C) The board of elections shall provide a signature book 2475

to be signed by absent voters who are casting their ballots in person. 2476
2477

(D) No person other than an election official shall be 2478
permitted to challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who 2479
is casting a ballot in person. An election official may 2480
challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a 2481
ballot in person in the same manner as a precinct election 2482
official may challenge the right to vote of an elector on the 2483
day of an election under section 3505.20 or 3513.19 of the 2484
Revised Code. 2485

(E) No absent voter may receive a replacement ballot after 2486
the voter's absent voter's ballot has been scanned or entered 2487
into automatic tabulating equipment. 2488

(F) The board of elections may permit electors to cast 2489
absent voter's ballots in person at the office of the board, at 2490
one or more branch offices, or at all of those locations. 2491

Sec. 3509.052. (A) The board of elections may establish 2492
one or more secure drop boxes in the county for the return of 2493
absent voter's ballots to the board without the payment of 2494
postage. 2495

(B) A bipartisan team of election officials shall close 2496
the drop box and collect the deposited ballots promptly at 2497
seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election, provided that 2498
persons who are waiting in line to deposit ballots in the drop 2499
box at that time shall be permitted to deposit those ballots. 2500

Sec. 3509.053. The board of elections shall enter into a 2501
memorandum of understanding with the appropriate regional office 2502
of the United States postal service. The memorandum of 2503
understanding shall allow election officials to perform visual 2504

inspections of relevant postal facilities in the county, on the 2505
day of each election and on the tenth day after the day of each 2506
election, in order to ensure that no undelivered absent voter's 2507
ballots remain in those facilities. 2508

Sec. 3509.06. (A) The board of elections shall determine 2509
whether absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted in 2510
each precinct, at the office of the board, or at some other 2511
location designated by the board, and shall proceed accordingly 2512
under division (B), (C), or (E) of this section, as applicable. 2513

(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of 2514
this section, when the board of elections determines that absent 2515
voter's ballots shall be processed and counted in each precinct, 2516
the director shall deliver to the voting location manager of 2517
each precinct on election day identification envelopes 2518
purporting to contain absent voter's ballots of electors whose 2519
voting residence appears from the statement of voter on the 2520
outside of each of those envelopes, to be located in that 2521
manager's precinct, and which were received by the director not 2522
later than the close of the polls on election day. The director 2523
shall deliver to the voting location manager a list containing 2524
the name and voting residence of each person whose voting 2525
residence is in such precinct to whom absent voter's ballots 2526
were mailed. 2527

(2) The director shall not deliver to the voting location 2528
manager identification envelopes cast by electors who provided a 2529
program participant identification number instead of a residence 2530
address on the identification envelope and shall not inform the 2531
voting location manager of the names and voting residences of 2532
persons who have confidential voter registration records. Those 2533
identification envelopes shall be examined and processed as 2534

described in division (E) of this section. 2535

(C) When the board of elections determines that absent 2536
voter's ballots shall be processed and counted at the office of 2537
the board of elections or at another location designated by the 2538
board, special election officials shall be appointed by the 2539
board for that purpose having the same authority as is exercised 2540
by precinct election officials. The votes so cast shall be added 2541
to the vote totals by the board, and the absent voter's ballots 2542
shall be preserved separately by the board, in the same manner 2543
and for the same length of time as provided by section 3505.31 2544
of the Revised Code. 2545

(D) Each of the identification envelopes purporting to 2546
contain absent voter's ballots delivered to the voting location 2547
manager of the precinct or the special election official 2548
appointed by the board of elections shall be handled as follows: 2549

(1) The election officials shall compare the signature of 2550
the elector on the outside of the identification envelope with 2551
the signature of that elector on the elector's registration form 2552
and verify that the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be 2553
counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code. 2554

(2) (a) Any of the precinct officials may challenge the 2555
right of the elector named on the identification envelope to 2556
vote the absent voter's ballots upon the ground that the 2557
signature on the envelope is not the ~~same as the~~ elector's 2558
~~signature on the registration form, that the identification~~ 2559
~~envelope statement of voter is incomplete,~~ or upon any other of 2560
the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be 2561
lawfully challenged. 2562

(b) If the elector's name does not appear in the pollbook 2563

or poll list or signature pollbook, the precinct officials shall 2564
deliver the absent voter's ballots to the director of the board 2565
of elections to be examined and processed in the manner 2566
described in division (E) of this section. 2567

~~(3)(a) An identification envelope statement of voter shall 2568
be considered incomplete if it does not include all of the 2569
following: 2570~~

~~(i) The voter's name; 2571~~

~~(ii) The voter's residence address or, if the voter has a 2572
confidential voter registration record, as described in section 2573
111.44 of the Revised Code, the voter's program participant 2574
identification number; 2575~~

~~(iii) The voter's date of birth. The requirements of this 2576
division are satisfied if the voter provided a date of birth and 2577
any of the following is true: 2578~~

~~(I) The month and day of the voter's date of birth on the 2579
identification envelope statement of voter are not different 2580
from the month and day of the voter's date of birth contained in 2581
the statewide voter registration database. 2582~~

~~(II) The voter's date of birth contained in the statewide 2583
voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 2584~~

~~(III) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at 2585
least three of its members, that the voter has met the 2586
requirements of divisions (D) (3) (a) (i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of 2587
this section. 2588~~

~~(iv) The voter's signature; and 2589~~

~~(v) One of the following forms of identification: 2590~~

~~(I) The voter's driver's license number;~~ 2591

~~(II) The last four digits of the voter's social security number; or~~ 2592
2593

~~(III) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or 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, that shows the voter's name and address.~~ 2594
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~~(b) If the election officials find that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that the information contained in that statement does not conform to the information contained in the statewide voter registration database concerning the voter, the election officials shall mail a written notice to the voter, informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that ~~in order for the voter's ballot to be counted,~~ the voter ~~must~~ may provide the ~~necessary~~ information to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state not later than the seventh business day after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail. ~~If the voter provides the necessary information to the board of elections not later than the seventh day after the day of the election and the ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the voter's ballot shall be processed and counted in accordance with this section.~~~~ 2599
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(4) If no such challenge is made, or if such a challenge is made and not sustained, the voting location manager shall open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without mutilating the ballots in it, and shall remove the ballots contained in it and proceed to count them. 2616
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(5) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) (5) (b) 2621
of this section, the name of each person voting who is entitled 2622
to vote only an absent voter's presidential ballot shall be 2623
entered in a pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook 2624
followed by the words "Absentee Presidential Ballot." The name 2625
of each person voting an absent voter's ballot, other than such 2626
persons entitled to vote only a presidential ballot, shall be 2627
entered in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook and 2628
the person's registration card marked to indicate that the 2629
person has voted. 2630

(b) If the person voting has a confidential voter 2631
registration record, the person's registration card shall be 2632
marked to indicate that the person has voted, but the person's 2633
name shall not be entered in the pollbook or poll list or 2634
signature pollbook. 2635

(6) The date of such election shall also be entered on the 2636
elector's registration form. If any such challenge is made and 2637
sustained, the identification envelope of such elector shall not 2638
be opened, shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reasons the 2639
ballots were not counted, and shall be delivered to the board. 2640

(E) (1) When the board of elections receives absent voter's 2641
ballots from an elector who has provided a program participant 2642
identification number instead of a residence address on the 2643
identification envelope statement of voter, the director and the 2644
deputy director personally shall examine and process the 2645
identification envelope statement of voter in the manner 2646
prescribed in division (D) of this section. 2647

(2) If the director and the deputy director find that the 2648
identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that 2649
the information contained in that statement does not conform to 2650

the information contained in the statewide voter registration 2651
database concerning the voter or to the information contained in 2652
the voter's confidential voter registration record, the director 2653
and the deputy director shall mail a written notice to the voter 2654
informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice 2655
shall inform the voter that ~~in order for the voter's ballot to~~ 2656
~~be counted the voter must~~ may provide the ~~necessary~~ information 2657
to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by 2658
the secretary of state not later than the seventh business day 2659
after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to 2660
the office of the board in person or by mail. ~~If the voter~~ 2661
~~provides the necessary information to the board of elections not~~ 2662
~~later than the seventh day after the day of the election and the~~ 2663
~~ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the~~ 2664
~~voter's ballot shall be counted in accordance with this section.~~ 2665

(3) The director or the deputy director may challenge the 2666
ballot on the ground that the signature on the envelope is not 2667
the ~~same as the~~ elector's ~~signature on the registration form,~~ 2668
~~that the identification envelope statement of voter is~~ 2669
~~incomplete,~~ or upon any other of the grounds upon which the 2670
right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged. If such a 2671
challenge is made, the board of elections shall decide whether 2672
to sustain the challenge. 2673

(4) If neither the director nor the deputy director 2674
challenges the ballot, or if such a challenge is made and not 2675
sustained, the director and the deputy director shall open the 2676
envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without 2677
mutilating the ballots in it, shall remove the ballots contained 2678
in it, and shall transmit the ballots to the election officials 2679
to be counted with other absent voter's ballots from that 2680
precinct. 2681

(F) The board of elections may process absent voter's 2682
ballots before the time for counting those ballots, but the 2683
board shall not tabulate or count the votes on those ballots 2684
before that time. As used in this section and section 3511.11 of 2685
the Revised Code, processing an absent voter's ballot means any 2686
of the following: 2687

(1) Examining the identification envelope statement of 2688
voter in order to verify that the absent voter's ballot is 2689
eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised 2690
Code; 2691

(2) Opening the identification envelope, if the absent 2692
voter's ballot is eligible to be counted; 2693

(3) Determining the validity of the absent voter's ballot 2694
under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code; 2695

(4) Preparing and sorting the absent voter's ballot for 2696
scanning by automatic tabulating equipment; 2697

(5) Scanning the absent voter's ballot by automatic 2698
tabulating equipment, if the equipment used by the board of 2699
elections permits an absent voter's ballot to be scanned without 2700
tabulating or counting the votes on the ballots scanned. 2701

(G) Special election officials, employees or members of 2702
the board of elections, or observers shall not disclose the 2703
count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots 2704
prior to the time of the closing of the polling places. No 2705
person shall recklessly disclose the count or any portion of the 2706
count of absent voter's ballots in such a manner as to 2707
jeopardize the secrecy of any individual ballot. 2708

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H) (2) of 2709
this section, observers may be appointed under section 3505.21 2710

of the Revised Code to witness the examination and opening of 2711
identification envelopes and the processing and counting of 2712
absent voters' ballots under this section. 2713

(2) Observers shall not be permitted to witness the 2714
examination and opening of identification envelopes returned by, 2715
and the processing and counting of absent voter's ballots cast 2716
by, electors who have confidential voter registration records in 2717
a manner that would permit the observers to learn the identities 2718
or residence addresses of those electors. 2719

Sec. 3509.07. If election officials find that any of the 2720
following are true concerning an absent voter's ballot or absent 2721
voter's presidential ballot and, if applicable, the person did 2722
not provide any required additional information to the board of 2723
elections not later than the seventh business day after the day 2724
of the election, as permitted under division ~~(D) (3) (b)~~ (D) (3) or 2725
(E) (2) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code, the ballot shall 2726
not be accepted or counted: 2727

~~(A) The statement accompanying the ballot is incomplete as~~ 2728
~~described in division (D) (3) (a) of section 3509.06 of the~~ 2729
~~Revised Code or is insufficient;~~ 2730

~~(B) The signatures do~~ signature on the identification 2731
envelope statement of voter does not correspond with the 2732
person's registration signature. 2733

~~(C) (B)~~ The applicant is not a qualified elector in the 2734
precinct. 2735

~~(D) (C)~~ The ballot envelope contains more than one ballot 2736
of any one kind, or any voted ballot that the elector is not 2737
entitled to vote. 2738

~~(E) Stub A is detached from the absent voter's ballot or~~ 2739

~~absent voter's presidential ballot; or~~ 2740

~~(F) The elector has not included with the elector's ballot~~ 2741
~~any identification required under section 3509.05 or 3511.09 of~~ 2742
~~the Revised Code.~~ (D) The person has already cast a ballot in the 2743
election. 2744

The vote of any absent voter may be challenged for cause 2745
in the same manner as other votes are challenged, and the 2746
election officials shall determine the legality of that ballot. 2747
Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed on its back "Not 2748
Counted" with the reasons the ballot was not counted, and shall 2749
be enclosed and returned to or retained by the board of 2750
elections along with the contested ballots. 2751

Sec. 3509.09. (A) The poll list or signature pollbook for 2752
each precinct shall identify each registered elector in that 2753
precinct who has requested an absent voter's ballot for that 2754
election, other than an elector who has a confidential voter 2755
registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the 2756
Revised Code. 2757

(B) (1) If a registered elector appears to vote in that 2758
precinct and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot 2759
for that election but the poll list or signature pollbook does 2760
not indicate that the director has ~~not~~ received a sealed 2761
identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's 2762
voted absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector 2763
shall be permitted to cast a ~~provisional~~ regular ballot ~~under~~ 2764
~~section 3505.181 of the Revised Code~~ in that precinct on the day 2765
of that election. 2766

(2) If a registered elector appears to vote in that 2767
precinct and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot 2768

for that election~~and~~, but the poll list or signature pollbook 2769
indicates that the director has received a sealed identification 2770
envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent 2771
voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be 2772
permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 2773
the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that election. 2774

(C) (1) In counting absent voter's ballots under section 2775
3509.06 of the Revised Code, the ~~board of elections~~ election 2776
officials shall ~~compare the signature of each elector from whom~~ 2777
~~the director has received a sealed identification envelope~~ 2778
~~purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's~~ 2779
~~ballots for that election to the signature on that elector's~~ 2780
~~registration form. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)~~ 2781
~~(3) of this section, if the board of elections determines that~~ 2782
~~the absent voter's ballot in the sealed identification envelope~~ 2783
~~is valid, it shall be counted. If the board of elections~~ 2784
~~determines that the signature on the sealed identification~~ 2785
~~envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted absent~~ 2786
~~voter's ballot does not match the signature on the elector's~~ 2787
~~registration form, the ballot shall be set aside and the board~~ 2788
~~shall examine, during the time prior to the beginning of the~~ 2789
~~official canvass, the poll list or signature pollbook from the~~ 2790
each precinct in which the elector is registered to vote to 2791
determine if the whether any elector from whom the board has 2792
received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain 2793
the elector's voted absent voter's ballot for that election also 2794
~~cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised~~ 2795
~~Code in that precinct on the day of the election.~~ 2796

(2) ~~The~~ If such an elector cast a regular ballot on the 2797
day of the election, the absent voter's ballot shall not be 2798
counted. If such an elector cast a provisional ballot on the day 2799

of the election, the board of elections shall count the 2800
provisional ballot, instead of the absent voter's ballot, if 2801
both of the following apply: 2802

(a) The board of elections determines that the signature 2803
of the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in 2804
which the absent voter's ballots are enclosed ~~does not match the~~ 2805
~~signature of the elector on~~ is not the elector's ~~registration~~ 2806
~~form signature~~; 2807

(b) The elector cast a provisional ballot in the precinct 2808
on the day of the election. 2809

~~(3) If the board of elections does not receive the sealed-~~ 2810
~~identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's~~ 2811
~~voted absent voter's ballot by the applicable deadline-~~ 2812
~~established under section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, the~~ 2813
~~provisional ballot cast under section 3505.181 of the Revised-~~ 2814
~~Code in that precinct on the day of the election shall be~~ 2815
~~counted as valid, if that provisional ballot is otherwise-~~ 2816
~~determined to be valid pursuant to section 3505.183 of the~~ 2817
~~Revised Code.~~ 2818

(D) If the board of elections counts a provisional ballot 2819
under division (C) (2) ~~or (3)~~ of this section, the returned 2820
identification envelope of that elector shall not be opened, and 2821
the ballot within that envelope shall not be counted. The 2822
identification envelope shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the 2823
reason the ballot was not counted. 2824

Sec. 3511.09. Upon receiving uniformed services or 2825
overseas absent voter's ballots, the elector shall cause the 2826
questions on the face of the identification envelope to be 2827
answered, and, by writing the elector's usual signature in the 2828

proper place on the identification envelope, the elector shall 2829
declare under penalty of election falsification that the answers 2830
to those questions are true and correct to the best of the 2831
elector's knowledge and belief. Then, the elector shall note 2832
whether there are any voting marks on the ballot. If there are 2833
any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to 2834
the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 2835
ballot to be marked, folded separately so as to conceal the 2836
markings on it, deposited in the identification envelope, and 2837
securely sealed in the identification envelope. The elector then 2838
shall sign the identification envelope not later than seven- 2839
thirty p.m. eastern standard time on the day of the election and 2840
cause the identification envelope to be placed within the return 2841
envelope, sealed in the return envelope, and mailed to the 2842
director of the board of elections to whom it is addressed. ~~The~~ 2843
~~ballot shall be submitted for mailing not later than 12:01 a.m.~~ 2844
~~at the place where the voter completes the ballot, on the date~~ 2845
~~of the election.~~ If the elector does not provide the elector's 2846
driver's license number or the last four digits of the elector's 2847
social security number on the statement of voter on the 2848
identification envelope, the elector also shall include in the 2849
return envelope with the identification envelope a copy of the 2850
elector's current valid photo identification, a copy of a 2851
military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, 2852
bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 2853
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 2854
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 2855
that shows the name and address of the elector. Each elector who 2856
will be outside the United States on the day of the election 2857
shall check the box on the return envelope indicating this fact 2858
and shall mail the return envelope to the director prior to the 2859
close of the polls on election day. 2860

Every uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot 2861
identification envelope shall be accompanied by the following 2862
statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION 2863
FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE. 2864

Sec. 3511.11. (A) Upon receipt of any return envelope 2865
bearing the designation "Official Election Uniformed Services or 2866
Overseas Absent Voter's Ballot" prior to the eleventh day after 2867
the day of any election, the director of the board of elections 2868
shall open it but shall not open the identification envelope 2869
contained in it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the 2870
director finds ballots in it that are not enclosed in and 2871
properly sealed in the identification envelope, the director 2872
shall not look at the markings upon the ballots and shall 2873
promptly place them in the identification envelope and promptly 2874
seal it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the director 2875
finds that ballots are enclosed in the identification envelope 2876
but that it is not properly sealed, the director shall not look 2877
at the markings upon the ballots and shall promptly seal the 2878
identification envelope. 2879

(B) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots 2880
~~delivered to received at the director office of the board of~~ 2881
~~elections or at a ballot drop box in the county described in~~ 2882
~~section 3509.052 of the Revised Code~~ not later than the close of 2883
the polls on election day shall be processed and counted in the 2884
manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code. 2885

(C) A return envelope is not required to be postmarked in 2886
order for a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot 2887
contained in it to be valid. Except as otherwise provided in 2888
this division, whether or not the return envelope containing the 2889
ballot is postmarked, contains a late postmark, or contains an 2890

illegible postmark, a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot that is received by mail after the close of the polls on election day through the tenth day after the election day shall be processed and counted on the eleventh day after the election day at the office of the board of elections in the manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code if the voter signed the identification envelope by the time specified in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code. ~~However, if a return envelope containing a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot is so received and so indicates, but the identification envelope in it is signed after the close of the polls on election day, the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot shall not be counted.~~

(D) The following types of uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots shall not be counted:

(1) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots contained in return envelopes that bear the designation "Official Election Uniformed Services or Overseas Absent Voter's Ballots," that are received by the director after the close of the polls on the day of the election, and that contain an identification envelope that is signed after the time specified in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code;

(2) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots contained in return envelopes that bear that designation and that are received after the tenth day following the election.

The uncounted ballots shall be preserved in their identification envelopes unopened until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed.

Sec. 3599.11. (A) No person shall knowingly register or 2921
make application or attempt to register in a precinct in which 2922
the person is not a qualified voter; or knowingly aid or abet 2923
any person to so register; or attempt to register or knowingly 2924
induce or attempt to induce any person to so register; or 2925
knowingly impersonate another or write or assume the name of 2926
another, real or fictitious, in registering or attempting to 2927
register; or by false statement or other unlawful means procure, 2928
aid, or attempt to procure the erasure or striking out on the 2929
register or duplicate list of the name of a qualified elector 2930
therein; or knowingly induce or attempt to induce a registrar or 2931
other election authority to refuse registration in a precinct to 2932
an elector thereof; or knowingly swear or affirm falsely upon a 2933
lawful examination by or before any registering officer; or 2934
make, print, or issue any false or counterfeit certificate of 2935
registration or knowingly alter any certificate of registration. 2936

No person shall knowingly register under more than one 2937
name or knowingly induce any person to so register. 2938

No person shall knowingly make any false statement on any 2939
form for registration or change of registration or upon any 2940
application or return envelope for an absent voter's ballot. 2941

Whoever violates this division is guilty of a felony of 2942
the fifth degree. 2943

(B) (1) No person who helps another person register outside 2944
an official voter registration place shall knowingly destroy, or 2945
knowingly help another person to destroy, any completed 2946
registration form. 2947

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2948
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree. 2949

(2) ~~(a)~~ No person who helps another person register outside 2950
an official voter registration place shall knowingly fail to 2951
return any registration form entrusted to that person to any 2952
board of elections or the office of the secretary of state 2953
within ten days after that ~~registration~~ registration form is 2954
completed, or on or before the thirtieth day before the 2955
election, whichever day is earlier, unless the registration form 2956
is received by the person within twenty-four hours of the 2957
thirtieth day before the election, in which case the person 2958
shall return the registration form to any board of elections or 2959
the office of the secretary of state within ten days of its 2960
receipt. 2961

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 2962
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 2963
has not previously been convicted of a violation of this 2964
division ~~(B) (2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this~~ 2965
~~section~~, the violation of this division does not cause any 2966
person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to 2967
any election, and the number of voter registration forms that 2968
the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed 2969
forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a 2970
misdemeanor of the first degree. 2971

~~(b) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, no person~~ 2972
~~who helps another person register outside an official~~ 2973
~~registration place shall knowingly return any registration form~~ 2974
~~entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of~~ 2975
~~elections or the office of the secretary of state.~~ 2976

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election~~ 2977
~~falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person~~ 2978
~~has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)~~ 2979

~~(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the~~ 2980
~~violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any~~ 2981
~~voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the~~ 2982
~~number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed~~ 2983
~~to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the~~ 2984
~~violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 2985

~~(C) (1) No person who receives compensation for registering~~ 2986
~~a voter shall knowingly fail to return any registration form~~ 2987
~~entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office~~ 2988
~~of the secretary of state within ten days after that voter~~ 2989
~~registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth~~ 2990
~~day before the election, whichever is earlier, unless the~~ 2991
~~registration form is received by the person within twenty four~~ 2992
~~hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case~~ 2993
~~the person shall return the registration form to any board of~~ 2994
~~elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days~~ 2995
~~of its receipt.~~ 2996

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election~~ 2997
~~falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person~~ 2998
~~has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)~~ 2999
~~(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the~~ 3000
~~violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any~~ 3001
~~voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the~~ 3002
~~number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed~~ 3003
~~to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the~~ 3004
~~violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 3005

~~(2) No person who receives compensation for registering a~~ 3006
~~voter shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to~~ 3007
~~that person to any location other than any board of elections or~~ 3008
~~the office of the secretary of state.~~ 3009

~~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.~~

~~(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.~~

Section 2. That existing sections 3501.05, 3501.10, 3501.11, 3501.22, 3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3505.18, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3509.02, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.09, 3511.09, 3511.11, and 3599.11 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

Section 3. That section 3503.29 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

Section 4. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Revised Code, as soon as possible after the close of voter registration before the general election to be held on November 3, 2020, the boards of elections shall mail absent voter's ballots for that election to every registered elector in this state, return postage prepaid.

Section 5. Any funds received by the Secretary of State through the "Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020," Pub. L.

No. 116-93 or the "Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act," Pub. L. No. 116-136 shall be used in accordance with this act. This provision applies to all appropriations made to appropriation item 050616, Help America Vote Act (HAVA), related to funding received through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2020 or the CARES Act and deposited into the Help America Vote Act Fund (Fund 3AS0) for the biennium ending June 30, 2021. The Secretary of State shall use that funding for purposes including, but not limited to, the following:

(A) To provide a one-time incentive bonus payment to precinct election officials and temporary employees of the boards of elections for the general election to be held on November 3, 2020, in a manner to be determined in conjunction with the boards of elections;

(B) To provide personal protective equipment for election officials, and to pay for cleaning and modifying the layout of polling places and the offices of the boards of elections to provide for adequate social distancing;

(C) To provide any additional electronics or related equipment needed to handle increased volumes of mail that may result during the general election to be held on November 3, 2020;

(D) To pay for return postage on absent voter's ballots under Section 4 of this act;

(E) To reimburse the boards of elections for the cost of printing additional absent voter's ballots for the general election to be held on November 3, 2020, in anticipation of greater use of absent voting than in past elections.

Section 6. The General Assembly, applying the principle 3068
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 3069
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 3070
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 3071
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 3072
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 3073
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 3074
as presented in this act: 3075

Section 3501.29 of the Revised Code as amended by both 3076
S.B. 10 and S.B. 109 of the 130th General Assembly. 3077

Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code as amended by both 3078
H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly. 3079

Section 3505.18 of the Revised Code as amended by S.B. 47, 3080
S.B. 109, and S.B. 216, all of the 130th General Assembly. 3081