

Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 15:25:02 Eastern Daylight Time

**Subject:** Response to 2024-12-13 American Oversight to Multiple PRR (HB 552)  
**Date:** Monday, April 14, 2025 at 3:31:33 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** McGuire, Mike  
**To:** AO Records, Ben Sparks  
**CC:** Blessing, Heather, Lenzo, Mike, Dollenmayer, Ian, Austin, Bryanna  
**Attachments:** image001.png, Rep61.pdf, Rep. Lear.pdf, Rep77 Records.pdf

EXTERNAL SENDER

Mr. Sparks:

This email response to your public records requests to Representatives Scott Wiggam and Beth Lear, received December 13, 2024, in which you requested the following:

1. "All email communications (including emails, email attachments, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and calendar invitation attachments)"
  - a. Between:
    - i. Representative Scott Wiggam or his Legislative Aide, Jacob Flowers; or
    - ii. Representative Beth Lear or her Legislative Aide Lydia Hocevar;

And "any of the external individuals listed below (including anyone communicating from the listed email addresses)."

- i. Frank LaRose;
- ii. Jason Mauk ([jmauk@ohiosos.gov](mailto:jmauk@ohiosos.gov));
- iii. Chris Burnett ([cburnett@ohiosos.gov](mailto:cburnett@ohiosos.gov));
- iv. Kimberly Burns ([kburns@ohiosos.gov](mailto:kburns@ohiosos.gov));
- v. Hun Yi ([hyi@ohiosos.gov](mailto:hyi@ohiosos.gov));
- vi. Brian Katz ([bkatz@ohiosos.gov](mailto:bkatz@ohiosos.gov));
- vii. Allison Nickolai ([allisonnickolai@msn.com](mailto:allisonnickolai@msn.com));
- viii. Timothy Murnane;
- ix. Cleta Mitchell ([cleta@cletamitchell.com](mailto:cleta@cletamitchell.com));
- x. Eileen Watts ([ewattsohio@gmail.com](mailto:ewattsohio@gmail.com), [ewatts@columbus.rr.com](mailto:ewatts@columbus.rr.com));
- xi. Gail Niederlehner ([ohio4truth@proton.me](mailto:ohio4truth@proton.me));
- xii. Gina Swoboda ([ginaswoboda@hotmail.com](mailto:ginaswoboda@hotmail.com), [ginaswo@asu.edu](mailto:ginaswo@asu.edu), [gs@voterreferencefoundation.com](mailto:gs@voterreferencefoundation.com), [gswoboda@azleg.gov](mailto:gswoboda@azleg.gov));
- xiii. Jim Rigano ([jim@rigano.net](mailto:jim@rigano.net), [ohiovotescount@protonmail.com](mailto:ohiovotescount@protonmail.com));
- xiv. Marcell Strbich ([mstrbich@protonmail.com](mailto:mstrbich@protonmail.com));
- xv. Mark Pukita
- xvi. Robert Alt;
- xvii. Thomas Hach;
- xviii. Tim Stechschulte;

- xix. Tom Howard;
- xx. Tom Zawistowski;
- xxi. Vicki McKinney ([newalbanybakingcoc@gmail.com](mailto:newalbanybakingcoc@gmail.com));
- xxii. Sandie Zimmerman;
- xxiii. Sue Mazzarini ([scmazzarini@yahoo.com](mailto:scmazzarini@yahoo.com))

b. "Containing any of the key terms listed below:"

- i. "HB 552"
- ii. "non-citizen"
- iii. Citizenship
- iv. HB552
- v. Noncitizen

c. During the period from October 1, 2024, to December 13, 2024 (the date your request was received).

House member offices do not organize records by key word. However, because you provided sufficient specificity about the legislative records being requested, we were able to perform a search for records related to House Bill 552. Consequently, any records concerning HB 552 that contained the terms you identified (i.e., "non-citizen", "Citizenship", or "non-citizen") would be by operation included in the responsive records we compiled and are providing to you.

Please note that Lydia Hocevar's employment with the Ohio House ended August 5, 2024, which occurred before the date scope you provided. However, in the interest of transparency, we asked Representative Lear's new legislative aide, McKenna Cline, whose employment with the Ohio House began on September 16, 2024, to perform a search for any responsive records.

Attached are all responsive records from Representative Lear's office and Representative Wiggam's office.

With this email, we conclude our response and close our file on your request.

Thank you,

Mike McGuire



**Mike McGuire**

*Sr. Deputy Legal Counsel, Majority Caucus*  
Ohio House of Representatives

77 S. High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Office: (614) 466-8118 / Cell: (330) 814-2780

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE

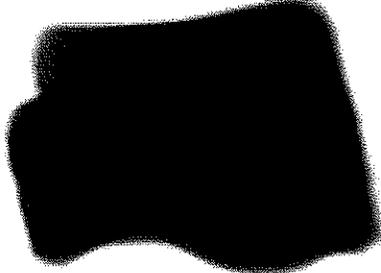
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deliver it to the intended recipient), you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, or copying of this e-mail is prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by return e-mail.

8:30



Eileen >



Wed, Dec 4 at 3:10 PM

Any movement on HB 552?



Not to my knowledge

Most likely not going to be a vote on it?



Rep. Willis would know better than I - I'm not on that committee

Read 12/4/24



iMessage





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## Election Legislation Comparison - Proof of Citizenship

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**From** mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>

**Date** Mon 11/18/2024 3:04 PM

**To** frank@ohiosos.gov <frank@ohiosos.gov>

**Cc** State Senator Andrew Brenner <Brenner@ohiosenate.gov>; State Senator Theresa Gavarone <Gavarone@ohiosenate.gov>; Peterson, Bob <Bob.Peterson@ohiohouse.gov>; Eileen Watts <ewatts@columbus.rr.com>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>

 3 attachments (850 KB)

Comparison HB 552 Sub and SB 324.pdf; VVA 5.pdf; OH SoS Memo to the Legislature\_Response to Open Letter.pdf;

Secretary LaRose,

As mentioned, please see the 1-page chart detailing distinctions between H.B. 552 Sub Bill and S.B. 324 driven by your "Potential Election Legislation" Memo attached.

Now more than ever unity and reconciliation of election safeguards legislation takes on new meaning. With the advent of today's OH Ballot Board authorizing the latest progressive constitutional amendment "Ohio Voters Bill of Rights," that guts voter photo-ID, imposes automatic and same day voter registration and enshrines unlimited drop boxes in Ohio's constitution, it is advisable House and Senate close ranks, unite under one version and not delay passage until Spring if possible. In accordance with House sponsors I will send Sen Brenner specific change-input for Senate sponsor consideration.

The Election Integrity Network and Ohio Research Collaborative is happy to work with sponsors in both chambers to achieve the critical objectives you've set. Thank you for making this possible.

Respectfully,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col USAF (ret)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

# OHIO ELECTIONS RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

## HB552 Sub-Bill and SB324 Comparison Highlights

### Shared Goals:

- Verify US citizenship for new and existing voters.
- Require provisional ballots for mismatched voter registration information to BMV or SSA records.
- Institute tighter controls on signing a petition and it's effect on voter registrations.
- Address drop box issues.

Key Differences:	HB552	SB324
<b>1. Qualified Electors Clause</b>	Defines the qualifications that must be verified for an elector to be entitled to vote.	Not addressed in the bill
<b>2. Verification Sources to Make Available to Boards of Elections</b>	BMV, DHS (including SAVE), USCIS, SSA, federal jury pool data or naturalization records, Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services, Health, Medicaid, Rehab and Corrections	BMV
<b>3. Proof of Citizenship</b>	Requires all proof of citizenship be verified. Excludes out-of-state DL/ID as proof of citizenship.	Does not require all proof of citizenship be verified, allowing some that may false. Accepts out-of-state DL/ID (or copy) as proof of citizenship.
<b>4. Applicants/Voters Excluded from US Citizenship Verification</b>	None, except as limited by SOS approved verification sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new applicants are verified for citizenship,</li> <li>• All existing voters are verified during a Monthly Citizen Review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN4 and federal form applicants that include UOCAVA are excluded from verification before they are registered;</li> <li>• Voters who don't change their name/address, and noncitizens not selected on the limited Annual Noncitizen Review are not verified.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Identified as Noncitizen or Lack of Proof of Citizenship Documents</b>	Individuals claim to be US citizens but are identified as noncitizens, or lack documents may request a hearing with the Board	Not addressed in the bill
<b>6. US Citizenship Tracking</b>	Additional citizenship verification data fields	Limited new citizen verification data fields
<b>7. Voting Rights after Identified As Not Verified to be a US Citizen</b>	Voters must cast a provisional ballot until they provide proof of citizenship that is verified by the Board.	Voters can cast a regular ballot while the Board attempts to obtain proof of citizenship (which is not verified by the Board).
<b>8. Proof of Citizenship Presented at the Polls on Election Day</b>	Voters who present a US passport or DL/ID issued after 4/6/2023 without a noncitizen designation can vote a regular ballot; all others must vote a provisional ballot.	Voters who present any proof of citizenship, (or a copy), can vote a regular ballot without verification the voter is a US citizen.
<b>9. Registration Identity Information</b>	In compliance with HAVA, a current and valid Ohio DL/ID is required; if an applicant does not have one, SSN4 can be used.	This bill continues to allow Ohio DL/ID or SSN4, which may conflict with federal law.
<b>10. Verify voter registration information with BMV/SSA Records</b>	Conduct Monthly verification, plus verification immediately after the registration deadline before an election. Voters with mismatched data must vote provisional.	Duplicates current HB552 which conducts a weekly verification and voters with mismatched data must vote provisional. This aligns closer to current SOS directives.
<b>11. Public Information Reporting</b>	Transparent reporting of voter citizenship information (date, evidence, source). Voters can view provisional ballot information online.	Not addressed in the bill
<b>12. Register to vote and sign a petition on same day</b>	Not addressed in the bill	Petition signatures only count if the individual is registered on the date the petition is signed.
<b>13. Petition signatures from ineligible voters</b>	Petition signatures are only counted from voters verified as qualified to vote.	Petitions signed by any voter, whether verified as qualified to vote or not, are counted. All voter registration deficiencies are resolved by signing a petition.
<b>14. Drop boxes</b>	Requires a photo id and written affirmation when dropping off any ballot. Voters may drop off up to two ballots for family members. Outdoor receptacles are banned.	Elector assistants can drop off ballots for any voter with unverifiable affirmation and no limit on the number of ballots dropped off. Adds adjacent locations for ballot drop-off.
<b>15. Issues Not Related to Voter Verification</b>	None; issues unrelated to Voter Verification should be vetted on their own merit	Numerous additional sections unrelated to Voter Verification are included

I\_135\_2466-5

135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024

Sub. H. B. No. 552

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3501.05, 1  
3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 2  
3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3  
3503.21, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 4  
3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 and to enact 5  
sections 3503.012, 3503.201, and 3503.202 of the 6  
Revised Code to enact the Voter Verification Act 7  
to require proof of citizenship to register to 8  
vote, to require election officials to verify 9  
certain information in voter registration 10  
records, and to modify the procedure for 11  
returning absent voter's ballots to a board of 12  
elections by personal delivery. 13

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3501.05, 14  
3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 15  
3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.181, 3505.182, 16  
3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 be amended and 17  
sections 3503.012, 3503.201, and 3503.202 of the Revised Code be 18



qby7ur8xz7u9vrkc7mjpbj

enacted to read as follows: 19

**Sec. 3375.011.** Any library organized under Chapter 3375. 20  
of the Revised Code shall provide free of charge to any 21  
individual a photocopy of that individual's driver's license, 22  
temporary driver's permit, ~~or~~ state identification card, or any 23  
of the forms of evidence listed under division (EE) of section 24  
3501.01 of the Revised Code, if the individual requests one. 25

**Sec. 3501.01.** As used in the sections of the Revised Code 26  
relating to elections and political communications: 27

(A) "General election" means the election held on the 28  
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November. 29

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held 30  
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 31  
odd-numbered year. 32

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on 33  
the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 34  
even-numbered year. 35

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those 36  
elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 37  
election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 38  
Monday in May or November, on the first Tuesday after the first 39  
Monday in August in accordance with section 3501.022 of the 40  
Revised Code, or on the day authorized by a particular municipal 41  
or county charter for the holding of a primary election, except 42  
that in any year in which a presidential primary election is 43  
held, no special election shall be held in May, except as 44  
authorized by a municipal or county charter, but may be held on 45  
the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March. 46

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 47

held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 48  
political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 49  
of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 50  
political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 51  
conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 52  
held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 53  
year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 54  
held. 55

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 56  
election as defined by division (E)(1) of this section at which 57  
an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 58  
alternates to the national conventions of the major political 59  
parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 60  
otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 61  
in references to primary elections. In years in which a 62  
presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 63  
shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in 64  
March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county 65  
charter. 66

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting 67  
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised 68  
Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 69

(1) "Major political party" means any political party 70  
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for 71  
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less 72  
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at 73  
the most recent regular state election. 74

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party 75  
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the 76  
following requirements: 77

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

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

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

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

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

primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 108

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims 109  
not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has 110  
been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special 111  
election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and 112  
nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the 113  
Revised Code. 114

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 115  
is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 116  
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 117  
for judge of a municipal court, county court, or court of common 118  
pleas, for member of any board of education, for municipal or 119  
township offices in which primary elections are not held for 120  
nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of 121  
municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate 122  
ballots for elections for these offices. 123

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be 124  
a member of a political party and who has been certified to 125  
appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special 126  
election as the nominee of a political party because the 127  
candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party 128  
for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated 129  
under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in 130  
accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code. 131

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 132  
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 133  
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 134  
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 135  
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 136  
party. 137

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on an official ballot at a general or special election to be held in this state.	138 139 140 141
(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote.	142 143
(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election.	144
(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector may vote.	145 146 147
(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.	148 149 150 151
(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.	152 153 154
(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of the Revised Code.	155 156 157
(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.	158 159
(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of the following:	160 161
(1) Secretary of state;	162
(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the division of elections in the capacity of attorney,	163 164

administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections	165
administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;	166
(3) Director of a board of elections;	167
(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;	168
(5) Member of a board of elections;	169
(6) Employees of a board of elections;	170
(7) Precinct election officials;	171
(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a temporary or part-time basis.	172 173
(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status of the application; the information necessary to complete or update the application, if any; and if the application is complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.	174 175 176 177 178 179 180
(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current <u>resident address, name, or other information for registration</u> <u>and voting. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, shall</u> <u>be accompanied by a postage prepaid, preaddressed return</u> <u>envelope containing a form on which the elector may verify or</u> <u>correct the elector's registration.</u>	181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188
(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the state that provides public assistance or that provides state- funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and that is required by the National	189 190 191 192

Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed 193  
and administered by the secretary of state for registering 194  
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that 195  
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary 196  
of state for registering voters, including the department of job 197  
and family services, the program administered under section 198  
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the 199  
department of mental health and addiction services, the 200  
department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for 201  
Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the 202  
secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not 203  
include public high schools and vocational schools, public 204  
libraries, or the office of a county treasurer. 205

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the 206  
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42 207  
U.S.C.A. 1973gg. 208

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights 209  
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended. 210

(AA) (1) "Photo identification" means one of the following 211  
documents that includes the individual's name and photograph and 212  
is not expired: 213

(a) An Ohio driver's license, state identification card, 214  
or interim identification form issued by the registrar of motor 215  
vehicles or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 4507. of 216  
the Revised Code; 217

(b) A United States passport or passport card; 218

(c) A United States military identification card, Ohio 219  
national guard identification card, or United States department 220  
of veterans affairs identification card. 221

(2) A "copy" of an individual's photo identification means 222  
images of both the front and back of a document described in 223  
division (AA) (1) of this section, except that if the document is 224  
a United States passport, a copy of the photo identification 225  
means an image of the passport's identification page that 226  
includes the individual's name, photograph, and other 227  
identifying information and the passport's expiration date. 228

(BB) "Driver's license" means a license or permit issued 229  
by the registrar or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 230  
4507. of the Revised Code that authorizes an individual to 231  
drive. "Driver's license" includes a driver's license, 232  
commercial driver's license, probationary license, restricted 233  
license, motorcycle operator's license, or temporary instruction 234  
permit identification card. "Driver's license" does not include 235  
a limited term license issued under section 4507.09 of the 236  
Revised Code. 237

(CC) "State identification card" means a card issued by 238  
the registrar or a deputy registrar under sections 4507.50 to 239  
4507.52 of the Revised Code. 240

(DD) "Interim identification form" means the document 241  
issued by the registrar or a deputy registrar to an applicant 242  
for a driver's license or state identification card that 243  
contains all of the information otherwise found on the license 244  
or card and that an applicant may use as a form of 245  
identification until the physical license or card arrives in the 246  
mail. 247

(EE) (1) "Proof of citizenship" means evidence that, when 248  
verified as authentic, indicates an individual is a United 249  
States citizen, in the form of one of the following: 250

(a) The number of the individual's current or expired Ohio driver's license or state identification card, if the board of elections verifies using information obtained from the bureau of motor vehicles that the individual has submitted documentation to the bureau that indicates that the individual is a United States citizen; 251  
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(b) The individual's current or expired Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or interim identification form issued on or after April 7, 2023, or a copy of the front and back of that license, card, or form, if the license, card, or form does not include a notation designating that the individual is a noncitizen of the United States; 257  
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(c) The individual's birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular report of birth abroad, or a legible copy of one of those documents; 263  
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(d) The individual's current or expired United States passport or passport card, a legible copy of the identification page of the passport, or a legible copy of the front and back of the passport card; 266  
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(e) The individual's certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship or a copy of one of those documents. 270  
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(2) If an individual's current legal name is different from the name on the individual's proof of citizenship, the individual also shall provide proof of the change of name, such as a copy of a marriage license or court order. 272  
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(FF) "Citizenship verification source" means any records or databases kept by the following entities that may be used to verify the authenticity of a piece of evidence described in division (EE) of this section: 276  
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<u>(1) The bureau of motor vehicles;</u>	280
<u>(2) The United States department of homeland security,</u>	281
<u>including the systematic alien verification for entitlements</u>	282
<u>database, the person centric query service, the person centric</u>	283
<u>identity services, or the central index system;</u>	284
<u>(3) The United States citizenship and immigration service;</u>	285
<u>(4) The United States social security administration;</u>	286
<u>(5) The department of job and family services, the</u>	287
<u>department of health, the department of medicaid, and the</u>	288
<u>department of rehabilitation and corrections;</u>	289
<u>(6) Any federal agency that maintains federal jury pool</u>	290
<u>data or naturalization records.</u>	291
<b>Sec. 3501.05.</b> The secretary of state shall do all of the	292
following:	293
(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;	294
(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in	295
accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members	296
of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections.	297
(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of	298
elections;	299
(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a	300
sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in	301
force;	302
(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws	303
or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;	304
(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and	305
AMERICAN records;	306

(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the 307  
forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally 308  
sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required 309  
by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards; 310

(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on 311  
the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution 312  
to be submitted to the voters of the state; 313

(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the 314  
Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots 315  
and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and 316  
wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall 317  
appear on the ballot; 318

(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) (2) (b) of 319  
section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to 320  
ballot language for any local question or issue approved and 321  
transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the 322  
Revised Code; 323

(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on 324  
state questions and issues and determine and certify to the 325  
sufficiency of those petitions; 326

(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are 327  
provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers 328  
necessary; 329

(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the 330  
several counties of the requirements of the election laws; 331

(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of 332  
this section, investigate the administration of election laws, 333  
frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and 334  
report violations of election laws to the attorney general or 335

prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution; 336

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to 337  
comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 338  
3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised 339  
Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have 340  
knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a 341  
provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with 342  
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 343  
Revised Code. 344

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the 345  
results of elections, the cost of elections in the various 346  
counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political 347  
subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative 348  
to elections the secretary of state considers desirable; 349

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list 350  
of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition 351  
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 352  
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code; 353

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 354  
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters 355  
from the statewide voter registration database and, if 356  
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in 357  
each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the 358  
following: 359

(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed 360  
residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in 361  
compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National 362  
Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses 363  
the national change of address service provided by the United 364

States postal system through its licensees;	365
(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;	366 367
(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason for that mark or removal.	368 369 370 371 372
(R) Prescribe a general program for registering voters or updating voter registration information, such as name and residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section 3503.09 of the Revised Code;	373 374 375 376 377 378 379
(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter registration forms through boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers;	380 381 382 383 384
(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in this state;	385 386 387
(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles consistent with this chapter;	388 389 390 391 392
(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with	393

Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary 394  
of state to do all of the following: 395

(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there 396  
is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities; 397

(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each 398  
voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the 399  
same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy 400  
and independence, as for other voters; 401

(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of 402  
standards for the certification of voting machines, marking 403  
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment. 404

(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide 405  
database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15 406  
of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the 407  
"Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 408  
1666, and provide training in the operation of that system; 409

(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other 410  
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result 411  
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of 412  
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for 413  
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections, 414  
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or 415  
other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted 416  
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as 417  
is practicable after the completion of the conference or 418  
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on 419  
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes 420  
place. 421

(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the 422

secretary of state not later than one month after the completion 423  
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and 424  
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent 425  
voter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were 426  
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the 427  
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election. 428  
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web 429  
site in an archive format for each subsequent election. 430

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter 431  
identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and 432  
other voting requirements; 433

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 434  
may make available to a board of elections a more recent 435  
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 436  
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 437  
elector resides; 438

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 439  
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 440  
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 441  
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 442  
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 443  
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 444  
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 445  
or referendum; 446

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 447  
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 448  
Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 449  
1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of 450  
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities 451  
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities 452

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

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

(EE) Provide training to boards of elections on how to verify the United States citizenship of voter registration applicants.

(FF) Perform other duties required by law.

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of representative to congress, the secretary of state shall establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of protests against the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of

corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 483  
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 484  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 485  
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 486  
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 487  
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 488  
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 489  
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 490

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 491  
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 492  
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 493  
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 494  
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 495  
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 496

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 497  
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 498  
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 499  
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 500  
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 501  
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 502

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 503  
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 504  
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 505  
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 506  
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 507  
state's motion, be made a party. 508

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 509  
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 510  
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 511  
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 512

pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 513  
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 514  
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 515  
Franklin county. 516

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 517  
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 518  
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 519  
state pursuant to this section. 520

**Sec. 3503.01.** ~~(A) Every~~ (A) (1) Only individuals who 521  
possess the following qualifications, as verified by the 522  
secretary of state or by a board of elections, have the 523  
qualifications of an elector and may register to vote, be 524  
registered to vote, or vote in a federal, state, or local 525  
election in the precinct in which the individual resides: 526

(a) Is a citizen of the United States who is of the age of 527  
eighteen years or over and who has; 528

(b) Has been a resident of the state thirty days 529  
immediately preceding the election at which the ~~citizen~~ 530  
individual offers to vote, is a resident of the county and 531  
precinct in which the ~~citizen~~ individual offers to vote, and has 532  
been registered to vote for thirty days, ~~has the qualifications~~ 533  
of an elector and may vote at all elections in the precinct in 534  
which the ~~citizen~~ resides; 535

(c) Is not ineligible to vote by reason of a felony 536  
conviction under division (A) (4) of section 3503.21 of the 537  
Revised Code; 538

(d) Is not incompetent to vote under division (A) (5) of 539  
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code. 540

(2) Except as provided in division (A) (3) of this section, 541

an elector who registers to vote or submits a change of 542  
residence or change of name form on or after the effective date 543  
of this amendment shall provide proof of citizenship, as defined 544  
in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, to the 545  
board of elections, and if the elector has no proof of 546  
citizenship, the elector may request a hearing under section 547  
3503.012 of the Revised Code to establish that the elector is a 548  
citizen of the United States. An elector whose registration 549  
record indicates that the elector is verified as a United States 550  
citizen is not required to provide proof of citizenship when 551  
subsequently registering to vote or updating the elector's 552  
registration in this state. 553

(B) When only a portion of a precinct is included within 554  
the boundaries of an election district, the board of elections 555  
may assign the electors residing in such portion of a precinct 556  
to the nearest precinct or portion of a precinct within the 557  
boundaries of such election district for the purpose of voting 558  
at any special election held in such district. In any election 559  
in which only a part of the electors in a precinct is qualified 560  
to vote, the board may assign voters in such part to an 561  
adjoining precinct. Such assignment may be made to an adjoining 562  
precinct in another county with the consent and approval of the 563  
board of elections of such other county if the number of voters 564  
assigned to vote in a precinct in another county is two hundred 565  
or less. 566

The board shall notify all such electors so assigned, at 567  
least ten days prior to the holding of any such election, of the 568  
location of the polling place where they are entitled to vote at 569  
such election. 570

As used in division (B) of this section, "election 571

district" means a school district, municipal corporation, 572  
township, or other political subdivision that includes territory 573  
in more than one precinct or any other district or authority 574  
that includes territory in more than one precinct and that is 575  
authorized by law to place an issue on the ballot at a special 576  
election. 577

Sec. 3503.012. (A) Any elector who desires to register to 578  
vote, but who does not have any proof of United States 579  
citizenship as defined in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of 580  
the Revised Code, may make a written request, on a form 581  
prescribed by the secretary of state, to the board of elections 582  
requesting that the board hold a hearing to determine the 583  
elector's United States citizenship. The request shall be 584  
accompanied by a sworn affidavit that the elector is a United 585  
States citizen. 586

(B) Upon receiving a written request under division (A) of 587  
this section, the board shall mail written notice of the hearing 588  
to the elector, including the time and place of the hearing, 589  
through first class mail, to the address indicated on the 590  
written request, or if there is no address indicated, to the 591  
elector's address on file with the board of elections. The 592  
hearing shall be held not more than ten days after the elector 593  
submits a written request. An elector may retain counsel, 594  
testify, present evidence, and call witnesses. Testimony shall 595  
be under oath. The board shall exercise due diligence, conduct 596  
an investigation to determine the truth of the matter, including 597  
examining any relevant databases, and may subpoena witnesses and 598  
other evidence. Third parties may present sworn testimony and 599  
evidence relevant to the matter. 600

(C) After the board conducts the hearing described in 601

division (B) of this section, the board promptly shall make a 602  
determination, by majority vote, whether the elector, by a 603  
preponderance of the evidence, is a United States citizen. 604

(D) If the board determines that an elector is a United 605  
States citizen under division (C) of this section, the board 606  
shall record that fact in the elector's voter registration 607  
record and report that fact to the secretary of state. 608

(E) If the board determines that an elector has failed, by 609  
a preponderance of the evidence, to prove that the elector is a 610  
United States citizen, the board shall record that fact and 611  
report it to the secretary of state. Not more than twenty days 612  
after the board's decision, the elector may appeal the decision 613  
to the court of common pleas in the county in which the elector 614  
resides. If the board's determination falls not more than ninety 615  
days before an election, the court of common pleas shall hear 616  
the case on an expedited basis. 617

(F) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 618  
implementation of this section. 619

**Sec. 3503.06.** (A) No person shall be entitled to vote at 620  
any election, unless the person is registered as an elector and 621  
will have resided in the county and precinct where the person is 622  
registered for at least thirty days at the time of the next 623  
election. 624

(B) No person shall be entitled to sign any petition, 625  
unless the person is registered as an elector and resides in a 626  
precinct in which the candidacy or issue that is the subject of 627  
the petition will appear on the ballot. If a person for whom a 628  
board of elections's official registration list or the statewide 629  
voter registration database indicates is not verified as 630

eligible to vote signs a petition, that person's signature shall 631  
not be counted, unless and until the person is verified as 632  
eligible to vote. 633

(C) (1) (a) Except for a nominating petition for 634  
presidential electors, no person shall be entitled to circulate 635  
any petition unless the person is a resident of this state and 636  
is at least eighteen years of age. 637

(b) No person shall be entitled to circulate a nominating 638  
petition for presidential electors unless the person is at least 639  
eighteen years of age. 640

(2) All election officials, in determining the residence 641  
of a person circulating a petition under division (C) (1) of this 642  
section, shall be governed by the following rules: 643

(a) That place shall be considered the residence of a 644  
person in which the person's habitation is fixed and to which, 645  
whenever the person is absent, the person has the intention of 646  
returning. 647

(b) A person shall not be considered to have lost the 648  
person's residence who leaves the person's home and goes into 649  
another state for temporary purposes only, with the intention of 650  
returning. 651

(c) A person shall not be considered to have gained a 652  
residence in any county of this state into which the person 653  
comes for temporary purposes only, without the intention of 654  
making that county the permanent place of abode. 655

(d) If a person removes to another state with the 656  
intention of making that state the person's residence, the 657  
person shall be considered to have lost the person's residence 658  
in this state. 659

(e) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (2) (f) of 660  
this section, if a person removes from this state and 661  
continuously resides outside this state for a period of four 662  
years or more, the person shall be considered to have lost the 663  
person's residence in this state, notwithstanding the fact that 664  
the person may entertain an intention to return at some future 665  
period. 666

(f) If a person removes from this state to engage in the 667  
services of the United States government, the person shall not 668  
be considered to have lost the person's residence in this state 669  
during the period of that service, and likewise should the 670  
person enter the employment of the state, the place where that 671  
person resided at the time of the person's removal shall be 672  
considered to be the person's place of residence. 673

(g) If a person goes into another state and, while there, 674  
exercises the right of a citizen by voting, the person shall be 675  
considered to have lost the person's residence in this state. 676

**Sec. 3503.13.** (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 677  
division (A) (2) of this section, voter registration forms 678  
submitted by applicants and the statewide voter registration 679  
database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code 680  
are public records subject to disclosure under section 149.43 of 681  
the Revised Code. 682

(2) None of the following are subject to disclosure under 683  
division (A) (1) of this section: 684

(a) An elector's full or partial social security number, 685  
driver's license or state identification card number, telephone 686  
number, or electronic mail address; 687

(b) A confidential voter registration record, as described 688

in section 111.44 of the Revised Code; 689

(c) The address of a designated public service worker, if 690  
the designated public service worker has submitted a redaction 691  
request to the board of elections under section 149.45 of the 692  
Revised Code; 693

(d) An elector's proof of citizenship; 694

(e) Any other information that is prohibited from being 695  
disclosed by state or federal law. 696

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized 697  
signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures 698  
on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the 699  
secretary of state, provided that the board includes the 700  
required voter registration information in the statewide voter 701  
registration database established under section 3503.15 of the 702  
Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials 703  
have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner 704  
required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code. 705

**Sec. 3503.14.** (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 706  
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 707  
and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall 708  
meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 709  
1993 and shall ~~include spaces for~~ require the applicant to 710  
provide all of the following: 711

(1) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's full name as it appears on the 712  
applicant's identification provided to register to vote; 713

(2) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's residence address; 714

(3) The current date; 715

(4) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's date of birth; 716

(5) ~~The voter to provide at least one of the following~~ 717  
forms of identification that meet the requirements of 52 U.S.C. 718  
21083(a)(5)(A): 719

(a) ~~The voter's~~ applicant's current and valid Ohio 720  
driver's license or state identification card number if the 721  
applicant has one; 722

(b) ~~The~~ Or, if the applicant does not have a current and 723  
valid Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the 724  
last four digits of the voter's applicant's social security 725  
number. A board of elections shall not accept or process a voter 726  
registration application if the applicant does not provide a 727  
current and valid Ohio's driver's license or state 728  
identification card number, when available records from the 729  
bureau of motor vehicles indicate that the applicant has a 730  
current and valid Ohio's driver's license or state 731  
identification card number. If a board of elections rejects an 732  
application for this reason, the board shall send the applicant 733  
a notice, to the address the applicant indicated on the form, 734  
instructing the applicant to apply to register to vote using the 735  
applicant's Ohio's driver's license or state identification card 736  
number and include with the notice a blank voter registration 737  
form. 738

(6) Proof of United States citizenship as defined in 739  
division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, except 740  
that the applicant is not required to provide proof of 741  
citizenship if the applicant has previously provided proof of 742  
citizenship that has been verified by the board when registering 743  
to vote or submitting a change of residence or change of name in 744  
this state. If an applicant who previously renounced, forfeited, 745  
or otherwise lost United States citizenship applies to register 746

to vote, the applicant is required to provide proof of 747  
citizenship when registering to vote. 748

~~(6)-(7)~~ The voter's applicant's signature. 749

The registration form shall include a space on which the 750  
person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and 751  
provide the person's address and a space on which the person 752  
registering an applicant shall name the employer who is 753  
employing that person to register the applicant. 754

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 755  
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 756  
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 757  
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 758  
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 759  
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 760  
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 761  
that data to the statewide voter registration database 762  
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 763

(B) None of the following persons who are registering an 764  
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal 765  
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's 766  
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to 767  
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section: 768

(1) An election official; 769

(2) A county treasurer; 770

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 771

(4) An employee of a designated agency; 772

(5) An employee of a public high school; 773

(6) An employee of a public vocational school;	774
(7) An employee of a public library;	775
(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;	776
(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;	777
(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	778
(11) An employee of an election official.	779
(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence. The person registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.	780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790
(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or failed to name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant as required under division (A) of this section.	791 792 793 794 795 796
(E) A voter registration application submitted online through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election	797 798 799 800 801

and signature-matching purposes. 802

(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" 803  
includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter 804  
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or 805  
returning those forms. 806

**Sec. 3503.15.** (A) The secretary of state shall establish 807  
and maintain a statewide voter registration database that shall 808  
be administered by the office of data analytics and archives in 809  
the office of the secretary of state and made continuously 810  
available to each board of elections and to other agencies as 811  
authorized by law. 812

The statewide voter registration database shall be the 813  
official list of registered electors for all elections conducted 814  
in this state. 815

(B) The statewide voter registration database shall, at a 816  
minimum, include all of the following: 817

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of 818  
elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and 819  
with the offices of all other boards of elections; 820

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records 821  
contained in the database with records maintained by each board 822  
of elections; 823

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to 824  
the records contained in the database by each board of elections 825  
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, 826  
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct 827  
updates of the database; 828

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered 829

electors and their registration information by name, driver's 830  
license or state identification card number, birth date, social 831  
security number, or current address; 832

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the 833  
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter 834  
registration information is maintained; 835

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records 836  
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to 837  
record the reason for their cancellation. 838

(C) For each registered elector, the statewide voter 839  
registration database shall include all of the following 840  
information: 841

(1) The elector's name; 842

(2) The elector's birth date; 843

(3) The elector's current residence address; 844

(4) The elector's precinct number; 845

(5) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 846  
identification card number, if available; 847

(6) The last four digits of the elector's social security 848  
number, if available; 849

(7) The elector's telephone number, if available; 850

(8) The elector's electronic mail address, if available; 851

(9) (a) The elector's voter registration date, which shall 852  
be determined based on the elector's most recent application to 853  
register to vote in this state, subject to division (C) (9) (b) of 854  
this section, as follows: 855

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

of the following apply: 885

(i) An elector's voter registration date shall not be 886  
during the period beginning on the day after the close of voter 887  
registration before an election and ending on the day of the 888  
election. If the date determined under division (C) (9) (a) of 889  
this section would be during that period, the voter registration 890  
date instead shall be the date on which the board of elections 891  
processes the application to register to vote after the day of 892  
the election. 893

(ii) A change of address or change of name form, including 894  
a provisional ballot affirmation that serves as a change of 895  
address or change of name form, is not considered an application 896  
to register to vote. 897

(iii) An application to register to vote that is submitted 898  
by an individual who is already registered to vote in this state 899  
is not considered an application to register to vote. 900

(10) The elector's voting history, including all of the 901  
following for each election in which the elector cast a ballot 902  
that was counted: 903

(a) The date of the election; 904

(b) If the election was a primary election, the political 905  
party whose ballot the elector cast at the primary election or 906  
an indication that the elector voted only on the questions and 907  
issues appearing on the ballot at a special election held on the 908  
day of the primary election; 909

(c) The type of ballot the elector cast. 910

(11) The elector's last activity date, which shall be 911  
determined in accordance with rules adopted by the secretary of 912

state pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code; 913

(12) The date, if any, on which a board of elections 914  
verified that the elector is a United States citizen, as 915  
described in division (A)(1) of section 3503.201 of the Revised 916  
Code, and which proof of citizenship, as defined in division 917  
(EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, was presented as 918  
evidence the elector is a United States citizen; 919

(13) The citizenship verification source, as defined in 920  
division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code; 921

(14) Whether the elector registered to vote using a 922  
federal or state form; 923

(15) Whether the elector was required to cast a 924  
provisional ballot, and the reason the elector was required to 925  
cast a provisional ballot, except if the elector's provisional 926  
ballot was counted under section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, 927  
the indication that the elector was required to cast a 928  
provisional ballot shall be removed from the database; 929

(16) Whether the elector's United State citizenship has 930  
been verified, and, if so, whether the elector is a citizen of 931  
the United States. 932

(17) Any other information the secretary of state requires 933  
to be included by rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the 934  
Revised Code. 935

(D) Every day during the period beginning on the forty- 936  
sixth day before an election and ending on the eighty-first day 937  
after the day of the election, a board of elections shall create 938  
a daily record of its voter registration database as of four 939  
p.m. and shall transmit the daily record to the secretary of 940  
state in a secure manner prescribed by the secretary of state. 941

The secretary of state shall archive the daily record and retain 942  
it for at least twenty-two months after the day of the election. 943

(E) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to 944  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section and 945  
sections 3503.151 to 3503.153 of the Revised Code, including 946  
rules doing all of the following: 947

(1) Specifying the manner in which any voter registration 948  
records maintained by boards of elections in other data formats 949  
shall be converted for inclusion in the statewide voter 950  
registration database; 951

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter 952  
registration records into the statewide voter registration 953  
database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, 954  
if new registration information is received, and for 955  
transmitting information securely to the secretary of state; 956

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled 957  
voter registration records from the statewide voter registration 958  
database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 959

(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, 960  
modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter 961  
registration database and to make updates of that database; 962

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the 963  
information contained in the statewide voter registration 964  
database. 965

(F) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's 966  
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter 967  
registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by 968  
the secretary of state under division (E) (3) of this section 969  
after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 970

3503.21 of the Revised Code. 971

(G) The secretary of state shall provide training in the 972  
operation of the statewide voter registration database to each 973  
board of elections and to any persons authorized by the 974  
secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database 975  
records, and to conduct updates of the database. 976

(H) A board of elections and any vendor with which it 977  
contracts to provide voter registration software or related 978  
services shall ensure that the board's voter registration system 979  
and practices comply with the requirements of this section and 980  
any rules adopted under this section. 981

**Sec. 3503.151.** (A) The secretary of state, through the 982  
office of data analytics and archives, and the boards of 983  
elections shall maintain the accuracy of the statewide voter 984  
registration database in accordance with this section. 985

(B) (1) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the 986  
department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 987  
department of job and family services, the department of 988  
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, 989  
shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state 990  
that is collected in the course of normal business and that is 991  
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's 992  
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration 993  
database, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. 994  
The department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 995  
department of job and family services, the department of 996  
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections 997  
shall provide that information and data to the secretary of 998  
state not later than the last day of each month. The secretary 999  
of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to 1000

the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of 1001  
the entity providing the data remains confidential while in the 1002  
possession of the secretary of state. No public office, and no 1003  
public official or employee, shall sell that information or data 1004  
or use that information or data for profit. 1005

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under Chapter 1006  
119. of the Revised Code that establish, by mutual agreement 1007  
with the bureau of motor vehicles, the content and format of the 1008  
information and data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide 1009  
to the secretary of state under division (B)(1) of this section 1010  
and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that 1011  
information and data. 1012

(3) The secretary of state shall obtain and make the 1013  
information and data the bureau of motor vehicles provides to 1014  
the secretary of state under division (B)(1) of this section, 1015  
and any data and information obtained from any source listed in 1016  
division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, available 1017  
to the boards of elections for purposes of registering voters, 1018  
updating voter registrations, or maintaining the statewide voter 1019  
registration database, except where prohibited by federal law or 1020  
regulations. 1021

(C) (1) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 1022  
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 1023  
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 1024  
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 1025  
statewide voter registration database. Except as otherwise 1026  
provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the secretary of 1027  
state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the 1028  
secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the 1029  
state providing the data remains confidential while in the 1030

possession of the secretary of state. 1031

(2) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 1032  
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 1033  
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 1034  
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 1035  
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 1036  
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 1037  
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 1038  
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 1039  
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 1040  
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 1041  
that receives confidential information or data under this 1042  
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 1043  
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 1044  
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 1045  
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 1046  
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 1047  
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 1048  
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 1049

(3) No person or entity that receives information or data 1050  
under division (C) of this section shall sell the information or 1051  
data or use the information or data for profit. 1052

(D) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the 1053  
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and 1054  
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state 1055  
receives under divisions (B) and (C) of this section that is 1056  
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the 1057  
accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is 1058  
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable 1059  
state and federal law: 1060

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) The number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles but is not associated with the first name, last

name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record. 1090  
1091

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(2) of this section, the number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and is associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record, but the residence address that appears in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles is not the same as the residence address that appears in the voter registration record. 1092  
1093  
1094  
1095  
1096  
1097  
1098

(c) The record contains the last four digits of a social security number, but one of the following applies: 1099  
1100

(i) Those digits do not exist in the records of the United States social security administration. 1101  
1102

(ii) Those digits exist in the records of the United States social security administration but are not associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record. 1103  
1104  
1105  
1106

(iii) Those digits exist in the records of the United States social security administration, and are associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record, but available records from the bureau of motor vehicles indicate that the registrant has a current and valid Ohio driver's license or state identification number, and that the number is not in the voter registration record. 1107  
1108  
1109  
1110  
1111  
1112  
1113

(2) The report shall exclude any voter registration record described in division (E)(1)(b)(iii) belonging to an elector to whom either of the following applies: 1114  
1115  
1116

(a) The elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program described in sections 111.41 to 111.99 1117  
1118

of the Revised Code. 1119

(b) The elector is a designated public service worker, as described in section 149.43 of the Revised Code, and one of the following applies: 1120  
1121  
1122

(i) The elector has submitted a redaction request to the secretary of state or to the board of elections under section 149.45 of the Revised Code. 1123  
1124  
1125

(ii) It is otherwise apparent from the elector's voter registration record or from the records of the bureau of motor vehicles that the elector is a designated public service worker. 1126  
1127  
1128

(3) The board of elections shall proceed under section 3503.202 of the Revised Code not later than two weeks after receiving the report. 1129  
1130  
1131

(4) Subject to division (A)(2) of section 3503.13 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the information in each report available to the public on the secretary of state's official web site. 1132  
1133  
1134  
1135

(F)(1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish a uniform method for addressing instances in which records contained in the statewide voter registration database do not conform with records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states described in division (B) or (C) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that the information in the registration record does not conform to records maintained by such an agency. 1136  
1137  
1138  
1139  
1140  
1141  
1142  
1143  
1144  
1145

(2) Information provided under division (B) or (C) of this section for maintenance of the statewide voter registration 1146  
1147

database shall not be used to update the name or address of a 1148  
registered elector. The name or address of a registered elector 1149  
shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in 1150  
filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 1151

(3) ~~A~~ Except as otherwise provided in section 3503.201 of 1152  
the Revised Code, a board of elections shall contact a 1153  
registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division 1154  
~~(E) (1)~~ (F) (1) of this section to verify the accuracy of the 1155  
information in the statewide voter registration database 1156  
regarding that elector if that information does not conform with 1157  
information provided under division (B) or (C) of this section 1158  
and the discrepancy would affect the elector's eligibility to 1159  
cast a regular ballot. 1160

**Sec. 3503.152.** The secretary of state shall conduct ~~an~~ 1161  
~~annual~~ a monthly review of the statewide voter registration 1162  
database, and shall conduct a review immediately after the 1163  
deadline to register to vote in an election, for each election, 1164  
to identify ~~persons~~ individuals who ~~appear not~~ are verified to 1165  
be United States citizens, as follows: 1166

(A) The secretary of state shall compare the information 1167  
in the statewide voter registration database with the 1168  
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of 1169  
motor vehicles and other approved sources under section 3503.151 1170  
of the Revised Code to identify ~~any person~~ all individuals who 1171  
~~does all of the following, in the following order:~~ 1172

~~(1) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles~~ 1173  
~~that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen;~~ 1174

~~(2) Registers to vote, submits a voter registration change~~ 1175  
~~of residence or change of name form, or votes in this state;~~ 1176

~~(3) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles~~ 1177  
~~that indicates that the person is not a~~ 1178  
are verified to be 1179  
United States citizen 1180  
citizens. The individual's information in 1181  
the statewide voter registration database shall be updated to 1182  
indicate whether the individual is a verified United States  
citizen or not a verified United States citizen.

~~(B)~~ (B) (1) The secretary of state shall send a report to 1183  
each board of elections of the individuals residing in the 1184  
county who have been identified under division (A) of this 1185  
section and shall make the report available to the public, and 1186  
the report shall include the following: 1187

(a) Individuals that have been identified as not being a 1188  
verified United States citizen, who were not included in the 1189  
previous report, or who had no citizenship indication in the 1190  
previous report; 1191

(b) Individuals that have been identified as not being a 1192  
verified United States citizen, who were previously identified 1193  
as a verified United States citizen, including individuals who 1194  
are no longer United States citizens; 1195

(c) Individuals who were identified as not being a 1196  
verified United States citizen in the previous report, or who 1197  
had no citizenship indication in the previous report, who have 1198  
been identified as a United States citizen, including the date 1199  
of verification, and whether the information regarding 1200  
citizenship verification source and evidence of citizenship is 1201  
missing; 1202

(d) Individuals that have been identified as not being a 1203  
verified United States citizen, or being a verified United 1204  
States citizen, if there is no longer an indication of 1205

citizenship. 1206

(2) The board of elections and the secretary of state 1207  
shall review each report and investigate any irregularities. The 1208  
board of elections shall make necessary updates to the voter 1209  
registration database within two weeks after receiving each 1210  
report, including both of the following: 1211

(a) Changing an individual's information to reflect that 1212  
an individual has or has not been verified as a United States 1213  
citizen, as applicable. If the individual has been verified as a 1214  
United States citizen, the date the individual was verified, the 1215  
type of evidence used to verify citizenship, and the citizenship 1216  
verification source. If the individual is not a verified United 1217  
States citizen, marking the individual's name in the official 1218  
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1219  
indicate that the individual must vote by provisional ballot, 1220  
and the reason why. 1221

(b) Removing a provisional ballot indication for any 1222  
individual that has been verified as a United States citizen, if 1223  
the database indicates that the only reason the individual was 1224  
required to cast a provisional ballot was that the individual 1225  
was not verified as a United States citizen. 1226

(3) The board of elections shall send a written notice to 1227  
each ~~person~~ individual that has been identified as not being a 1228  
verified United States citizen under division (A) of this 1229  
section, which shall inform the individual that the individual 1230  
must cast a provisional ballot until the applicant's citizenship 1231  
can be verified, instructing the ~~person~~ individual either to 1232  
confirm that the ~~person~~ is a United States citizen ~~provide proof~~ 1233  
of citizenship to the board of elections of the county in which 1234  
the individual resides or to submit a completed voter 1235

registration cancellation form to the ~~secretary of state board~~. 1236  
The ~~secretary of state board~~ shall include a blank voter 1237  
registration cancellation form with the notice, as well as an 1238  
information sheet, as prescribed by the secretary of state 1239  
explaining why the individual has not been verified as a United 1240  
States citizen, and what steps the individual can take to be 1241  
verified as a United States citizen. The information sheet shall 1242  
include all of the following information: 1243

(a) Proof of United States citizenship can be provided to 1244  
the board of elections any time before an election, and within 1245  
four days after an election, and once the board verifies United 1246  
States citizenship, the board will remove the indication that 1247  
the individual must cast a provisional ballot, unless there are 1248  
other reasons the individual must cast a provisional ballot; 1249

(b) Instructions on how to obtain evidence of United 1250  
States citizenship, such as a passport or birth certificate, or 1251  
how to request a hearing before the board of elections to 1252  
establish United States citizenship under section 3503.012 of 1253  
the Revised Code, for individuals who believe the individual is 1254  
a United States citizen, but lacks evidence to verify; 1255

(c) Guidance on how to obtain a free state identification 1256  
card with verified United States citizenship status through the 1257  
bureau of motor vehicles; 1258

(d) Information on how the board of elections' expanded 1259  
disability and confined services program will accept evidence of 1260  
proof of citizenship; 1261

(e) How to contact the board of elections with questions; 1262

(f) When conducting the first comprehensive citizen review 1263  
of the statewide voter registration database after the effective 1264

date of this amendment, an additional pamphlet prescribed by the 1265  
secretary of state explaining why the individual is receiving a 1266  
notice requesting proof of citizenship and why the additional 1267  
information is necessary to provide secure and accurate voter 1268  
rolls. ~~if~~ 1269

(4) If the individual provides proof of citizenship to the 1270  
board of elections, the board promptly shall record that fact, 1271  
and the evidence verifying United States citizenship, in the 1272  
individual's registration record, including the citizenship 1273  
verification source and the date the individual's citizenship 1274  
was verified, and notify the secretary of state. The board shall 1275  
attempt to determine the authenticity of the evidence of proof 1276  
of citizenship using information from the bureau of motor 1277  
vehicles or other sources under section 3503.151 of the Revised 1278  
Code, and if the board cannot verify that the individual is a 1279  
United States citizen, the board shall send a notice to the 1280  
individual, notify the secretary of state, and refer the matter 1281  
to an appropriate prosecuting authority. If the board verifies 1282  
that the individual is a United States citizen, the board shall 1283  
proceed under division (B) of section 3503.201 of the Revised 1284  
Code. 1285

(5) If the individual cancels the individual's voter 1286  
registration, the board promptly shall notify the secretary of 1287  
state and refer the matter to an appropriate prosecuting 1288  
authority. 1289

(C) If, within thirty days after the first notice is sent 1290  
under division (B) of this section, the ~~person~~ individual fails 1291  
to ~~respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in~~ 1292  
~~division (C) or (D) of this section not later than thirty days~~ 1293  
~~after the notice is sent~~ provide proof of citizenship to the 1294

board of elections or cancel the person's voter registration, 1295  
the secretary of state board promptly shall send the person 1296  
individual a second notice and form. 1297

~~(C) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice~~ 1298  
~~is sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (B) of~~ 1299  
~~this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that~~ 1300  
~~the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state~~ 1301  
~~shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration.~~ 1302

~~(D) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice~~ 1303  
~~was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (B) of~~ 1304  
~~this section sends a completed voter registration cancellation~~ 1305  
~~form to the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall~~ 1306  
~~instruct the board of elections of the county in which the~~ 1307  
~~person is registered to cancel the person's registration.~~ 1308

~~(E) (D) (1) If a person who is sent, within thirty days~~ 1309  
~~after a second notice is sent under division (B) (C) of this~~ 1310  
~~section, the individual fails to respond to the secretary of~~ 1311  
~~state in the manner described in division (C) or (D) of this~~ 1312  
~~section not later than thirty days after the second notice is~~ 1313  
~~sent provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections or~~ 1314  
~~cancel the individual's voter registration, the secretary of~~ 1315  
~~state board shall refer the matter to the attorney general~~ 1316  
~~secretary of state and the appropriate prosecuting authority for~~ 1317  
further investigation and possible prosecution under section 1318  
3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any other applicable section of 1319  
the Revised Code. ~~If,~~ 1320

(2) If, after the thirtieth day after the second notice is 1321  
sent secretary of state refers a person to the appropriate 1322  
prosecuting authority under division (D) (1) of this section, the 1323  
person sends a completed individual provides proof of 1324

citizenship to the board of elections or cancels the 1325  
individual's voter registration cancellation form to the 1326  
secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the 1327  
board of elections of the county in which the person is 1328  
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify 1329  
the attorney general secretary of state and the prosecuting 1330  
authority of the cancellation that fact. 1331

~~(F) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review~~ 1332  
~~described in this section during the ninety days immediately~~ 1333  
~~preceding a primary or general election for federal office.~~ 1334

**Sec. 3503.153.** (A) The statewide voter registration 1335  
database shall be made available on a web site of the office of 1336  
the secretary of state as follows: 1337

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (2) of 1338  
this section, the following information from the statewide voter 1339  
registration database regarding a registered elector shall be 1340  
made available on the web site: 1341

(a) The elector's name; 1342

(b) The elector's birth date; 1343

(c) The elector's current residence address; 1344

(d) The elector's precinct number; 1345

(e) The elector's voter registration date, as described in 1346  
division (C) (9) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1347

(f) The elector's voting history, including the date of 1348  
each election, the political party for primary elections, and 1349  
the type of ballot each elector casts as described in division 1350  
(C) (10) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1351

(g) The elector's last activity date, as described in 1352  
division (C) (11) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1353

(h) Whether the elector was required to cast a provisional 1354  
ballot in the most recent election the elector voted in and the 1355  
reason the elector was required to cast a provisional ballot, 1356  
which may include the following, but which shall be removed if 1357  
that ballot was subsequently counted under section 3505.183 of 1358  
the Revised Code; 1359

(i) The acknowledgement notice under section 3503.152 of 1360  
the Revised Code was returned undeliverable. 1361

(ii) The elector has not provided verifiable proof of 1362  
United States citizenship. 1363

(iii) The elector's driver's license number, state 1364  
identification number, or the last four digits of the elector's 1365  
social security number could not be verified or does not match 1366  
the number found in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles 1367  
or the records from any citizenship verification source. 1368

(iv) The elector's residence address is not valid. 1369

(i) Whether the elector registered to vote with a federal 1370  
or state form; 1371

(j) Whether or not the elector has been verified as a 1372  
United States citizen and, if so, the date the elector was 1373  
verified as a United States citizen under section 3503.201 of 1374  
the Revised Code, the evidence the elector used as proof of 1375  
citizenship, and the citizenship verification source. 1376

(2) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1377  
general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter 1378  
registration database shall permit an elector to search for the 1379

polling location at which that elector may cast a ballot. 1380

(3) No information in the statewide voter registration 1381  
database that is exempt from disclosure under division (A)(2) of 1382  
section 3503.13 of the Revised Code shall be made available on 1383  
the web site. 1384

(4) The web site shall have the contact information for 1385  
all boards of elections in this state, as well as information on 1386  
how to verify citizenship for the purposes of voter registration 1387  
and information about actions that may be taken to remove a 1388  
provisional ballot indication and cast a regular ballot instead 1389  
of a provisional ballot. 1390

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule 1391  
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for 1392  
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes 1393  
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of 1394  
updating the information made available on the secretary of 1395  
state's web site under division (A)(2) of this section. Those 1396  
rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days 1397  
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the 1398  
secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 1399  
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 1400

(2) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1401  
general election, not later than one business day after 1402  
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (B) 1403  
(1) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 1404  
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 1405  
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 1406  
of division (A)(2) of this section. 1407

**Sec. 3503.16.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 1408

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

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

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

~~(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that~~

~~registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to~~ 1439  
~~the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not~~ 1440  
~~filed a notice of change of name with the board of elections may~~ 1441  
~~vote in that election by going to that registered elector's~~ 1442  
~~assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a~~ 1443  
~~change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section~~ 1444  
~~3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides~~ 1445  
~~to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change,~~ 1446  
~~such as a marriage license or court order that includes the~~ 1447  
~~elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and~~ 1448  
~~sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot.~~ 1449

~~(2)(B)~~ Any registered elector who moves ~~from one precinct~~ 1450  
~~to another within a county, does not move but changes the~~ 1451  
~~elector's name, or moves from one precinct to another within a~~ 1452  
~~county~~ and changes the name of that registered elector on or 1453  
prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and 1454  
has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name, 1455  
whichever is appropriate, with the board of elections may vote 1456  
in that election if that registered elector complies with 1457  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 1458

~~(a)(1)~~ Appears at ~~anytime any time~~ during regular 1459  
business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the 1460  
election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if 1461  
the election is held on the day of a presidential primary 1462  
election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through 1463  
noon of the Saturday prior to the election at the office of the 1464  
board of elections, appears at any time during regular business 1465  
hours on the Monday prior to the election at the office of the 1466  
board of elections, or appears on the day of the election at 1467  
either of the following locations: 1468

~~(i)~~ (a) The polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides; 1469  
1470

~~(ii)~~ (b) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections. 1471  
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~~(b)~~ (2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1476  
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~~(e)~~ (3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 1480  
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~~(d)~~ (4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1489  
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whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 1499  
at any other location for that particular election. 1500

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 1501  
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 1502  
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 1503  
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 1504  
vote in that election if that registered elector complies with 1505  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 1506

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 1507  
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 1508  
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 1509  
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 1510  
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 1511  
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 1512  
or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 1513  
Revised Code the board has designated another location in the 1514  
county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 1515  
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1516  
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1517  
election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1518  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1519  
has designated another location in the county at which 1520  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1521  
the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of 1522  
the election at the office of the board of elections or, if 1523  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1524  
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1525  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1526  
the office of the board of elections; 1527

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1528

falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1529  
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1530

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1531  
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 1532  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1533  
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1534  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1535  
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 1536  
that registered elector has moved; 1537

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1538  
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1539  
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1540  
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1541  
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 1542  
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 1543  
another location in the county at which registered electors may 1544  
vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 1545  
of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1546  
location for that particular election. 1547

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1548  
to division (G) of this section shall not make written 1549  
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 1550  
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 1551  
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 1552  
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 1553  
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 1554  
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 1555  
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 1556  
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 1557  
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1558

to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 1559  
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 1560  
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 1561

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 1562  
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 1563  
different from the office of the board at which registered 1564  
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 1565  
section. 1566

(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 1567  
change of name, the board of elections shall ~~immediately send~~ 1568  
~~the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of~~ 1569  
~~residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall~~ 1570  
~~update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is~~ 1571  
~~incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the~~ 1572  
~~acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the~~ 1573  
~~information necessary to complete or update that registrant's~~ 1574  
~~registration process it in accordance with section 3503.201 of~~ 1575  
the Revised Code. 1576

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 1577  
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 1578  
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 1579  
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 1580  
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 1581  
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1582

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 1583  
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 1584  
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 1585  
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 1586  
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 1587  
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 1588

within five days after receiving them. 1589

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1590  
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1591  
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1592  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1593  
has designated another location in the county at which 1594  
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 1595  
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1596  
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1597  
of the following: 1598

(1) Makes a written application on a form prescribed by 1599  
the secretary of state that includes all of the information 1600  
required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code to the 1601  
appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or after the 1602  
twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the registered 1603  
elector wishes to vote through the close of business on the 1604  
seventh day prior to that election and requests that the absent 1605  
voter's ballot be sent to the address to which the registered 1606  
elector has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the 1607  
address of that registered elector who has not moved but has had 1608  
a change of name; 1609

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 1610  
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 1611  
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 1612  
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 1613  
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 1614  
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 1615  
infirmity; 1616

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 1617  
voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 1618

address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice 1619  
of change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1620

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1621  
falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector 1622  
has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before 1623  
the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of 1624  
personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that 1625  
prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of 1626  
elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1627  
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other 1628  
location or address for that particular election. 1629

**Sec. 3503.19.** (A) Persons qualified to register or to 1630  
change their registration because of a change of address or 1631  
change of name may register or change their registration in 1632  
person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at 1633  
the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1634  
vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a 1635  
public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a 1636  
branch office established by the board of elections, or in 1637  
person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the 1638  
secretary of state or at the office of a board of elections. A 1639  
registered elector may also change the elector's registration on 1640  
election day at any polling place where the elector is eligible 1641  
to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the 1642  
Revised Code. 1643

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1644  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1645  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1646  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any 1647  
voter registration application or change of registration form 1648

that it receives to the board of elections of the county in 1649  
which the state or local office is located, within five days 1650  
after receiving the voter registration application or change of 1651  
registration form. 1652

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 1653  
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1654  
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1655  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1656  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1657  
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 1658  
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 1659  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1660  
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 1661  
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 1662  
registration application received after that day entitles the 1663  
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 1664

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1665  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1666  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1667  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 1668  
registration application or change of name or change of address 1669  
form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the 1670  
identity of the state or local office that receives the 1671  
registration. 1672

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 1673  
are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 1674  
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 1675  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1676  
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 1677  
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 1678

voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 1679  
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 1680  
valid for that election if received by the office of the 1681  
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1682  
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1683  
general election. 1684

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1685  
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1686  
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1687  
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1688  
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1689  
1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 1690  
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 1691  
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 1692  
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 1693  
Revised Code. 1694

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 1695  
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 1696  
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 1697  
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 1698  
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 1699  
the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 1700  
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 1701  
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 1702  
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 1703  
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 1704  
elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 1705  
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1706

(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an 1707  
applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 1708

through another person to any board of elections or the office 1709  
of the secretary of state. 1710

(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a 1711  
voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that 1712  
person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the 1713  
office of the secretary of state. 1714

(d) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 1715  
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 1716  
or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an 1717  
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 1718  
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 1719  
elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 1720  
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 1721  
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 1722  
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 1723  
(B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day 1724  
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 1725  
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 1726  
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 1727  
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 1728  
election. 1729

~~(C) (1) (C)~~ A board of elections that receives a voter 1730  
registration application ~~and is satisfied as to the truth of the~~ 1731  
~~statements made in the registration form shall register the~~ 1732  
~~applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving~~ 1733  
~~process the application, unless that application is received~~ 1734  
~~during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an~~ 1735  
~~election in accordance with section 3503.201 of the Revised~~ 1736  
~~Code. The board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing~~ 1737  
~~of each of the following:~~ 1738

~~(a) The applicant's registration;~~ 1739

~~(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote;~~ 1740

~~(c) In bold type as follows:~~ 1741

~~"Voters must bring photo identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Voters who do not provide photo identification will still be able to vote by casting a provisional ballot."~~ 1742  
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~~The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause the notification to be delivered to the correct address.~~ 1746  
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~~(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) (1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned to the board.~~ 1749  
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~~At the first election at which a voter whose name has been so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to vote by provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the voter's notification was returned from that voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United States mail of the cancellation.~~ 1755  
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~~(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of this section in any election during the period of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, the person's registration shall be canceled.~~

Sec. 3503.201. (A) When the board of elections receives a voter registration application or a notice of change of address or change of name that is complete, the board shall verify whether the applicant is a United States citizen by doing one of the following:

(1) If the applicant has provided the number of the applicant's Ohio driver's license or state identification card or if the applicant's voter registration record already contains that number, confirming, using information obtained from the bureau of motor vehicles or from other sources under section 3503.151 of the Revised Code, that the applicant has submitted documentation to the bureau that indicates that the applicant is a United States citizen.

(2) If the applicant has provided the last four digits of the applicant's social security number, confirming, using information obtained from any source listed in division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, that indicates the applicant is a United States citizen.

(3) Determining that the applicant's existing voter registration record obtained from the statewide voter

registration database indicates that a board of elections has 1798  
previously verified the applicant as a United States citizen. 1799

(B) (1) If the board is able to verify the applicant's 1800  
United States citizenship under division (A) (1) of this section, 1801  
the application is complete, and the board is satisfied as to 1802  
the truth of the statements made in the registration form, the 1803  
board shall register the applicant or update the applicant's 1804  
registration and shall indicate whether the applicant registered 1805  
using a federal or state voter registration form, the evidence 1806  
used as proof of citizenship, the citizenship verification 1807  
source, and the date on which the applicant's citizenship was 1808  
verified, and shall, if applicable, remove any indications that 1809  
the applicant must cast a provisional ballot as long as no other 1810  
reasons exist that the applicant must cast a provisional ballot, 1811  
not later than twenty business days after receiving the 1812  
application, unless that application is received during the 1813  
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election, and 1814  
promptly shall send the applicant an acknowledgment notice. 1815

(2) The acknowledgment notice shall include all of the 1816  
following information: 1817

(a) The fact that the elector has been registered to vote 1818  
or has had the elector's registration updated, as applicable; 1819

(b) The precinct in which the elector is to vote; 1820

(c) In bold type as follows: 1821

"Voters must bring photo identification to the polls in 1822  
order to verify identity. Voters who do not provide photo 1823  
identification will still be able to vote by casting a 1824  
provisional ballot. If a voter recently became a United States 1825  
citizen, the voter must provide the voter's naturalization 1826

certificate to the bureau of motor vehicles and have the voter's 1827  
driver's license or state identification updated in order to 1828  
cast a regular ballot. Otherwise, the voter must present a 1829  
current and valid United States passport or passport card, or a 1830  
United States military identification card, Ohio national guard 1831  
identification card, or United States department of veterans 1832  
affairs identification card. Failure to update driver's license 1833  
or state identification, or to present any of the identification 1834  
listed above, may result in a requirement to vote 1835  
provisionally." 1836

(3) The board promptly shall send the acknowledgment 1837  
notice by nonforwardable mail. If the acknowledgment notice is 1838  
returned to the board as undeliverable, it shall investigate and 1839  
cause the acknowledgment notice to be delivered to the correct 1840  
address. 1841

(4) If, after investigating as required under division (B) 1842  
(3) of this section, the board is unable to verify the elector's 1843  
correct address, it shall proceed under section 3503.202 of the 1844  
Revised Code. 1845

(C) If the board is unable to verify the applicant's 1846  
United States citizenship under division (A) of this section or 1847  
if the application is otherwise incomplete, the board promptly 1848  
shall proceed under divisions (B) (2), (B) (3), (C), and (D) of 1849  
section 3503.152 of the Revised Code. 1850

(D) If the board determines that the applicant appears not 1851  
to be eligible to vote, the board shall reject the form and 1852  
refer the matter to the prosecuting attorney of the county for 1853  
investigation. 1854

Sec. 3503.202. (A) When either of the following occurs, 1855

the board of elections shall send the elector a confirmation 1856  
notice and shall mark the elector's name in the official 1857  
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1858  
indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot, and 1859  
the reason why: 1860

(1) The board determines that it is unable to verify an 1861  
elector's residence address, as described in division (B)(4) of 1862  
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code. 1863

(2) (a) The board receives a report from the secretary of 1864  
state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code 1865  
indicating that the board must verify the elector's Ohio 1866  
driver's license or state identification card number, the last 1867  
four digits of the elector's social security number, or the 1868  
elector's residence address. 1869

(b) The board shall not follow the procedures of division 1870  
(A)(2)(a) of this section on the basis that an elector appears 1871  
in a report indicating that the board must verify the elector's 1872  
residence address if it is apparent to the board that the 1873  
elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program 1874  
described in sections 111.41 to 111.99 of the Revised Code or is 1875  
a designated public service worker as described in section 1876  
149.43 of the Revised Code. 1877

(c) Upon receiving notice in a subsequent report under 1878  
division (A)(2)(a) of this section that an elector's residence 1879  
address in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles has been 1880  
updated to match the elector's residence address in the voter 1881  
registration record, the board shall remove the indication that 1882  
the elector must vote by provisional ballot for that reason and 1883  
shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by 1884  
provisional ballot if no other reasons exist that require the 1885

elector to cast a provisional ballot. 1886

(B) (1) If the board must verify an elector's residence 1887  
address, and the elector provides a valid residence address to 1888  
the board before the elector next appears to vote, the board 1889  
shall correct the elector's registration, if needed, and shall 1890  
remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional 1891  
ballot for that reason and shall remove the indication that the 1892  
elector must vote by provisional ballot if no other reasons 1893  
exist that require the elector to cast a provisional ballot. 1894

(2) If the board must verify an elector's Ohio driver's 1895  
license or state identification card number or the last four 1896  
digits of the elector's social security number, and the elector 1897  
provides at least one of the following to the board before the 1898  
elector next appears to vote, the board shall correct the 1899  
elector's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 1900  
indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot for 1901  
that reason and shall remove the indication that the elector 1902  
must vote by provisional ballot if no other reasons exist that 1903  
require the elector to cast a provisional ballot: 1904

(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card 1905  
number that exists in the records of the bureau of motor 1906  
vehicles and is associated with the elector's first name, last 1907  
name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state; 1908

(b) The last four digits of a social security number that 1909  
exists in the records of the United States social security 1910  
administration and is associated with the elector's first name, 1911  
last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of 1912  
state; 1913

(c) A correction to the elector's first name, last name, 1914

or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that 1915  
the number in the elector's registration record meets the 1916  
requirements of division (B)(2)(a) or (b) of this section, as 1917  
applicable, as confirmed by the secretary of state. 1918

(C)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of 1919  
this section, at any election at which the elector appears to 1920  
vote, the elector shall vote by provisional ballot under section 1921  
3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1922

(2) If the board must verify the elector's Ohio driver's 1923  
license or state identification card number or the last four 1924  
digits of the elector's social security number, then in order 1925  
for the elector's provisional ballot to be eligible to be 1926  
counted, in addition to meeting all other requirements described 1927  
in division (B)(3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the 1928  
elector shall provide at least one of the following on the 1929  
provisional ballot affirmation or shall appear in person at the 1930  
office of the board within four days after the day of the 1931  
election and provide at least one of the following: 1932

(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card 1933  
that exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and 1934  
is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date 1935  
of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state; 1936

(b) The last four digits of a social security number that 1937  
exists in the records of the United States social security 1938  
administration and is associated with the elector's first name, 1939  
last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of 1940  
state; 1941

(c) A correction to the elector's first name, last name, 1942  
or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that 1943

the number in the elector's registration record meets the 1944  
requirements of division (C) (2) (a) or (b) of this section, as 1945  
applicable, as confirmed by the secretary of state. 1946

(3) If no reason exists for an elector to vote by 1947  
provisional ballot, the elector's provisional ballot is counted 1948  
pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised 1949  
Code and, if applicable, pursuant to this section, the board 1950  
shall correct the elector's registration, if needed, and shall 1951  
remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional 1952  
ballot. 1953

(4) If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to 1954  
division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the 1955  
Revised Code or, if applicable, pursuant to this section and 1956  
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code, or if the board cannot 1957  
verify that the elector is a United States citizen, the board 1958  
shall cancel the elector's registration and shall notify the 1959  
elector by United States mail of the cancellation. The notice 1960  
shall inform the elector that the elector may again register to 1961  
vote if the elector is eligible to do so. If the elector's 1962  
registration was canceled because of failure to verify United 1963  
States citizenship, the board shall notify the appropriate 1964  
prosecuting authority and the secretary of state. 1965

**Sec. 3503.21.** (A) The registration of a registered elector 1966  
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 1967

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 1968  
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 1969  
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 1970  
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 1971  
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 1972  
reregistering to vote at any time. 1973

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code;	1974 1975
(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;	1976 1977 1978 1979 1980
(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;	1981 1982 1983
(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code;	1984 1985 1986
(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a location outside the county of registration in accordance with division (B) of this section;	1987 1988 1989
(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the following:	1990 1991 1992
(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections;	1993 1994 1995
(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections.	1996 1997 1998
(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the Revised Code.	1999 2000 2001

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures 2002  
to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of 2003  
residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting 2004  
residence to a location outside the registrant's current county 2005  
of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division 2006  
shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with 2007  
the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may 2008  
prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of 2009  
the national change of address service provided by the United 2010  
States postal system through its licensees. Any program so 2011  
prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior 2012  
to the date of any primary or general election for federal 2013  
office. 2014

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having 2015  
changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the 2016  
elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled 2017  
unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form 2018  
prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to 2019  
respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the 2020  
registration and fails to vote in any election during the period 2021  
of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the 2022  
confirmation notice. 2023

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be 2024  
canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 of 2025  
the Revised Code, division (Q) of section 3501.05 of the Revised 2026  
Code, division ~~(C) (2)~~ (C) (4) of section ~~3503.19~~ 3503.202 of the 2027  
Revised Code, or division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised 2028  
Code. 2029

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter 2030  
registration information to the secretary of state as required 2031

under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 2032  
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 2033  
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 2034  
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 2035  
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 2036  
the information to the national change of address service 2037  
described in division (B) of this section and request that 2038  
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 2039  
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 2040  
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 2041  
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 2042  
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 2043  
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary 2044  
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of 2045  
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return 2046  
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or 2047  
correct the change of address information. 2048

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 2049  
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 2050  
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 2051  
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 2052  
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 2053  
the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or 2054  
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 2055

(F) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 2056  
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 2057  
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 2058  
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 2059  
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 2060  
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 2061  
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 2062

the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the error. 2063  
2064

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 2065  
2066  
2067

**Sec. 3505.181.** (A) All of the following individuals shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election: 2068  
2069

(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; 2070  
2071  
2072  
2073  
2074  
2075

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to provide photo identification to the election officials; 2076  
2077

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 2078  
2079  
2080  
2081  
2082

(4) An individual ~~whose notification of registration has been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook has been marked under division (C) (2) of section ~~3503.19~~ 3503.202 of the Revised Code;~~ 2083  
2084  
2085  
2086  
2087

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code; 2088  
2089

(6) An individual who ~~changes the individual's name and~~ 2090

~~remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name~~ 2091  
~~change under division (B) (1) (b) of section 3503.16 of the~~ 2092  
~~Revised Code, moves from one precinct to another within a~~ 2093  
~~county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the~~ 2094  
~~individual's name, or moves from one county to another within~~ 2095  
~~the state, and completes and signs the required forms and~~ 2096  
~~statements under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the~~ 2097  
~~Revised Code;~~ 2098

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the 2099  
precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is 2100  
not that of the person who signed that name in the registration 2101  
forms; 2102

(8) An individual whose United States citizenship has not 2103  
been verified by the board of elections under Chapter 3503. of 2104  
the Revised Code. 2105

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional 2106  
ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to 2107  
cast a provisional ballot as follows: 2108

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify 2109  
the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot 2110  
in that election. 2111

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 2112  
section, the individual shall complete and execute a written 2113  
affirmation before an election official at the polling place 2114  
stating that the individual is both of the following: 2115

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the 2116  
individual desires to vote; 2117

(b) Eligible to vote in that election. 2118

(3) An election official at the polling place shall 2119  
transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter 2120  
information contained in the written affirmation executed by the 2121  
individual under division (B) (2) of this section to an 2122  
appropriate local election official for verification under 2123  
division (B) (4) of this section. 2124

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the 2125  
ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under 2126  
division (B) (3) of this section determines that the individual 2127  
is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall 2128  
be counted as a vote in that election. 2129

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional 2130  
ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the 2131  
individual written information that states that any individual 2132  
who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under 2133  
the system established under division (B) (5) (b) of this section 2134  
whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, 2135  
the reason that the vote was not counted. 2136

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 2137  
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 2138  
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 2139  
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 2140  
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 2141  
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 2142  
established under this division also shall provide to an 2143  
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 2144  
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 2145  
elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 2146  
individual's voter registration. 2147

The appropriate state or local election official shall 2148

establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 2149  
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 2150  
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 2151  
access system established under this division. The system shall 2152  
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 2153  
the individual's own provisional ballot. 2154

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 2155  
ballot, the individual provides photo identification, the 2156  
individual shall record the type of identification provided on 2157  
the provisional ballot affirmation and, if the individual 2158  
provides an Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or 2159  
interim identification document, the individual also shall write 2160  
the individual's driver's license or state identification card 2161  
number on the provisional ballot affirmation. 2162

(7) (a) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be 2163  
counted when it is cast by an individual who does not have photo 2164  
identification because the individual has a religious objection 2165  
to being photographed, the individual shall complete an 2166  
affidavit of religious objection under section 3505.19 of the 2167  
Revised Code. The election officials shall attach the affidavit 2168  
to the individual's provisional ballot envelope. If the 2169  
individual does not complete the affidavit at the time of 2170  
casting the provisional ballot, the individual may appear at the 2171  
office of the board of elections within four days after the day 2172  
of the election and complete the affidavit. 2173

(b) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted 2174  
when it is cast by any other individual who does not have or is 2175  
unable to provide photo identification to the election 2176  
officials, the individual who cast that ballot, within four days 2177  
after the day of the election, shall appear at the office of the 2178

board of elections and provide photo identification. 2179

(8) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 2180  
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 2181  
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 2182  
cast that ballot, within four days after the day of that 2183  
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 2184  
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 2185  
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 2186  
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 2187

(9) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted 2188  
when it is cast by an individual who has not been verified as a 2189  
United States citizen, the individual shall submit proof of 2190  
citizenship to the board of elections with the individual's 2191  
provisional ballot or within four days after the day of the 2192  
election, and the board shall verify whether the individual is a 2193  
United States citizen. 2194

(C) (1) If an individual declares that the individual is 2195  
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 2196  
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 2197  
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 2198  
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 2199  
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 2200  
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 2201  
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 2202  
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 2203  
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 2204  
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 2205  
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 2206  
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 2207  
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 2208

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 2209  
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 2210  
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 2211  
ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this 2212  
section. If the individual is in the correct polling location 2213  
for the precinct in which the individual is registered and 2214  
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, 2215  
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes 2216  
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's 2217  
provisional ballot affirmation: 2218

(a) The name or number of the individual's correct 2219  
precinct; 2220

(b) A statement that the election official instructed the 2221  
individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote; 2222

(c) A statement that the election official informed the 2223  
individual that casting a provisional ballot in the wrong 2224  
precinct would result in all or a portion of the votes on the 2225  
ballot being rejected; 2226

(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the 2227  
individual is casting a provisional ballot; and 2228

(e) The name of the polling location in which the 2229  
individual is casting a provisional ballot. 2230

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause 2231  
voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place 2232  
on the day of each election. 2233

(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 2234  
3505.183 of the Revised Code: 2235

(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the 2236

following:	2237
(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;	2238 2239 2240 2241
(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is at a polling place in that county to determine the correct precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides in the county.	2242 2243 2244 2245 2246
(2) "Voting information" means all of the following:	2247
(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for that election;	2248 2249
(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the hours during which polling places will be open;	2250 2251
(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;	2252 2253
(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters under applicable federal and state laws;	2254 2255
(e) General information on voting rights under applicable federal and state laws, including information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated;	2256 2257 2258 2259 2260
(f) General information on federal and state laws regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and misrepresentation.	2261 2262 2263

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

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

"Provisional Ballot Affirmation

(A) Clearly print your full name: \_\_\_\_\_

(B) Write your date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

(C) (1) Write your current address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, write your former address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

(D) (1) You must show photo identification to the election

official that includes your name and photograph and is not 2291  
expired. Check the type of photo identification you provided: 2292

\_\_\_\_\_ An Ohio driver's license or state identification 2293  
card or an interim identification form issued by the Bureau of 2294  
Motor Vehicles. If you showed your Ohio driver's license or 2295  
state identification card or an interim identification form, 2296  
write your full driver's license or state identification card 2297  
number: \_\_\_\_\_ 2298

\_\_\_\_\_ A United States passport or passport card; 2299

\_\_\_\_\_ A United States military identification card, Ohio 2300  
national guard identification card, or United States department 2301  
of veterans affairs identification card. 2302

(2) If you do not have photo identification because you 2303  
have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an 2304  
affidavit of religious objection. The precinct election official 2305  
will attach it to the provisional ballot envelope. 2306

(3) If you did not show photo identification to the 2307  
election official or complete an affidavit of religious 2308  
objection, you must appear at the office of the board of 2309  
elections during the four days after the election and provide 2310  
photo identification or complete an affidavit of religious 2311  
objection for your vote to be eligible to be counted. 2312

(4) ~~If Complete this section if you need to update your~~ 2313  
~~voter registration, you may provide additional information~~ 2314  
~~below. This information will not be used for ballot counting~~ 2315  
~~purposes or if you need to verify the identification you used to~~ 2316  
~~register to vote.~~ 2317

Write your full Ohio driver's license or state 2318  
identification card number, which also serves as proof of 2319

citizenship if you have submitted documentation to the bureau of 2320  
motor vehicles indicating that you are a United States citizen: 2321  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2322

OR 2323

Write the last four digits of your Social Security number: 2324  
\_\_\_\_\_ and attach proof of citizenship to the outside 2325  
of this envelope. You are not required to attach proof of 2326  
citizenship if you have previously provided proof of citizenship 2327  
to a board of elections in Ohio, and that proof of citizenship 2328  
has been verified. 2329

"Proof of citizenship" means evidence that, when verified 2330  
as authentic, indicates that you are a United States citizen, in 2331  
the form of one of the following: a copy of the front and back 2332  
of a current or expired Ohio driver's license, state 2333  
identification card, or interim identification form, if you have 2334  
submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 2335  
indicating that you are a United States citizen; a copy of a 2336  
birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular 2337  
report of birth abroad; a copy of the identification page of a 2338  
current or expired United States passport; a copy of the front 2339  
and back of a United States passport card; or a copy of a 2340  
certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship. 2341

If the name on your proof of citizenship is different from 2342  
your current legal name, you must also attach proof of your 2343  
change of name, such as a legible copy of a marriage license or 2344  
court order. 2345

If you are updating your registration, you have not 2346  
previously provided proof of citizenship to a board of 2347  
elections, and you do not provide it when you cast this ballot, 2348

you must provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections 2349  
on or before the fourth day following this election and the 2350  
board of elections must verify your United States citizenship in 2351  
order for your ballot to be eligible to be counted. 2352

(E) If your right to vote has been challenged, you must 2353  
provide any required additional information to the board of 2354  
elections on or before the ~~seventh~~fourth day following this 2355  
election. 2356

(F) Sign and date the following statement: 2357

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the 2358  
United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the 2359  
time of the general election; that I have lived in this state 2360  
for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am 2361  
voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct 2362  
in which I am voting this provisional ballot; and that I am 2363  
eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this 2364  
provisional ballot. 2365

I understand that, if the information I provide on this 2366  
provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and 2367  
correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not 2368  
registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to 2369  
vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines 2370  
that I have already voted in this election, my provisional 2371  
ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not 2372  
currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my 2373  
current address or under my current name, this form will serve 2374  
as an application to register to vote or update my registration 2375  
for future elections, as long as I provide all of the 2376  
information required to register to vote or update my 2377  
registration. I further understand that knowingly providing 2378

false information is a violation of law and subjects me to 2379  
possible criminal prosecution. 2380

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2381  
that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my 2382  
knowledge and belief. 2383

\_\_\_\_\_ 2384

Signature of Voter 2385

\_\_\_\_\_ 2386

Date 2387

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A 2388  
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE." 2389

In addition to any information required to be included on 2390  
the written affirmation, an individual casting a provisional 2391  
ballot may provide additional information to the election 2392  
official to assist the board of elections in determining the 2393  
individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the 2394  
date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if 2395  
known. 2396

If the individual provided all of the information required 2397  
under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to register to vote or 2398  
to update the individual's registration on the provisional 2399  
ballot affirmation, the board of elections shall consider the 2400  
individual's provisional ballot affirmation to also serve as a 2401  
notice of change of name, change of residence, or both, or as a 2402  
voter registration form, as applicable, for that individual only 2403  
for the purposes of future elections. 2404

**Sec. 3505.183.** (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to 2405  
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall 2406

separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the 2407  
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one 2408  
member of each major political party shall place the sealed 2409  
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the 2410  
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes 2411  
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those 2412  
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 2413  
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 2414  
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 2415  
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 2416  
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 2417  
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 2418  
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 2419

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 2420  
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 2421  
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 2422  
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 2423  
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 2424  
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 2425  
provisional ballot under division (B) (2) of section 3505.181 of 2426  
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in 2427  
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to 2428  
be eligible to be counted: 2429

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of 2430  
birth, and current address; 2431

(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter 2432  
in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted; 2433

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in 2434  
the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted. 2435

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 2436  
in an affirmation under division (B) (1) of this section, in 2437  
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 2438  
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 2439  
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 2440  
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 2441  
provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 2442  
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 2443  
during the four days after the day of the election under 2444  
~~division (B) (7) or (8) of~~ section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, 2445  
to assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility 2446  
to vote. 2447

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 2448  
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2449  
section and comparing the information required under division 2450  
(B) (1) of this section with the individual's information in the 2451  
statewide voter registration database, the board determines that 2452  
all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope 2453  
shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box 2454  
to be counted: 2455

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 2456  
registered to vote. 2457

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to 2458  
cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election in which the 2459  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2460

(c) The individual provided all of the information 2461  
required under division (B) (1) of this section in the 2462  
affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2463  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2464

(d) One of the following applies: 2465

(i) The individual provided photo identification at the 2466  
time of casting the provisional ballot or appeared at the office 2467  
of the board within four days after the day of the election and 2468  
provided photo identification. If the individual provided the 2469  
individual's Ohio driver's license or state identification card 2470  
or an interim identification form, the individual provided the 2471  
individual's driver's license number or state identification 2472  
card number and the number is not different from the 2473  
individual's driver's license number or state identification 2474  
card number contained in the statewide voter registration 2475  
database. 2476

(ii) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 2477  
objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code at the time 2478  
of casting the provisional ballot or at the office of the board 2479  
within four days after the day of the election and the affidavit 2480  
is valid under that section. 2481

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 2482  
month and day of the individual's date of birth are not 2483  
different from the day and month of the individual's date of 2484  
birth contained in the statewide voter registration database. 2485

This division does not apply to an individual's 2486  
provisional ballot if ~~either of the following is true:~~ 2487

~~(i) The individual's date of birth contained in the 2488  
statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 2489~~

~~(ii) The the board of elections has found, by a vote of at 2490  
least three of its members, that the individual has met all 2491  
other requirements of division (B) (3) of this section. 2492~~

(f) The individual's current address is not different from 2493

the individual's address contained in the statewide voter 2494  
registration database, unless the individual indicated that the 2495  
individual is casting a provisional ballot because the 2496  
individual has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of 2497  
address, as described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of 2498  
the Revised Code. 2499

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional 2500  
information required under division (B) (8) of section 3505.181 2501  
of the Revised Code within four days after the day of the 2502  
election. 2503

(h) If the individual cast a provisional ballot because 2504  
the individual is registered to vote but the individual's United 2505  
States citizenship has not been verified, the board verifies the 2506  
individual's United States citizenship. 2507

(i) If applicable, the individual provided the information 2508  
required under division (C) (2) of section 3503.202 of the 2509  
Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or within 2510  
four days after the day of the election. 2511

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of 2512  
this section, if, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation 2513  
and additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of 2514  
this section and comparing the information required under 2515  
division (B) (1) of this section with the individual's 2516  
information in the statewide voter registration database, the 2517  
board determines that any of the following applies, the 2518  
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 2519  
shall not be counted: 2520

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2521  
qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 2522

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2523  
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 2524  
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2525

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the 2526  
information required under division (B)(1) of this section in 2527  
the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2528  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2529

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the 2530  
election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2531

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any 2532  
additional information required under division (B)(8) of section 2533  
3505.181 of the Revised Code within four days after the day of 2534  
the election. 2535

(vi) The individual failed to provide photo 2536  
identification, to provide the individual's driver's license or 2537  
state identification card number if the individual provided 2538  
photo identification in the form of an Ohio driver's license or 2539  
state identification card or an interim identification form, or 2540  
to complete an affidavit of religious objection. 2541

(vii) The individual failed to execute an affirmation 2542  
under division (B) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 2543

(viii) The individual provided photo identification in the 2544  
form of an Ohio driver's license or state identification card or 2545  
an interim identification form and the driver's license number 2546  
or state identification card number the individual provided is 2547  
different from the individual's driver's license number or state 2548  
identification card number contained in the statewide voter 2549  
registration database. 2550

(ix) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 2551

objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code, but the affidavit is not valid under that section.

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

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

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

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

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

(xii) If the individual cast a provisional ballot because the individual is registered to vote and the board is unable to verify the individual's United States citizenship.

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

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

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

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

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

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

division (C) (2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 2610

(2) A board of elections that remakes a provisional ballot 2611  
under division (D) (1) of this section shall remake the 2612  
provisional ballot on a ballot for the appropriate precinct to 2613  
reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the 2614  
individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 2615  
individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 2616  
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 2617  
which the individual was eligible to vote. 2618

(3) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 2619  
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 2620  
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 2621  
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 2622  
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 2623  
shall not be counted. 2624

(E) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division 2625  
(B) (4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be 2626  
preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until 2627  
the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 2628  
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 2629  
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 2630

(F) Provisional ballots that the board determines are 2631  
eligible to be counted under division (B) (3) or (D) of this 2632  
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 2633  
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 2634  
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 2635  
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 2636  
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of 2637  
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 2638  
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 2639

that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 2640  
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 2641  
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 2642  
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 2643  
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 2644  
ballot. 2645

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (2) of 2646  
this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a board of 2647  
elections from examining provisional ballot affirmations and 2648  
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2649  
section to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to 2650  
be counted during the seven days after the day of an election. 2651

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional 2652  
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions 2653  
(B) (1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by 2654  
an individual who must provide photo identification, complete an 2655  
affidavit of religious objection, or provide additional 2656  
information to the board of elections under ~~division (B) (7) or~~ 2657  
~~(8) of~~ section 3505.181 of the Revised Code for the board to 2658  
determine the individual's eligibility until the individual does 2659  
so or until the eighth day after the day of the election, 2660  
whichever is earlier. 2661

**Sec. 3505.20.** Any person offering to vote may be 2662  
challenged at the polling place by any precinct election 2663  
official. If the board of elections has ruled on the question 2664  
presented by a challenge prior to election day, its finding and 2665  
decision shall be final, and the voting location manager shall 2666  
be notified in writing. If the board has not ruled, the question 2667  
shall be determined as set forth in this section. If any person 2668  
is so challenged as unqualified to vote, the voting location 2669

manager shall tender the person the following oath: "You do 2670  
swear or affirm under penalty of election falsification that you 2671  
will fully and truly answer all of the following questions put 2672  
to you concerning your qualifications as an elector at this 2673  
election." 2674

(A) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2675  
ground that the person is not a United States citizen, the 2676  
precinct election officials shall put the following questions: 2677

(1) Are you a citizen of the United States? 2678

(2) ~~Are you a native or naturalized citizen?~~ 2679

~~(3) Where were you born?~~ 2680

~~(4) What official documentation do~~ Do you possess to prove 2681  
proof of your United States citizenship? Please provide that 2682  
documentation. 2683

If the person offering to vote ~~claims to be a naturalized~~ 2684  
~~citizen of the United States, the person shall, before the vote~~ 2685  
~~is received, produce~~ produces verified proof of citizenship in 2686  
the form of a current and valid driver's license or state 2687  
identification card issued April 7, 2023, or after without a 2688  
noncitizen designation, or a current or expired United States 2689  
passport or passport card for inspection of the precinct 2690  
election officials ~~a certificate of naturalization,~~ and declare 2691  
declares under oath that the person is ~~the identical person~~ 2692  
~~named in the certificate. If the person states under oath that,~~ 2693  
~~by reason of the naturalization of the person's parents or one~~ 2694  
~~of them, the person has become a citizen of the United States,~~ 2695  
~~and when or where the person's parents were naturalized, the~~ 2696  
~~certificate of naturalization need not be produced~~ the person 2697  
shall be permitted to cast a regular ballot. If the person is 2698

unable to provide ~~a certificate of naturalization~~ verified 2699  
proof of citizenship as described in this division on the day of 2700  
the election, the precinct election officials shall provide to 2701  
the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 2702  
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 2703  
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 2704  
board of elections ~~determines~~ verifies that the ~~voter person~~ is 2705  
~~properly registered~~ a United States citizen and eligible to vote 2706  
in the election. 2707

(B) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2708  
ground that the person has not resided in this state for thirty 2709  
days immediately preceding the election, the precinct election 2710  
officials shall put the following questions: 2711

(1) Have you resided in this state for thirty days 2712  
immediately preceding this election? If so, where have you 2713  
resided? 2714

(2) Did you properly register to vote? 2715

(3) Can you provide some form of identification containing 2716  
your current mailing address in this precinct? Please provide 2717  
that identification. 2718

(4) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 2719  
location in this or in any other state at this election? 2720

(5) Have you applied for an absent voter's ballot in any 2721  
state for this election? 2722

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 2723  
the person's eligibility to cast a ballot in the election, the 2724  
precinct election officials shall provide to the person, and the 2725  
person may vote, a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 2726  
the Revised Code. The provisional ballot shall not be counted 2727

unless it is properly completed and the board of elections 2728  
determines that the voter is properly registered and eligible to 2729  
vote in the election. 2730

(C) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2731  
ground that the person is not a resident of the precinct where 2732  
the person offers to vote, the precinct election officials shall 2733  
put the following questions: 2734

(1) Do you reside in this precinct? 2735

(2) When did you move into this precinct? 2736

(3) When you came into this precinct, did you come for a 2737  
temporary purpose merely or for the purpose of making it your 2738  
home? 2739

(4) What is your current mailing address? 2740

(5) Do you have some official identification containing 2741  
your current address in this precinct? Please provide that 2742  
identification. 2743

(6) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 2744  
location in this or in any other state at this election? 2745

(7) Have you applied for any absent voter's ballot in any 2746  
state for this election? 2747

The precinct election officials shall direct an individual 2748  
who is not in the appropriate polling place to the appropriate 2749  
polling place. If the individual refuses to go to the 2750  
appropriate polling place, or if the precinct election officials 2751  
are unable to verify the person's eligibility to cast a ballot 2752  
in the election, the precinct election officials shall provide 2753  
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 2754  
under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 2755

ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 2756  
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2757  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2758

(D) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2759  
ground that the person is not of legal voting age, the precinct 2760  
election officials shall put the following questions: 2761

(1) Are you eighteen years of age or more? 2762

(2) What is your date of birth? 2763

(3) Do you have some official identification verifying 2764  
your age? Please provide that identification. 2765

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 2766  
the person's age and eligibility to cast a ballot in the 2767  
election, the precinct election officials shall provide to the 2768  
person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 2769  
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 2770  
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 2771  
board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2772  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2773

The voting location manager shall put such other questions 2774  
to the person challenged as are necessary to determine the 2775  
person's qualifications as an elector at the election. If a 2776  
person challenged refuses to answer fully any question put to 2777  
the person, is unable to answer the questions as they were 2778  
answered on the registration form by the person under whose name 2779  
the person offers to vote, or refuses to sign the person's name 2780  
or make the person's mark, or if for any other reason a majority 2781  
of the precinct election officials believes the person is not 2782  
entitled to vote, the precinct election officials shall provide 2783  
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 2784

under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 2785  
ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 2786  
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2787  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2788

A qualified citizen who has certified the citizen's 2789  
intention to vote for president and vice-president as provided 2790  
by Chapter 3504. of the Revised Code shall be eligible to 2791  
receive only the ballot containing presidential and vice- 2792  
presidential candidates. 2793

However, not later than the thirtieth day before the day 2794  
of an election and in accordance with section 3503.24 of the 2795  
Revised Code, any person qualified to vote may challenge the 2796  
right of any other person to be registered as a voter, or the 2797  
right to cast an absent voter's ballot, or to make application 2798  
for such ballot. Such challenge shall be made in accordance with 2799  
section 3503.24 of the Revised Code, and the board of elections 2800  
of the county in which the voting residence of the challenged 2801  
voter is situated shall make a final determination relative to 2802  
the legality of such registration or application. 2803

**Sec. 3509.05.** (A) When an elector receives an absent 2804  
voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, 2805  
the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note 2806  
whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any 2807  
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the 2808  
board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 2809  
ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and 2810  
the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the 2811  
board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and 2812  
sealed within the identification envelope received from the 2813  
board of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 2814

cause the statement of voter on the outside of the 2815  
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under 2816  
penalty of election falsification. 2817

(B) The elector shall provide one of the following: 2818

(1) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 2819  
identification card number on the statement of voter on the 2820  
identification envelope; 2821

(2) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2822  
number on the statement of voter on the identification envelope; 2823

(3) A copy of the elector's photo identification in the 2824  
return envelope with the identification envelope. 2825

(C) (1) The elector shall mail the identification envelope 2826  
to the office of the board of elections in the return envelope, 2827  
postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver ~~it the~~ 2828  
identification envelope in the return envelope to the office of 2829  
the board, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, 2830  
father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, 2831  
or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, 2832  
adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 2833  
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 2834  
office of the board in accordance with division (D) of this 2835  
section. The return envelope shall be returned by no other 2836  
person, in no other manner, and to no other location, except as 2837  
otherwise provided in section 3509.08 of the Revised Code. No 2838  
person may personally deliver the return envelope of more than 2839  
two electors for each election. 2840

(2) If the board maintains multiple offices in the county, 2841  
as permitted under division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 2842  
Revised Code, the board may designate any of its offices for the 2843

return of absent voter's ballots under this section, provided 2844  
that the board shall designate only one office to which absent 2845  
voter's ballots shall be returned under this section. 2846

(3) (a) The board of elections may place not more than one 2847  
secure receptacle outside the office of the board, on the 2848  
property on which the office of the board is located, for the 2849  
purpose of receiving absent voter's ballots under this section. 2850

(b) A secure receptacle shall be open to receive ballots 2851  
only during the period beginning on the first day after the 2852  
close of voter registration before the election and ending at 2853  
seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election. The receptacle 2854  
shall be open to receive ballots at all times during that 2855  
period. 2856

(c) A secure receptacle shall be monitored by recorded 2857  
video surveillance at all times. The video recordings are a 2858  
public record. The board shall do one of the following: 2859

(i) Make the video recordings available for inspection 2860  
upon request in accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised 2861  
Code. 2862

(ii) Make each day's video recording available to the 2863  
public on the internet for streaming or download without charge 2864  
within seventy-two hours after the recording ends and make the 2865  
video recordings available to the public upon request in 2866  
accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 2867

(d) Only a bipartisan team of election officials may open 2868  
a secure receptacle or handle its contents. A bipartisan team of 2869  
election officials shall collect the contents of each secure 2870  
receptacle and deliver them to the board for processing at least 2871  
once each day and at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the 2872

election. If, at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election, 2873  
there are persons waiting in line to deposit absent voter's 2874  
ballots in a receptacle, those persons shall be permitted to 2875  
deposit the ballots. 2876

(4) (a) During the period beginning on the forty-fifth day 2877  
before election day and ending on the day after election day, on 2878  
each day the office of the board of elections is open for 2879  
business, the board shall report to the secretary of state all 2880  
of the following information concerning the previous business 2881  
day: 2882

(i) The number of return envelopes purporting to contain 2883  
absent voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent 2884  
voter's ballots the board received by personal delivery, other 2885  
than to a receptacle described in division (C) (3) of this 2886  
section; 2887

(ii) If the board has placed a secure receptacle outside 2888  
the office of the board under division (C) (3) of this section, 2889  
the number of return envelopes purporting to contain absent 2890  
voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 2891  
ballots the board received in the receptacle. 2892

(b) As soon as practicable after receiving a report under 2893  
division (C) (4) (a) of this section, the secretary of state shall 2894  
make the information in the report available to the public on 2895  
the secretary of state's official web site. 2896

(D) (1) If the elector delivers the elector's own ballots, 2897  
the elector shall show photo identification to the election 2898  
officials to confirm that the elector is the person who cast the 2899  
ballots. 2900

(2) (a) If the elector's family member listed in division 2901

(C)(1) of this section delivers the elector's ballots, the 2902  
elector's family member shall show photo identification to the 2903  
election officials and shall sign a statement under penalty of 2904  
election falsification, on a form prescribed by the secretary of 2905  
state, that includes all of the following: 2906

(i) The elector's family member's name and residence 2907  
address; 2908

(ii) An affirmation that the elector's family member is 2909  
delivering the elector's ballots at the elector's request; 2910

(iii) An affirmation that the elector's family member is 2911  
not delivering a ballot for more than two electors for that 2912  
election. 2913

(b) Upon receiving a properly completed statement under 2914  
division (D)(3)(a) of this section and verifying the identity of 2915  
the elector's family member delivering the elector's ballot, the 2916  
election officials shall accept the ballots and attach the 2917  
statement to the return envelope. 2918

(3) The election officials shall not accept any marked 2919  
absent voter's ballots that are returned to the board by 2920  
personal delivery, except as permitted under divisions (D)(1) to 2921  
(3) of this section. 2922

(E)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(D)(2)~~-(E) 2923  
(2) of this section, all envelopes containing marked absent 2924  
voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the board 2925  
not later than the close of the polls on the day of an election. 2926  
Absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the board 2927  
later than the times specified shall not be counted, but shall 2928  
be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes in 2929  
which they are delivered, until the time provided by section 2930

3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other 2931  
ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at 2932  
which time they shall be destroyed. 2933

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(D) (2) (b)~~ 2934  
(E) (2) (b) of this section, any return envelope that is 2935  
postmarked prior to the day of the election shall be delivered 2936  
to the director prior to the fifth day after the election. 2937  
Ballots delivered in envelopes postmarked prior to the day of 2938  
the election that are received after the close of the polls on 2939  
election day through the fourth day thereafter shall be counted 2940  
on the fifth day at the board of elections in the manner 2941  
provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 3509.06 of the 2942  
Revised Code or in the manner provided in division (E) of that 2943  
section, as applicable. Any such ballots that are received by 2944  
the director later than the fourth day following the election 2945  
shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the 2946  
sealed identification envelopes as provided in division (A) of 2947  
this section. 2948

(b) Division ~~(D) (2) (a)~~ (E) (2) (a) of this section shall not 2949  
apply to any mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing 2950  
system, including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 2951  
501.1. 2952

**Sec. 3511.02.** (A) Notwithstanding any section of the 2953  
Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 2954  
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 2955  
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 2956  
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 52 U.S.C.A. 20301, 2957  
this application shall be sufficient for voter registration and 2958  
as a request for an absent voter's ballot. Uniformed services or 2959  
overseas absent voter's ballots may be obtained by any person 2960

meeting the requirements of section 3511.011 of the Revised Code 2961  
by applying electronically to the secretary of state or to the 2962  
board of elections of the county in which the person's voting 2963  
residence is located in accordance with section 3511.021 of the 2964  
Revised Code or by applying to the board of elections of the 2965  
county in which the person's voting residence is located, in one 2966  
of the following ways: 2967

(1) That person may make written application for those 2968  
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to 2969  
the office of the board or may mail it, send it by facsimile 2970  
machine, send it by electronic mail, send it through internet 2971  
delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections 2972  
or the secretary of state, or otherwise send it to the board. 2973  
Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, 2974  
the application shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary 2975  
of state and shall contain all of the following information: 2976

(a) The elector's name; 2977

(b) The elector's signature; 2978

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to 2979  
vote; 2980

(d) The elector's date of birth; 2981

~~(e) One of the following:~~ 2982

~~(i) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 2983  
identification card number;~~ 2984

~~(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2985  
number;~~ 2986

~~(iii) A copy of the elector's photo identification and 2987  
evidence that the elector is a United States citizen, as 2988~~

described in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, if the photo identification does not establish proof of citizenship under that division. 2989  
2990  
2991

(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested; 2992  
2993

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector; 2994  
2995

(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310; 2996  
2997

(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, whichever is applicable; 2998  
2999  
3000  
3001  
3002  
3003  
3004  
3005

(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation; 3006  
3007

(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed; 3008  
3009

(l) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they shall be so sent; 3010  
3011  
3012

(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact 3013  
3014  
3015  
3016

information; 3017

(n) The elector's current foreign address and evidence 3018  
that the elector resides at that address. 3019

(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division 3020  
(A) (3) of this section may use a single federal post card 3021  
application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent 3022  
voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in 3023  
a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 3024  
that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the 3025  
Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated 3026  
by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting 3027  
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to 3028  
the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application 3029  
shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 3030  
3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied 3031  
separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 3032  
ballots for each election. 3033

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas 3034  
absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to 3035  
such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father- 3036  
in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or 3037  
sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting 3038  
parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, 3039  
son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The 3040  
application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only 3041  
by the board or on a single federal post card as provided in 3042  
division (A) (2) of this section. The form of the application 3043  
shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The board shall 3044  
furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in 3045  
this division desiring to make the application, only upon the 3046

request of such a relative made in person at the office of the 3047  
board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to 3048  
the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in 3049  
division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and 3050  
sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following: 3051

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are 3052  
requested; 3053

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed 3054  
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310; 3055

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to 3056  
vote; 3057

(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of 3058  
residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of 3059  
service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or 3060  
near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the 3061  
United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 3062  
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 3063  
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 3064  
United States, as the case may be; 3065

(e) The elector's date of birth; 3066

(f) One of the following: 3067

(i) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 3068  
identification card number; 3069

(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 3070  
number; 3071

(iii) A copy of the elector's photo identification. 3072

(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent 3073

voter's ballots are requested; 3074

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 3075  
a qualified elector; 3076

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 3077  
elector's party affiliation; 3078

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to 3079  
the elector as specified in division (A) (3) of this section; 3080

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the 3081  
telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile 3082  
machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be 3083  
sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by 3084  
the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet 3085  
contact information to which ballots shall be sent through 3086  
internet delivery; 3087

(l) The signature and address of the person making the 3088  
application. 3089

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration 3090  
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the 3091  
application may include the elector's program participant 3092  
identification number instead of the address at which the 3093  
elector is registered to vote. 3094

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas 3095  
absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the 3096  
board not earlier than the first day of January of the year of 3097  
the elections for which the uniformed services or overseas 3098  
absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety 3099  
days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to 3100  
be voted, whichever is earlier. An application to receive 3101  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots by mail or 3102

by another method permitted under section 3511.021 of the Revised Code shall be delivered to the office of the board not later than the close of business on the seventh day preceding the day of the election.

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors only, the applicant shall submit to the board, in addition to the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices.

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

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

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

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the secretary of state or the board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the

application. 3132

**Sec. 3511.14.** (A) A board of elections shall accept and 3133  
process federal write-in absentee ballots ~~for all elections for~~ 3134  
~~office and for all ballot questions and issues,~~ as required 3135  
under "The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 3136  
~~Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff, et seq., as~~ 3137  
~~amended 52 U.S.C. 20303.~~ 3138

(B) A uniformed services or overseas voter may use the 3139  
declaration accompanying a federal write-in absentee ballot to 3140  
apply to register to vote simultaneously with the submission of 3141  
the federal write-in absentee ballot, if the declaration is 3142  
received not later than thirty days before the day of the 3143  
election. If the declaration is received after that date, the 3144  
declaration shall be considered an application to register to 3145  
vote for all subsequent elections. 3146

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3147  
3501.05, 3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3148  
3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.181, 3149  
3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 of 3150  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 3151

**Section 3.** This act shall be known as the Voter 3152  
Verification Act. 3153

**Section 4.** The General Assembly, applying the principle 3154  
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 3155  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 3156  
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 3157  
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 3158  
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 3159  
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 3160

as presented in this act:	3161
Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code as amended by both	3162
H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly.	3163
Section 3505.183 of the Revised Code as amended by both	3164
H.B. 45 and H.B. 458 of the 134th General Assembly.	3165



August 29, 2024

Honorable Matt Huffman  
President, Ohio Senate  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Jason Stephens  
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives  
77 South High Street, 14th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Potential Election Legislation

Dear President Huffman and Speaker Stephens,

I write to make you aware of three policy matters that have recently come to light. To ensure the ongoing integrity of Ohio's elections, I suggest urgent legislative attention to each of them.

1. A federal court's decision in a recent case impacts Ohio's ban on ballot harvesting, likely requiring a re-examination of voting assistance protocols and the security of drop boxes.
2. A new decision by the Supreme Court of the United States gives us an opportunity to better enforce Ohio's constitutional citizenship requirement for participating in elections.
3. The General Assembly should consider adopting a new provisional ballot voting requirement for voters with mismatched registration records.

### **Protecting Ohio's Election Integrity**

First, a federal court's recent decision in a lawsuit brought by the League of Women Voters ("the LWV") impacts Ohio's prohibition on ballot harvesting. Although the decision is limited in scope, it could nonetheless have a broader effect on ballot security.

The LWV sought to challenge certain provisions of House Bill 458, adopted by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor in 2023. While the court declined to act on most of the LWV's claims, it issued an order limited in scope to disabled voters who wish to utilize someone other than a relative as defined by R.C. 3509.05 to assist them with the return of an absentee ballot. Specifically, the court prohibited the state from administering, implementing, or enforcing R.C. 3599.21(A)(9) and (A)(10) "against any disabled voter or against any individual who assists any disabled voter."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See Op. at 38, 42

The law adopted by the General Assembly in 2023 defined the type of person legally eligible to assist a voter with the return of an absentee ballot as either a qualified relative or a mail carrier. The court determined that this restriction violates Section 208 of the federal Voting Rights Act, which allows a disabled voter to be assisted by “a person of the voter's choice.” Unfortunately, this decision does not provide relief to a family who believes their disabled relative is receiving ballot assistance without their knowledge, approval, or input, or who may have been coerced or misguided by individuals attempting to “assist” their voting decisions.

The court’s decision is limited in scope. However, it highlights a need for additional steps to enforce Ohio’s ban on ballot harvesting. Without the appropriate safeguards, a person could return any number of ballots to an unattended drop box simply by claiming (whether truthfully or not) the permissive authority granted under Section 208. This effectively creates an unintended loophole in Ohio’s ballot harvesting law that we must address. I suspect this is exactly the outcome the LWV intended. Under the guise of assisting the disabled, their legal strategy seeks to make Ohio’s elections less secure and more vulnerable to cheating, especially as it relates to the use of drop boxes. The security of the delivery of absentee ballots remains paramount, so this leaves us with the obvious question of a remedy.

Pending legislative action to address enforcement of Ohio’s prohibition on ballot harvesting I will direct boards to post a notification on each drop box indicating that voter-assisted ballots must be returned inside the board office, where the voter assistant will be asked to complete an attestation form confirming that they are complying with applicable state or federal law. This effectively means ONLY A VOTER’S PERSONAL BALLOT may be returned via drop box. I am acting under my statutory authority to compel the observance of election laws (*see* R.C. 3501.05), in this case Ohio’s ban on ballot harvesting. However, I strongly encourage you to consider codifying any additional safeguards that might be necessary due to attempts to erode the integrity of our elections, including possibly banning drop boxes as a result of this court decision which makes it harder to guard against ballot harvesting.

### **Enforcing Ohio’s Citizenship Requirement**

Second, the Supreme Court of the United States granted last week a request by Arizona’s Republican legislative leaders and the Republican National Committee to reinstate a law requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote. The court’s decision limits the application of the law only to voter registration forms prescribed by the state, but this ruling effectively gives the Ohio General Assembly the option to adopt a similar requirement. I recommend that we do so. As the prescriptive authority for election-related forms in Ohio, I ask that you consider codifying a proof of citizenship requirement that can be incorporated into the state-issued voter registration applications prescribed by my office. I also propose the addition of a clearly disclaimed warning that states: “The Ohio Constitution prohibits a noncitizen of the United States from registering and voting at any state or local election held in this state. It is illegal for a noncitizen to register and vote in Ohio.” Unfortunately, the court’s order does not preclude use of a longstanding federally-prescribed voter registration form that does not require proof of citizenship, so this remedy is not infallible; however, any incremental step we can take in the adoption of election integrity safeguards is a step worth taking. Upon the General Assembly’s action, I will immediately require front-end citizenship verification for all state-prescribed forms, and I will

direct all boards of elections to add additional steps to check citizenship status for registrants using the federally-prescribed form.

My office just conducted the most comprehensive citizenship verification audit ever performed on Ohio's voter rolls. We have expanded our review of citizenship records provided by the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles and obtained access to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) federal Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database, which allows government agencies to check citizenship status more effectively. We are working to implement more extensive cross-checks of Social Security Administration records, federal jury pool data, and citizenship records maintained by the justice system. Additionally, my office has asked the Biden-Harris administration to grant access to the Person Centric Query System (PCQS) database, the Person Centric Identity Services database, and the Central Index System 2, also maintained by DHS. I am currently preparing to take legal action to compel the administration to follow the law and make these resources available as our requests continue to go unanswered. Our latest investigation resulted in the recent referral of 597 individuals who registered to vote in Ohio despite not being citizens of the United States, including evidence that 138 of those registrants also cast a ballot. Our citizenship audit is ongoing as we acquire new data. Adopting a proof-of-citizenship requirement on the front end of the registration process would help to reduce our current reliance on these back-end election integrity efforts.

### **Ensuring the Accuracy of Ohio's Voter Rolls**

Finally, I ask that the General Assembly consider codifying a new provisional voting requirement for individuals who provide inaccurate information on a voter registration application. The DATA Act, which became law in 2023, gave my office the authority to conduct more extensive audits and analysis of election data. In compliance with state law, our Office of Data Analytics and Archives has identified numerous voter registration applications containing mismatched data, which differs from information on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or the Social Security Administration (BMV/SSA).

These mismatched voter registration applications are flagged and sent to the relevant county board of elections, which then sends the voter a notice asking that the mismatched information be corrected. If the voter fails to respond and engages in no voter-initiated activity for a specified period, the registration is removed from the rolls. The problem here is what happens when a voter with a mismatched registration record *does* engage in voter-initiated activity while the record is under review. Current law requires that a voter in confirmation status be returned to "active" status upon engaging in a voter-initiated activity, meaning the mismatched record never gets corrected. This leads to inaccurate data on Ohio's voter rolls and erodes public confidence in the integrity of our elections. Further, it complicates our statutory requirement "to ensure that the accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable state and federal law" and prevents us from ensuring that individuals who are not eligible to vote are promptly removed from the database. (*See* R.C. 3503.151)

As Ohio's chief election official, I propose adding a statutory mandate that any voter whose registration requires the reconciliation of mismatched data be required to cast a provisional ballot. This forces the voter to cure any mismatched information before a ballot can be counted.

To be clear, the voter registration would not be canceled but rather placed in a “provisional confirmation” status for further action. This approach mirrors current law regarding an unverified voter address. The board of elections sends an acknowledgment notice to new registrants confirming the registration and assigning a voting location. If the notice is returned by USPS as undeliverable, the board must place the registration in confirmation status, and the voter must either correct the mismatched information on file or cast a provisional ballot and correct the information through the cure process. The provisional confirmation status would follow a similar process. This change is essential to maintaining the accuracy of our voter rolls and ensuring the integrity of our elections.

Thank you for the vital role you play in ensuring that Ohio elections are secure, accurate, and accessible. While it may be unrealistic to accomplish these reforms before the upcoming election, they are nonetheless changes that should be considered as soon as possible. In the meantime, as we hope for legislative action as quickly as practicable, we will work with the boards of elections to mitigate each of these concerns to the best of our ability within the current authorities given to us by the Revised Code and the Ohio Constitution. As always, I stand ready to assist you in any way with enactment of these reforms. Consider my office a resource as we continue to build on Ohio’s national reputation as “the gold standard” of election administration.

Yours in service,



Frank LaRose  
Ohio Secretary of State

cc: John Barron, Chief of Staff, Ohio Senate  
Matt Oyster, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Senate  
Brittney Colvin, Chief of Staff, Ohio House of Representatives  
Heather Blessing, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio House of Representatives

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## H.B. 552 Testimony Follow-Up (Voter Proof/Verification of Citizenship)

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**From** mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>

**Date** Thu 11/21/2024 4:02 PM

**To** Rep81 <Rep81@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep90 <Rep90@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep49 <Rep49@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep89 <Rep89@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep10 <Rep10@ohiohouse.gov>

**Cc** Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>; frank@ohiosos.gov <frank@ohiosos.gov>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>

 2 attachments (43 KB)

BOE assn member HB 472 Letter.docx; BOE assn member HB 472 Opposition Letter .docx;

Rep Hoops and Government Oversight Committee Members,

At proponent testimony yesterday, you encouraged constituent-proponents to engage with County BOEs/OAEO to win their support. I think it's important the House Government Oversight Committee members understand the outcome of our prior experience to work with OAEO in good faith. OAEO Executive Director's Aaron Ockerman's standing position is best evidenced below in a letter he wrote to BOE members in June 2024.

In the letter, OAEO is "*happy to report*" that prior similar bills H.B. 472/S.B. 274 "*saw no action*" and is NOT interested in implementing enhanced eligibility identity verification standards of review. In fact, OAEO Director, proceeded to galvanize enduring opposition by referring to lameduck as "*tumultuous*" and "*a time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.*"

Keep in mind this update to the BOE members from OAEO Director came just 5 days after constituent-proponents for stronger election identity verification legislation met to find common ground and work through differences. ***After reading this update from OAEO Director to the BOE members who wrote letters of opposition for H.B. 472/S.B.274, do you still think they are a good faith actor who really wants to see transparency, oversight and greater accountability for citizenship verification?***

I would encourage and respectfully ask the committee to move forward with H.B. 552 even with opposition hearings. Allow opponents to explain why they are against implementing a constitutional proof of citizenship amendment opposed to documenting citizenship verification activity and against public transparency reporting requirements via SoS.

Enforcing Ohio's constitutional mandate for preventing non-citizens from registering and voting is a top imperative for Ohioans and the incoming Trump administration. I know because I actively work with and communicate with Cleta Mitchell, who submitted written testimony in support of H.B. 552. The important work that your committee does and its efforts to move this legislation are being closely followed by the new administration.

Thank you,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col. USAF (ret)  
Proponent H.B. 552 Voter Verification Act  
937-607-4237

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**From:** "Aaron Ockerman" <[aaron@ockermanconsulting.com](mailto:aaron@ockermanconsulting.com)>  
**To:** "[oaao-members@googlegroups.com](mailto:oaao-members@googlegroups.com)" <[oaao-members@googlegroups.com](mailto:oaao-members@googlegroups.com)>  
**Sent:** Sun, Jun 30, 2024 at 12:29 PM  
**Subject:** HB 472 updates

Dear OAEO members:

As you are likely aware, the Ohio General Assembly is on break until after the November election. Barring some unforeseen emergency, there will be no legislative activity before the election.

I am happy to report that neither HB 472 nor SB 274 saw action in the final days before summer recess. Having spoken to many of you at conference, I know you are busy at work educating your local reps and senators about the provisions of the bills, raising concerns, and offering to be a resource for positive changes to Ohio's elections laws. It is important that this work continue over the summer as "lame duck" will be a tumultuous time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.

To that end I have attached two excellent letters that were sent by local BOE's to their legislators. They strike a wonderful tone, being direct and to the point, but respectful and educational. I trust they will be helpful to you.

It was great seeing so many of you at conference. Happy Independence Day to you all!

Aaron

Ohio elections have been proven time and time again to be secure and accurate. Some of the current security standards, implemented by the Ohio Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security have set standards that other states are envious of. Per Ohio law, the structure of Ohio's election boards sets bipartisan requirements that are fair, honest and administered without a political hat. All the standards and practices of the county boards of elections, as well as the Secretary of State are a testament to the high security standards in Ohio. With post-election audit results holding at 99.9% – 99.98%, it is obvious that Ohio is doing something right. While we can appreciate efforts to make elections even more secure, some efforts contained in HB 472 / SB 274 may be very costly to county boards, burdensome to voters, troublesome for election workers, create additional security concerns, delay the process of counting ballots, create inaccurate results, and disenfranchise many voters.

The proposed requirement for absentee voters to provide a copy of their identification for registering to vote or to request an absentee ballot is burdensome and disenfranchising to voters, especially our elderly voters. It would be difficult for this population to make a copy of their identification. It would also be challenging for folks who do not have access to a copier. The laws in HB 458 have already shortened the time frame for voters to request and return ballots and this will only disenfranchise more people. On the administrative side of this bill, requiring a copy of a voter's identification with their absentee applications will cause numerous delays and issues for our staff to obtain information from voters who may have not included a copy of their identification. This would mean numerous phone calls, explaining to voters what it is they are required to provide, explaining to voters how to obtain a copy (not especially easy with the elderly), and providing additional instructions/deadlines to voters. Not only would voters become frustrated and not vote, but the public backlash for these types of regulations makes our jobs as election officials even harder.

The security issues raised regarding cataloging every voter identification is impossible. The amount of storage to house records of this magnitude would be unattainable and the costs would obviously be the county's responsibility. For example, Sandusky County's board office is so small that we have had to use alternative methods for creating a space for voters during the early voting period. Also, it would not be secure to house these records off-site. Our voter registration systems do not have the capability to retain these records and the cost to pay the vendors to re-write and develop programs to do such things would be very costly. This is not only unfair to Ohio county boards to require such an expense, but ultimately, taxpayers would be footing the bill. As a taxpaying citizen, I find that to be somewhat of a double whammy. Not only are you requiring voters to obtain copies (gas, costs of copies, inconvenience, etc.), but this would also hit their pocketbooks on the backside in paying for the storage of these massive records and/or the reprogramming of the voter registration systems.

Ohio currently allows boards to begin opening and scanning the absentee ballots prior to Election Day. This provides an opportunity for boards to ensure that all the ballots being returned are properly accounted for and gives boards a little bit of a head start when doing the final tabulations. In turn, this helps to provide fast, accurate election results. The time it would take to process returned ballots would be drawn out for many days (if not weeks), especially during a Presidential Election. This will not only greatly increase the time period for election results but could also cause issues with processing. By the end of the 30 day early voting period, election officials are exhausted (mentally and physically) and adding more layers to a very detailed and complex process will only lead to more errors and slower reporting.

Just the words 'hand counting ballots' make most of my staff want to quit. Again, the level of exhaustion at the end of the 30 day early voting period is already a lot. When early voting ends, we gear up for what will be at least a 16 hour Election Day, election night reporting, provisional ballot reviews, extra board meetings, absentee ballots that are still being returned, etc., so the thought of counting anything by hand in that frame of mind is impossible. This would be filled with errors and **very** time-consuming. Imagine working long hours in a very stressful environment, for about 20 days straight without a day off, then pull off a perfect Election Day only to be required to plug along for as many more days/weeks it would take to obtain accurate hand counts. As most people will tell you, their focus and ability to function at such a pace would be lost. How costly would this be? It would require a very large network of teams (which means hiring more staff), it would require a different site for this process to take place (security issues and costs would be significant). How accurate would we expect the results to be? How many days or weeks before results could be available? Sandusky County trusts that the accuracy and logistics testing done on all voting equipment is proof that the machines work. It proves that the machines can count the ballots faster and are spot-on with accuracy. We trust that the post-election audits speak for themselves and should be used as a tool for educating voters who distrust the voting process. Election deniers are already provided an opportunity to observe the audit process, though few ever take the time to actually observe and those same folks are always encouraged to be a precinct election official. Perhaps, it would be more of an educational opportunity for those folks to actually observe the processes and to take part in working on Election Day, versus creating more hurdles, increasing the costs of elections, putting undue requirements on voters and election officials.

We appreciate your time and consideration for the issues brought forth. We ask that you contact your county board of elections to sign up to work as a precinct election official, and encourage all elected officials, election deniers and anyone who is curious about the processes to take part in our democracy. It is truly a remarkable process by which Ohio has set the gold standard and that other states can only attempt to reproduce. We would also request that HB 472 / SB 274 be held from any further advancement until our Representatives and Senators

have a chance obtain more feedback from voters and election officials. As someone who has been in the field for over 15 years, I believe this is the very minimum of what can be done to establish more trust and transparency in Ohio elections. Voting can be a very confusing and difficult process for some people to navigate and changing the laws every couple of years, only provides more hurdles for our voters. Again, we appreciate your time and attention to this very important matter.

From: Jim Ehrman  
864 Leonard Street  
Fostoria, OH 44830  
jamescehrman@gmail.com

06/28/2024

To: The Honorable Bill Reineke  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
221  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Senator Reineke,

My name is Jim Ehrman and I reside at 864 Leonard Street, Fostoria, Ohio. I am currently the Deputy Director for the Seneca County Board of Elections. I also continue to serve on the Seneca County Republican Central Committee. In the past I have served as Director for the Board of Elections and have been the Ohio Secretary of State, Republican Election Official of the Year. Also, in the past I have served at various times as Chairman, Secretary, First Vice Chairman and Second Vice Chairman for the Seneca County Republican Central Committee.

I am writing to you today after reading HB 472/SB 274. I have found several areas of concern and am asking you to oppose this bill. It is my understanding that this bill was introduced as a bill "to enhance election security". However, upon reading the bill, I have developed grave concerns that this bill will reduce both accuracy and security in Ohio's elections.

Our system of requiring bipartisan teams to work from beginning to end throughout the election process; from overseeing the programming of our election machines; to publicly testing each voting machine's logic and accuracy to ensure that each voting machine is working, marking and tabulating ballots correctly before each election; to accurately processing absentee and day of election ballots and then tabulating the initial results on election night; to subsequently researching and comparing Provisional Ballots to both the election day and absentee ballot check ins in the immediate days after an election, working to ensure no one attempts to double vote; to completing an accurate final count and finally to the partial hand count audit verifying the accuracy of all that has transpired, all on a tight schedule after elections ensures that Ohio's elections are secure, accurate, well audited, and reported in a timely way. All of this has moved Ohio elections to the forefront of the election process, being held up as the "gold standard" for other States to emulate. I have serious concerns that much of this will be altered to less secure, less timely and less well-regarded methods should this bill be enacted. It is for these reasons that I oppose this bill in its entirety. It is my belief that many of the provisions of the bill will unravel well over 20 years' worth of efforts by various Ohio Secretaries of State and members of the Ohio legislature from both parties that have over time drastically and demonstrably improved Ohio's election law. Moreover, I

suspect this bill would create problems in Ohio that currently plague other States and would then draw national attention to Ohio for suddenly having issues that until now, were not a problem.

While not all inclusive, over the following paragraphs I will attempt to highlight what I believe are some of the most dangerous pieces found in this legislation:

**Firstly, I am concerned** that as written, this bill encourages counties to shift to the hand counting of ballots as opposed to the current electronic tabulation (Seneca County first shifted to electronic tabulation around 1977 to enhance both speed and accuracy.). Various studies across the U.S. and Globally since the late 1960s have shown hand counting of ballots during an election to be significantly less accurate and much slower than the digital tabulation of votes. Additionally, per the Ohio Legislative Service Commission's Legislative Budget Office, this would likely increase the cost of elections in each County by up to \$4.50 per vote. A cost that would have to be paid for out of County budgets.

Seneca County is a smaller county in Ohio and for Seneca County alone, this would have increased costs for the 2024 Primary election by up to \$37,984.00. Moreover, if this would have been in place at the 2020 general election it would have cost Seneca County an additional \$117,306.00 for that one November election alone. This additional ongoing cost would be a burden to the County and would likely be prohibitive in larger Counties. Furthermore, hand counts are slow. They require significant manpower to be done in a bipartisan manner and will take significant time, thus ending the ability of Boards of Election to timely report the accurate results of an election by noon the day following an election. It would likely take days, if not weeks, after an election for Statewide or Federal office results to be reported and longer still for a final count and subsequent audit for accuracy.

**My next concern** with this bill is a requirement that ALL voting equipment must adhere to VVSG 2.0. This is a federal list of voluntary guidelines that no election vendor currently meets. Mandating these guidelines would decertify all voting equipment in Ohio and leave us with no viable alternative before the Presidential Election this November. Further, IF somehow a vendor were able to meet all the specifications it would likely cost well over \$114.5 million across the State to implement these machines. (This number is based on the cost of a similar program where the State provided funding for under SB 135 of the 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, per the Legislative Budget Office.) Given that this is now the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, and inflation has been rampant these last few years, I expect there will be a significantly higher cost for the new technology, should the bill pass. That is IF this can be developed, certified, and released in a timely way by vendors, in time for acquisition and subsequent training of Ohio SOS staff, Boards of Elections and Staff and then poll workers, immediately before a Presidential election. It is important to once again note here, Ohio is currently the "gold standard" for elections in the United States and abroad. There are currently no other States in the Country that require this level of certification for election equipment, thus there is no real market for the election vendors to develop towards regarding this goal, at least not yet. Moreover, our elections are currently securely conducted by bipartisan teams in all 88 Ohio Counties. After many audits and investigations Ohio's elections are secure and accurate with no widespread fraud or inaccuracies found.

**My next major concerns** regarding this bill have to do with absentee voting. First and foremost, I am concerned with the absentee ballot ID requirements. Requiring voters who cast an absentee ballot by mail to include photocopies of their identification places an undue burden on this group of voters. Undoubtedly, there are many voters who do not possess the equipment or capability to meet the requirement. This would specifically apply to older or home bound Ohioans who may find this very difficult to comply with. Further, we already have significant portions of the voter's personal information at the Board of Elections, including their name, address, date of birth and either or both the last 4 digits of their social security number and/or their State of Ohio Driver's License or State ID number as well as their signature. When an application to absentee vote is received at a Board of Elections office, the information on that application is compared to the information we have. Further, when a voted absentee ballot is received in its identification envelope, we compare the information on that envelope to both what is in our system and what is on the application for an absentee ballot. This is already a very secure way of handling absentee ballots. Adding a copy of a photo ID to the envelope would both likely be burdensome and would potentially allow a vector for the unscrupulous to intercept those envelopes to seize the information on that photocopy for identity theft purposes as it works its way through the postal system.

I am also very concerned with the bill's requirement of not opening absentee ballots until after the close of the election day polls. This is something we have already dealt with in the past and a requirement we altered for good reason. Currently, the Boards of Election are allowed to open the absentee envelopes and further to begin the process of preparing those absentee ballots for tabulation prior to the end of the election day. To be clear, these ballots cannot be tabulated until after the election ends at 7:30 p.m. Having those potentially thousands of ballots ready for tabulation allows for both accurate and quicker processing allowing for timely election results. Shifting back to not opening these until after election day ends will cause a significant delay in reporting election night results forcing Boards of Election to be unable to comply with current requirements of reporting no later than noon the day after the election.

Additionally, our system currently looks at the Election Day and Absentee reports by the next day and then allows the Boards of Elections to begin researching each Provisional ballot one at a time, looking at the Absentee and Election Day lists and comparing those Provisional ballot envelopes allowing Boards to check and ensure no one attempts to vote an absentee or regular ballot and then also vote a Provisional ballot. Current systems are set up to ensure this system works well, accurately, and quickly allowing all 88 Boards of Elections to communicate with one another & ensuring that Provisional ballots are correctly cast and countable. The changes that would be necessary with the passage of this bill are simply not currently set up in any Board of Elections systems. The current systems lack the ability to intake, file and review Provisional ballots first. It would be difficult to compare Provisional ballots against regularly cast Absentee and Election Day ballots, as the system needs the absentee and day of election recorded voters first. This would be a radical overhaul of systems and software which would again likely be extremely expensive to implement, especially in a timely way. This dramatic change will likely cause immediate inaccuracies compared to continuing to use proven systems, order and technology to research Provisional voters after the Absentee and Election Day votes.

**Finally, I am very concerned** about the changes in voter registration requirements. Requiring Boards of Elections to obtain, catalog and store driver's license photos for all the voters in their databases borders on an impossible task to complete. Current voter registration systems do not allow for this or have a potential space where this might be stored within the systems. This would create an unnecessary hardship for the Boards of Elections and for the vendors we rely on. Should this happen, it will certainly get done with an unknown financial cost to our vendors, which will certainly be passed on to each Board of Elections and thus to the County Commissioners for further required and necessary budget increases. Additionally, allowing "commercial services" to audit the State's voter registration database, creates an attack vector for malicious actors seeking to steal identities and leaves our systems less secure. This information is currently audited annually by the Ohio SOS, working with the Boards of Elections to make any changes or corrections. Adding an outside service to again audit this will be costly and will reduce, not enhance database security.

I want to take a moment to thank you for reading over my concerns. I appreciate that in a busy work week you have taken these few moments and I hope that you will consider opposing this bill and letting the sponsors and your leadership team know about your concerns. If you need additional information, please don't hesitate to call or text me and I would be happy to sit down and discuss this further. Additionally, if you need more information while you are in Columbus, please reach out to Aaron Ockerman at the Ohio Association of Elections officials. It is likely that he is better able to articulate these concerns and may also have a better way of placing these concerns in a bullet point document for members of the General Assembly, if necessary.

Best Regards,

Jim Ehrman, MOL, OREO, Godan, LUTCF  
Deputy Director, Seneca County Board of Elections

 Outlook

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Here is a brief transcript of the Proponent Testimony given for HB 552

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**From** Allison Crisci-Nickolai <allisonnickolai@msn.com>

**Date** Thu 11/21/2024 10:10 PM

**To** ohio4truth <ohio4truth@proton.me>; Becky Bailey <beckybailey99@proton.me>; Lt Col Marcell Strbich <mstrbic@protonmail.com>; Cleta Mitchell <cleta@cletamitchell.com>; ewattsohio@gmail.com <ewattsohio@gmail.com>; jim@rigano.net <jim@rigano.net>

**Cc** swiggam@gmail.com <swiggam@gmail.com>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>

 2 attachments (49 KB)

HB 552 11-20 PROPONENT testimony notes and questions.docx; HB 552 11-20 PROPONENT testimony notes and questions.docx;

To All, A HUGE THANK YOU! Proponent testimony was well prepared and the team was ready for any questions asked by the Committee Members.

To Scott Wiggam and Beth Lear, Thank you for proposing this important legislation contained in HB552 to strengthen Ohio voter registration process and procedures.

I have attached a written summary of the presenters, topics presented, and the questions that came from the House Government Oversight Committee during Proponent Testimony for your review.

Allison Nickolai

## HB 552 Testimony Notes and Questions

### Proponent Testimony Speaker 1:

**Marcell Strbich** – An expert in System design and vulnerability/risk assessment. Introductions to what Committee will hear about including the presenter list. Testimony included procedural reform of Voter Verification and how it impacts 4 layers of administration. Emphasized the necessary interaction of all entities in cross checking for valid registrations, Before registration, and not after registrations enter the voter rolls, Also, Drop Box vulnerability portion of Bill,

### Ranking Member Latyna Humprey (D) district 2 Columbus

- Q; Won't this validation legislation slow down certification of elections?
- A: NO. front end validation not part of vote certification. We have 50K records- not validated currently accessing regular ballot. You will be on same playing field regarding ballots cast by each elector
- Q: Has there been a Cost analysis for enacting this bill:
- A: Cost needs to be done at county level adding data fields like citizenship must be done with voter file maintenance contractor.
- Q: What would this process take to be implemented (How Long)?
- A: Matter of months to implement the data fields necessary. Unanswered question: Will DHS provide the information to SoS? The answer to this Will expedite the process

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- Q: Doesn't know why we need it: solution in search of a problem: Larose quote: "we are better protected than any other state in the nation" so Why should we question him?
- A: The NEED IS INDISPUTABLE. Our Constitution changed in 2022, but the existing laws and procedures have not. AZ and NH have moved forward with citizenship verification. Ohio has the opportunity to get on board. Once implemented, Non-Citizens will NOT be on the voter rolls- not like present state of voter rolls.
- Q: We Just had election in OH: Election just happened, You aren't suggesting there was an issue with election are you?.
- A: NO: This has to do with the process and procedure and not any election outcome. Equal playing field for all electors on the voter rolls
- Q: SoS has Looked for evidence of voter fraud, dead people, etc... and in 2024 indicted only 6 people. Why do you think this is necessary?
- A: The reason we only had 137 registrations found in Annual Audit, is due to the problem with the verification system and audit laws currently in existence. When SoS does that review they are only looking at a very small portion of the registrations. Existing law is "Post Defacto". This Bill proves for the ability to Do the validation up front and not on the back end. Once fully implemented, We won't HAVE to do an annual audit. Fix the issue from the front and not the back like annual audit.

### Chair Bob Peterson (R) District 91 (Fayette, Highland, Pike, Ross)

- Q: You believe there is a much greater NON CITIZEN issue than the 137:
- A: YES but the only way to know is to implement the process. Evidence based approach not media, not narrative

- Q: Has OEAO been contacted about this bill?

- A: No, this will take place at the county BOE once tools are accessible
- Q: What are your qualifications to address this issue and this bill?
- A: Concerned citizen, son of immigrant and fully respect the right to vote: My Professional experience, systems technology, connecting databases in career. There is a Known risk in current structure to NOT integrate information in voter registration systems (No Blame) we haven't completely achieved information sharing. There should be No more dispute of what we have/don't have RE voter registrations. The Boards and the citizens deserve the best we can give them.

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- Q: Would you be willing to go to BOE 's?
- A: Yes, but they have a system already in their law. No criteria yet to address "satisfied as to the...." Which must be changed by law
- I would Encourage you to go to the BOE. "Give us some feedback..."
- Q: With all the technology, we should Deal with this disparity in procedure NOW: What about AI?
- A: Our systems now have to keep up with these elements,

**Proponent Testimony: Speaker 2**

**Gail Niederlehner:** Bill introduces only eligible citizens vote in Ohio elections: Safe not sorry. No verification before entry on the voter rolls. If there is No identity verification, voters remain on rolls 4 years even when BMV comes back as mismatch. Other important functions, banking, financial, etc all have safeguards, why not elections and voter rolls. With this bill, Voter with incomplete record goes into provisional status. HB 237 allows loophole for any registrations without DL/ID. Just one instance of ineligible vote cast erodes public confidence in elections. \*\*Follow up to Brown from Sponsor Testimony. Boards don't verify against BMV. They have No capability. Absentee ballots received may or MAY NOT have been validated before their ballot is accepted.

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- A: Use of SSN4 is not adequate. Annual would not catch registrations occurring after March 2024 through close of election registration. Basically a 6-7 month period of no checks on new registrations.

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- Q: ERIC's mission, was to eliminate bad voter registrations from voter rolls, ERIC uses BMV, NCOA, BVS to provide information to member affiliates. ERIC's mission seem to do what this bill is doing, so why did we pull out of that agreement?
- A: This bill is attacking the voter rolls at the point of entry, It is not the same thing.
- Q: Do you believe there is any voter fraud in 2024.
- A: We have no information to indicate any fraudulent activity because the results on the voter rolls is not available yet

**Rep. Michelle Grimm (D) District 43 Lucas**

- Q: A Non citizen goes in to BMV to get an ID (or DL), Non citizen is placed on the back, so what's the issue?. Also, Ineligible voters put on voter rolls data of 50K. Where does that data come from?
- A: HAVV showed 50K rejections that had been rejected when information was checked. The NON Citizen physical indication is new and is only 1.5 years into the possible 8 year cycle for license renewal. Currently, ineligible voters could vote a regular ballot if DL says non citizen and they presented naturalization document that Pollworkers and BOEs have no means to validate.
- Q: What is HAVV and HAVA?

- A: HAVV is a feature of HAVA (Help America Vote Act) that shares publicly available data on SSN4 searches.

**Ranking Member Latyna Humprey (D): district 2**

- Q: We often look at other states to see what they are doing. What are some challenges in other states on legislation about citizenship validation? Do you feel like this bill addresses other states issues with litigation? .
- A: AZ and NJ (NH!!) Other states efforts have not resulted in litigation, except AZ which cleared the litigation hurdle this year. Citizenship Validation is now required in both states. We don't expect any challenges.

**Proponent testimony: Speaker 3:**

**Becky Baily:** I have been involved in Voter roll examination since 2020 . Most of the Problems and errors have been reported to SoS. There has been Improvement resulting from our reporting through presenting this data to County BOE's. I am convinced through my experience in working with BOE's, Boards work hard to make it happen. Voter roll Errors would be eliminated if DB updates were implemented. I won't discuss the 200K deceased voters, 500K voters on rolls with registration dates preceding DOB, 250K who haven't voted in 10 year with 70K of them being in active status when they should have been removed after 4 years- regular ballot Duplicate voters: or Voters who have moved. It is understood that Mistakes happen In manual data entry causing **DUPLICATE REGISTRATIONS that are not caught**. This can result in "2 separate people" being on the voter rolls when they are clearly the same. Voters who changed their names are entered as 2 separate voter ID's many times but have the Same address. There exist many Data entry errors from interpreting information from paper forms. ORC 3503.151D requires SoS to obtain data from Databases and BOE's with no duplicates 3503.12 states that all registrations are to be carefully checked and additional (duplicate) registration shall be removed. NO TOOLS exist for the BOE's to resolve these, yet directive 2024.25 mandated that all outstanding duplicates were to be resolved by 10/22/24. Zero percent was the goal, but there were 18K duplicates in 11/9/2024. 1828 dups alone in the Merrin race today.

**Rep. Michelle Grimm (D) District 43 Lucas**

- Q: So are you saying people are voting twice?
- A: Yes it happens, when they are found, they are referred to county prosecutors.
- Q: Name changes: Doesn't the BOE have mechanisms to check?, I trust the board, what do you think is the best solution?
- A: We need a better DB platform, and better validation of all registrations,

**Proponent testimony Speaker 4:**

**Myra Keller:** Her mother and father had voter registrations updated due to relocation in April with Mom In a separate Nursing Home situation on the same grounds as Dad. Instructions were specifically given to all nursing home staff regarding Mom voting in the 2024 election: The family would request and facilitate BOTH PARENTS absentee ballots. Those requests were NOT honored and the absentee ballot requested by the family was never delivered to Mom. Further investigation revealed that Mom's registration address was altered, and a second absentee ballot request for mom was processed by the nursing home to the BOE. Somehow, that ballot application submitted by the nursing home was returned and honored when the request by the family was not. Signatures on ballot request form did not match, and Mom "voted" (had a ballot cast in her name) without family assistance, or allowing use of her device she uses to "see" printed language. There has been no acknowledgement by ANY party involved to clarify what happened, and her provisional ballot was rejected as the "system" indicated a vote had already been accepted and tabulated in her name.

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I don't think many of us would be as calm over this situation if it had happened to us. Thank you for your testimony.

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- A: HAVV is a feature of HAVA (Help America Vote Act) that shares publicly available data on SSN4 searches.

**Ranking Member Latyna Humprey (D): district 2**

- Q: We often look at other states to see what they are doing. What are some challenges in other states on legislation about citizenship validation? Do you feel like this bill addresses other states issues with litigation? .
- A: AZ and NJ (NH!!) Other states efforts have not resulted in litigation, except AZ which cleared the litigation hurdle this year. Citizenship Validation is now required in both states. We don't expect any challenges.

**Proponent testimony: Speaker 3:**

**Becky Bailey:** I have been involved in Voter roll examination since 2020 . Most of the Problems and errors have been reported to SoS. There has been Improvement resulting from our reporting through presenting this data to County BOE's. I am convinced through my experience in working with BOE's, Boards work hard to make it happen. Voter roll Errors would be eliminated if DB updates were implemented. I won't discuss the 200K deceased voters, 500K voters on rolls with registration dates preceding DOB, 250K who haven't voted in 10 year with 70K of them being in active status when they should have been removed after 4 years- regular ballot Duplicate voters: or Voters who have moved. It is understood that Mistakes happen In manual data entry causing **DUPLICATE REGISTRATIONS that are not caught**. This can result in "2 separate people" being on the voter rolls when they are clearly the same. Voters who changed their names are entered as 2 separate voter ID's many times but have the Same address. There exist many Data entry errors from interpreting information from paper forms. ORC 3503.151D requires SoS to obtain data from Databases and BOE's with no duplicates 3503.12 states that all registrations are to be carefully checked and additional (duplicate) registration shall be removed. NO TOOLS exist for the BOE's to resolve these, yet directive 2024.25 mandated that all outstanding duplicates were to be resolved by 10/22/24. Zero percent was the goal, but there were 18K duplicates in 11/9/2024. 1828 dups alone in the Merrin race today.

**Rep. Michelle Grimm (D) District 43 Lucas**

- Q: So are you saying people are voting twice?
- A: Yes it happens, when they are found, they are referred to county prosecutors.
- Q: Name changes: Doesn't the BOE have mechanisms to check?, I trust the board, what do you think is the best solution?
- A: We need a better DB platform, and better validation of all registrations,

**Proponent testimony Speaker 4:**

**Myra Keller:** Her mother and father had voter registrations updated due to relocation in April with Mom In a separate Nursing Home situation on the same grounds as Dad. Instructions were specifically given to all nursing home staff regarding Mom voting in the 2024 election: The family would request and facilitate BOTH PARENTS absentee ballots. Those requests were NOT honored and the absentee ballot requested by the family was never delivered to Mom. Further investigation revealed that Mom's registration address was altered, and a second absentee ballot request for mom was processed by the nursing home to the BOE. Somehow, that ballot application submitted by the nursing home was returned and honored when the request by the family was not. Signatures on ballot request form did not match, and Mom "voted" (had a ballot cast in her name) without family assistance, or allowing use of her device she uses to "see" printed language. There has been no acknowledgement by ANY party involved to clarify what happened, and her provisional ballot was rejected as the "system" indicated a vote had already been accepted and tabulated in her name.

**Chair Bob Peterson (R) District 91 (Fayette, Highland, Pike, Ross)**

I don't think many of us would be as calm over this situation if it had happened to us. Thank you for your testimony.

---

**Re: H.B. 552 Testimony Follow-Up (Voter Proof/Verification of Citizenship)**

---

From Mark Pukita <mark@mark4ohio.com>

Date Fri 11/22/2024 6:52 AM

To Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>; mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep49 <Rep49@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep10 <Rep10@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep89 <Rep89@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep90 <Rep90@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep81 <Rep81@ohiohouse.gov>

Cc Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>; frank@ohiosos.gov <frank@ohiosos.gov>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>

Thanks, Marcell.

It looks to me like taxpayers (who pay the dues for OAE0 for their BOE's members) are paying for an organization to lobby AGAINST strengthening Ohio's election system. I'd like a show of hands of those copied on this message of those who agree with me. If you don't, please explain why you disagree.

I plan to go extremely public with this. It's absolutely unacceptable. I'll be naming names & spotlighting where everyone stands on this insane situation. Ohio's BOEs need to terminate their relationship with either OAE0 or terminate O

On November 21, 2024 at 3:59:59 PM, mstrbic ([mstrbic@protonmail.com](mailto:mstrbic@protonmail.com)) wrote:

Rep Hoops and Government Oversight Committee Members,

At proponent testimony yesterday, you encouraged constituent-proponents to engage with County BOEs/OAE0 to win their support. I think it's important the House Government Oversight Committee members understand the outcome of our prior experience to work with OAE0 in good faith. OAE0 Executive Director's Aaron Ockerman's standing position is best evidenced below in a letter he wrote to BOE members in June 2024.

In the letter, OAE0 is "*happy to report*" that prior similar bills H.B. 472/S.B. 274 "*saw no action*" and is NOT interested in implementing enhanced eligibility identity verification standards of review. In fact, OAE0 Director, proceeded to galvanize enduring opposition by referring to lameduck as "*tumultuous*" and "*a time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.*"

Keep in mind this update to the BOE members from OAE0 Director came just 5 days after constituent-proponents for stronger election identity verification legislation met to find common ground and work through differences. ***After reading this update from OAE0 Director to the BOE members who wrote letters of opposition for H.B. 472/S.B.274, do you still think they are a good faith actor who really wants to see transparency, oversight and greater accountability for citizenship verification?***

I would encourage and respectfully ask the committee to move forward with H.B. 552 even with opposition hearings. Allow opponents to explain why they are against implementing a

constitutional proof of citizenship amendment opposed to documenting citizenship verification activity and against public transparency reporting requirements via SoS.

Enforcing Ohio's constitutional mandate for preventing non-citizens from registering and voting is a top imperative for Ohioans and the incoming Trump administration. I know because I actively work with and communicate with Clela Mitchell, who submitted written testimony in support of H.B. 552. The important work that your committee does and its efforts to move this legislation are being closely followed by the new administration.

Thank you,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col. USAF (ret)  
Proponent H.B. 552 Voter Verification Act  
937-607-4237

---

**From:** "Aaron Ockerman" <aaron@ockermanconsulting.com>  
**To:** "oaeo-members@googlegroups.com" <oaeo-members@googlegroups.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, Jun 30, 2024 at 12:29 PM  
**Subject:** HB 472 updates

Dear OAEO members:

As you are likely aware, the Ohio General Assembly is on break until after the November election. Barring some unforeseen emergency, there will be no legislative activity before the election.

I am happy to report that neither HB 472 nor SB 274 saw action in the final days before summer recess. Having spoken to many of you at conference, I know you are busy at work educating your local reps and senators about the provisions of the bills, raising concerns, and offering to be a resource for positive changes to Ohio's elections laws. It is important that this work continue over the summer as "lame duck" will be a tumultuous time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.

To that end I have attached two excellent letters that were sent by local BOE's to their legislators. They strike a wonderful tone, being direct and to the point, but respectful and educational. I trust they will be helpful to you.

It was great seeing so many of you at conference. Happy Independence Day to you all!

Aaron

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**Re: H.B. 552 Testimony Follow-Up (Voter Proof/Verification of Citizenship)**

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To Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>; mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep49 <Rep49@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep10 <Rep10@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep89 <Rep89@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep90 <Rep90@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep81 <Rep81@ohiohouse.gov>

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Regards,

Mark Pukita

Mark Pukita • 614-499-0599 (c) • [mark@mark4ohio.com](mailto:mark@mark4ohio.com)

4240 Hobbs Landing Drive West, Dublin, OH 43017

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---

**Election Legislation Comparison - Proof of Citizenship**

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**From** mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>

**Date** Mon 11/18/2024 3:04 PM

**To** frank@ohiosos.gov <frank@ohiosos.gov>

**Cc** State Senator Andrew Brenner <Brenner@ohiosenate.gov>; State Senator Theresa Gavarone <Gavarone@ohiosenate.gov>; Peterson, Bob <Bob.Peterson@ohiohouse.gov>; Eileen Watts <ewatts@columbus.rr.com>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>

 3 attachments (850 KB)

Comparison HB 552 Sub and SB 324.pdf; VVA 5.pdf; OH SoS Memo to the Legislature\_Response to Open Letter.pdf;

Secretary LaRose,

As mentioned, please see the 1-page chart detailing distinctions between H.B. 552 Sub Bill and S.B. 324 driven by your "Potential Election Legislation" Memo attached.

Now more than ever unity and reconciliation of election safeguards legislation takes on new meaning. With the advent of today's OH Ballot Board authorizing the latest progressive constitutional amendment "Ohio Voters Bill of Rights," that guts voter photo-ID, imposes automatic and same day voter registration and enshrines unlimited drop boxes in Ohio's constitution, it is advisable House and Senate close ranks, unite under one version and not delay passage until Spring if possible. In accordance with House sponsors I will send Sen Brenner specific change-input for Senate sponsor consideration.

The Election Integrity Network and Ohio Research Collaborative is happy to work with sponsors in both chambers to achieve the critical objectives you've set. Thank you for making this possible.

Respectfully,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col USAF (ret)

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

# OHIO ELECTIONS RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE

## HB552 Sub-Bill and SB324 Comparison Highlights

<b>Shared Goals:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Verify US citizenship for new and existing voters.</li> <li>➤ Require provisional ballots for mismatched voter registration information to BMV or SSA records.</li> <li>➤ Institute tighter controls on signing a petition and it's effect on voter registrations.</li> <li>➤ Address drop box issues.</li> </ul>		
<b>Key Differences:</b>	<b>HB552</b>	<b>SB324</b>
<b>1. Qualified Electors Clause</b>	Defines the qualifications that must be verified for an elector to be entitled to vote.	Not addressed in the bill
<b>2. Verification Sources to Make Available to Boards of Elections</b>	BMV, DHS (including SAVE), USCIS, SSA, federal jury pool data or naturalization records, Ohio Dept. of Job & Family Services, Health, Medicaid, Rehab and Corrections	BMV
<b>3. Proof of Citizenship</b>	Requires all proof of citizenship be verified. Excludes out-of-state DL/ID as proof of citizenship.	Does not require all proof of citizenship be verified, allowing some that may false. Accepts out-of-state DL/ID (or copy) as proof of citizenship.
<b>4. Applicants/Voters Excluded from US Citizenship Verification</b>	None, except as limited by SOS approved verification sources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new applicants are verified for citizenship,</li> <li>• All existing voters are verified during a Monthly Citizen Review.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSN4 and federal form applicants that include UOCAVA are excluded from verification before they are registered;</li> <li>• Voters who don't change their name/address, and noncitizens not selected on the limited Annual Noncitizen Review are not verified.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Identified as Noncitizen or Lack of Proof of Citizenship Documents</b>	Individuals claim to be US citizens but are identified as noncitizens, or lack documents may request a hearing with the Board	Not addressed in the bill
<b>6. US Citizenship Tracking</b>	Additional citizenship verification data fields	Limited new citizen verification data fields
<b>7. Voting Rights after Identified As Not Verified to be a US Citizen</b>	Voters must cast a provisional ballot until they provide proof of citizenship that is verified by the Board.	Voters can cast a regular ballot while the Board attempts to obtain proof of citizenship (which is not verified by the Board).
<b>8. Proof of Citizenship Presented at the Polls on Election Day</b>	Voters who present a US passport or DL/ID issued after 4/6/2023 without a noncitizen designation can vote a regular ballot; all others must vote a provisional ballot.	Voters who present any proof of citizenship, (or a copy), can vote a regular ballot without verification the voter is a US citizen.
<b>9. Registration Identity Information</b>	In compliance with HAVA, a current and valid Ohio DL/ID is required; if an applicant does not have one, SSN4 can be used.	This bill continues to allow Ohio DL/ID or SSN4, which may conflict with federal law.
<b>10. Verify voter registration information with BMV/SSA Records</b>	Conduct Monthly verification, plus verification immediately after the registration deadline before an election. Voters with mismatched data must vote provisional.	Duplicates current HB552 which conducts a weekly verification and voters with mismatched data must vote provisional. This aligns closer to current SOS directives.
<b>11. Public Information Reporting</b>	Transparent reporting of voter citizenship information (date, evidence, source). Voters can view provisional ballot information online.	Not addressed in the bill
<b>12. Register to vote and sign a petition on same day</b>	Not addressed in the bill	Petition signatures only count if the individual is registered on the date the petition is signed.
<b>13. Petition signatures from ineligible voters</b>	Petition signatures are only counted from voters verified as qualified to vote.	Petitions signed by any voter, whether verified as qualified to vote or not, are counted. All voter registration deficiencies are resolved by signing a petition.
<b>14. Drop boxes</b>	Requires a photo id and written affirmation when dropping off any ballot. Voters may drop off up to two ballots for family members. Outdoor receptacles are banned.	Elector assistants can drop off ballots for any voter with unverifiable affirmation and no limit on the number of ballots dropped off. Adds adjacent locations for ballot drop-off.
<b>15. Issues Not Related to Voter Verification</b>	None; issues unrelated to Voter Verification should be vetted on their own merit	Numerous additional sections unrelated to Voter Verification are included

I\_135\_2466-5

135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024

Sub. H. B. No. 552

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**A BILL**

To amend sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3501.05, 1  
3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 2  
3503.151, 3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3  
3503.21, 3505.181, 3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 4  
3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 and to enact 5  
sections 3503.012, 3503.201, and 3503.202 of the 6  
Revised Code to enact the Voter Verification Act 7  
to require proof of citizenship to register to 8  
vote, to require election officials to verify 9  
certain information in voter registration 10  
records, and to modify the procedure for 11  
returning absent voter's ballots to a board of 12  
elections by personal delivery. 13

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

**Section 1.** That sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3501.05, 14  
3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3503.152, 15  
3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.181, 3505.182, 16  
3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 be amended and 17  
sections 3503.012, 3503.201, and 3503.202 of the Revised Code be 18



qby7ur8xz7u9vrkc7mjpbj

enacted to read as follows: 19

**Sec. 3375.011.** Any library organized under Chapter 3375. 20  
of the Revised Code shall provide free of charge to any 21  
individual a photocopy of that individual's driver's license, 22  
temporary driver's permit, ~~or~~ state identification card, or any 23  
of the forms of evidence listed under division (EE) of section 24  
3501.01 of the Revised Code, if the individual requests one. 25

**Sec. 3501.01.** As used in the sections of the Revised Code 26  
relating to elections and political communications: 27

(A) "General election" means the election held on the 28  
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November. 29

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held 30  
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 31  
odd-numbered year. 32

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on 33  
the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 34  
even-numbered year. 35

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those 36  
elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 37  
election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 38  
Monday in May or November, on the first Tuesday after the first 39  
Monday in August in accordance with section 3501.022 of the 40  
Revised Code, or on the day authorized by a particular municipal 41  
or county charter for the holding of a primary election, except 42  
that in any year in which a presidential primary election is 43  
held, no special election shall be held in May, except as 44  
authorized by a municipal or county charter, but may be held on 45  
the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March. 46

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 47

held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 48  
political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 49  
of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 50  
political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 51  
conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 52  
held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 53  
year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 54  
held. 55

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 56  
election as defined by division (E) (1) of this section at which 57  
an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 58  
alternates to the national conventions of the major political 59  
parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 60  
otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 61  
in references to primary elections. In years in which a 62  
presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 63  
shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in 64  
March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county 65  
charter. 66

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting 67  
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised 68  
Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 69

(1) "Major political party" means any political party 70  
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for 71  
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less 72  
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at 73  
the most recent regular state election. 74

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party 75  
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the 76  
following requirements: 77

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

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

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

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

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

primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 108

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims 109  
not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has 110  
been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special 111  
election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and 112  
nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the 113  
Revised Code. 114

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 115  
is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 116  
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 117  
for judge of a municipal court, county court, or court of common 118  
pleas, for member of any board of education, for municipal or 119  
township offices in which primary elections are not held for 120  
nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of 121  
municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate 122  
ballots for elections for these offices. 123

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be 124  
a member of a political party and who has been certified to 125  
appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special 126  
election as the nominee of a political party because the 127  
candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party 128  
for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated 129  
under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in 130  
accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code. 131

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 132  
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 133  
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 134  
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 135  
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 136  
party. 137

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on an official ballot at a general or special election to be held in this state.	138 139 140 141
(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote.	142 143
(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election.	144
(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector may vote.	145 146 147
(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.	148 149 150 151
(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.	152 153 154
(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of the Revised Code.	155 156 157
(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.	158 159
(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of the following:	160 161
(1) Secretary of state;	162
(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the division of elections in the capacity of attorney,	163 164

administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections	165
administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;	166
(3) Director of a board of elections;	167
(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;	168
(5) Member of a board of elections;	169
(6) Employees of a board of elections;	170
(7) Precinct election officials;	171
(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a temporary or part-time basis.	172 173
(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status of the application; the information necessary to complete or update the application, if any; and if the application is complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.	174 175 176 177 178 179 180
(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current <u>resident address, name, or other information for registration</u> <u>and voting. The notice shall be sent by forwardable mail, shall</u> <u>be accompanied by a postage prepaid, preaddressed return</u> <u>envelope containing a form on which the elector may verify or</u> <u>correct the elector's registration.</u>	181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188
(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the state that provides public assistance or that provides state- funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and that is required by the National	189 190 191 192

Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed 193  
and administered by the secretary of state for registering 194  
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that 195  
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary 196  
of state for registering voters, including the department of job 197  
and family services, the program administered under section. 198  
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the 199  
department of mental health and addiction services, the 200  
department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for 201  
Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the 202  
secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not 203  
include public high schools and vocational schools, public 204  
libraries, or the office of a county treasurer. 205

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the 206  
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42 207  
U.S.C.A. 1973gg. 208

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights 209  
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended. 210

(AA) (1) "Photo identification" means one of the following 211  
documents that includes the individual's name and photograph and 212  
is not expired: 213

(a) An Ohio driver's license, state identification card, 214  
or interim identification form issued by the registrar of motor 215  
vehicles or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 4507. of 216  
the Revised Code; 217

(b) A United States passport or passport card; 218

(c) A United States military identification card, Ohio 219  
national guard identification card, or United States department 220  
of veterans affairs identification card. 221

(2) A "copy" of an individual's photo identification means 222  
images of both the front and back of a document described in 223  
division (AA) (1) of this section, except that if the document is 224  
a United States passport, a copy of the photo identification 225  
means an image of the passport's identification page that 226  
includes the individual's name, photograph, and other 227  
identifying information and the passport's expiration date. 228

(BB) "Driver's license" means a license or permit issued 229  
by the registrar or a deputy registrar under Chapter 4506. or 230  
4507. of the Revised Code that authorizes an individual to 231  
drive. "Driver's license" includes a driver's license, 232  
commercial driver's license, probationary license, restricted 233  
license, motorcycle operator's license, or temporary instruction 234  
permit identification card. "Driver's license" does not include 235  
a limited term license issued under section 4507.09 of the 236  
Revised Code. 237

(CC) "State identification card" means a card issued by 238  
the registrar or a deputy registrar under sections 4507.50 to 239  
4507.52 of the Revised Code. 240

(DD) "Interim identification form" means the document 241  
issued by the registrar or a deputy registrar to an applicant 242  
for a driver's license or state identification card that 243  
contains all of the information otherwise found on the license 244  
or card and that an applicant may use as a form of 245  
identification until the physical license or card arrives in the 246  
mail. 247

(EE) (1) "Proof of citizenship" means evidence that, when 248  
verified as authentic, indicates an individual is a United 249  
States citizen, in the form of one of the following: 250

(a) The number of the individual's current or expired Ohio driver's license or state identification card, if the board of elections verifies using information obtained from the bureau of motor vehicles that the individual has submitted documentation to the bureau that indicates that the individual is a United States citizen; 251  
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(b) The individual's current or expired Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or interim identification form issued on or after April 7, 2023, or a copy of the front and back of that license, card, or form, if the license, card, or form does not include a notation designating that the individual is a noncitizen of the United States; 257  
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(c) The individual's birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular report of birth abroad, or a legible copy of one of those documents; 263  
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(d) The individual's current or expired United States passport or passport card, a legible copy of the identification page of the passport, or a legible copy of the front and back of the passport card; 266  
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(e) The individual's certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship or a copy of one of those documents. 270  
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(2) If an individual's current legal name is different from the name on the individual's proof of citizenship, the individual also shall provide proof of the change of name, such as a copy of a marriage license or court order. 272  
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(FF) "Citizenship verification source" means any records or databases kept by the following entities that may be used to verify the authenticity of a piece of evidence described in division (EE) of this section: 276  
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<u>(1) The bureau of motor vehicles;</u>	280
<u>(2) The United States department of homeland security, including the systematic alien verification for entitlements database, the person centric query service, the person centric identity services, or the central index system;</u>	281 282 283 284
<u>(3) The United States citizenship and immigration service;</u>	285
<u>(4) The United States social security administration;</u>	286
<u>(5) The department of job and family services, the department of health, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections;</u>	287 288 289
<u>(6) Any federal agency that maintains federal jury pool data or naturalization records.</u>	290 291
<b>Sec. 3501.05.</b> The secretary of state shall do all of the following:	292 293
(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;	294
(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.	295 296 297
(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of elections;	298 299
(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in force;	300 301 302
(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;	303 304
(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and records;	305 306

(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;

(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;

(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;

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

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

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

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

(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of this section, investigate the administration of election laws, frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and report violations of election laws to the attorney general or

prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution; 336

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to 337  
comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 338  
3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised 339  
Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have 340  
knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a 341  
provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with 342  
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 343  
Revised Code. 344

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the 345  
results of elections, the cost of elections in the various 346  
counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political 347  
subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative 348  
to elections the secretary of state considers desirable; 349

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list 350  
of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition 351  
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 352  
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code; 353

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 354  
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters 355  
from the statewide voter registration database and, if 356  
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in 357  
each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the 358  
following: 359

(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed 360  
residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in 361  
compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National 362  
Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses 363  
the national change of address service provided by the United 364

States postal system through its licensees;	365
(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;	366 367
(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason for that mark or removal.	368 369 370 371 372
(R) Prescribe a general program for registering voters or updating voter registration information, such as name and residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section 3503.09 of the Revised Code;	373 374 375 376 377 378 379
(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter registration forms through boards of elections, designated agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers;	380 381 382 383 384
(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in this state;	385 386 387
(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles consistent with this chapter;	388 389 390 391 392
(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with	393

Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary	394
of state to do all of the following:	395
(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there	396
is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities;	397
(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each	398
voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the	399
same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy	400
and independence, as for other voters;	401
(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of	402
standards for the certification of voting machines, marking	403
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment.	404
(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide	405
database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15	406
of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the	407
"Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat.	408
1666, and provide training in the operation of that system;	409
(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other	410
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result	411
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of	412
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for	413
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections,	414
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or	415
other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted	416
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as	417
is practicable after the completion of the conference or	418
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on	419
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes	420
place.	421
(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the	422

secretary of state not later than one month after the completion 423  
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and 424  
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent 425  
voter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were 426  
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the 427  
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election. 428  
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web 429  
site in an archive format for each subsequent election. 430

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter 431  
identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and 432  
other voting requirements; 433

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 434  
may make available to a board of elections a more recent 435  
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 436  
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 437  
elector resides; 438

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 439  
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 440  
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 441  
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 442  
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 443  
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 444  
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 445  
or referendum; 446

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 447  
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 448  
Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 449  
1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of 450  
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities 451  
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities 452

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

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

(EE) Provide training to boards of elections on how to verify the United States citizenship of voter registration applicants.

(FF) Perform other duties required by law.

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of representative to congress, the secretary of state shall establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of protests against the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of

corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 483  
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 484  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 485  
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 486  
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 487  
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 488  
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 489  
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 490

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 491  
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 492  
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 493  
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 494  
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 495  
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 496

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 497  
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 498  
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 499  
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 500  
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 501  
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 502

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 503  
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 504  
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 505  
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 506  
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 507  
state's motion, be made a party. 508

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 509  
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 510  
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 511  
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 512

pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 513  
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 514  
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 515  
Franklin county. 516

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 517  
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 518  
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 519  
state pursuant to this section. 520

**Sec. 3503.01.** ~~(A) Every~~ (A) (1) Only individuals who 521  
possess the following qualifications, as verified by the 522  
secretary of state or by a board of elections, have the 523  
qualifications of an elector and may register to vote, be 524  
registered to vote, or vote in a federal, state, or local 525  
election in the precinct in which the individual resides: 526

(a) Is a citizen of the United States who is of the age of 527  
eighteen years or over ~~and who has;~~ 528

(b) Has been a resident of the state thirty days 529  
immediately preceding the election at which the ~~citizen-~~ 530  
individual offers to vote, is a resident of the county and 531  
precinct in which the ~~citizen-~~ individual offers to vote, and has 532  
been registered to vote for thirty days, ~~has the qualifications-~~ 533  
of an elector and may vote at all elections in the precinct in- 534  
which the citizen resides; 535

(c) Is not ineligible to vote by reason of a felony 536  
conviction under division (A) (4) of section 3503.21 of the 537  
Revised Code; 538

(d) Is not incompetent to vote under division (A) (5) of 539  
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code. 540

(2) Except as provided in division (A) (3) of this section, 541

an elector who registers to vote or submits a change of 542  
residence or change of name form on or after the effective date 543  
of this amendment shall provide proof of citizenship, as defined 544  
in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, to the 545  
board of elections, and if the elector has no proof of 546  
citizenship, the elector may request a hearing under section 547  
3503.012 of the Revised Code to establish that the elector is a 548  
citizen of the United States. An elector whose registration 549  
record indicates that the elector is verified as a United States 550  
citizen is not required to provide proof of citizenship when 551  
subsequently registering to vote or updating the elector's 552  
registration in this state. 553

(B) When only a portion of a precinct is included within 554  
the boundaries of an election district, the board of elections 555  
may assign the electors residing in such portion of a precinct 556  
to the nearest precinct or portion of a precinct within the 557  
boundaries of such election district for the purpose of voting 558  
at any special election held in such district. In any election 559  
in which only a part of the electors in a precinct is qualified 560  
to vote, the board may assign voters in such part to an 561  
adjoining precinct. Such assignment may be made to an adjoining 562  
precinct in another county with the consent and approval of the 563  
board of elections of such other county if the number of voters 564  
assigned to vote in a precinct in another county is two hundred 565  
or less. 566

The board shall notify all such electors so assigned, at 567  
least ten days prior to the holding of any such election, of the 568  
location of the polling place where they are entitled to vote at 569  
such election. 570

As used in division (B) of this section, "election 571

district" means a school district, municipal corporation, 572  
township, or other political subdivision that includes territory 573  
in more than one precinct or any other district or authority 574  
that includes territory in more than one precinct and that is 575  
authorized by law to place an issue on the ballot at a special 576  
election. 577

Sec. 3503.012. (A) Any elector who desires to register to 578  
vote, but who does not have any proof of United States 579  
citizenship as defined in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of 580  
the Revised Code, may make a written request, on a form 581  
prescribed by the secretary of state, to the board of elections 582  
requesting that the board hold a hearing to determine the 583  
elector's United States citizenship. The request shall be 584  
accompanied by a sworn affidavit that the elector is a United 585  
States citizen. 586

(B) Upon receiving a written request under division (A) of 587  
this section, the board shall mail written notice of the hearing 588  
to the elector, including the time and place of the hearing, 589  
through first class mail, to the address indicated on the 590  
written request, or if there is no address indicated, to the 591  
elector's address on file with the board of elections. The 592  
hearing shall be held not more than ten days after the elector 593  
submits a written request. An elector may retain counsel, 594  
testify, present evidence, and call witnesses. Testimony shall 595  
be under oath. The board shall exercise due diligence, conduct 596  
an investigation to determine the truth of the matter, including 597  
examining any relevant databases, and may subpoena witnesses and 598  
other evidence. Third parties may present sworn testimony and 599  
evidence relevant to the matter. 600

(C) After the board conducts the hearing described in 601

division (B) of this section, the board promptly shall make a 602  
determination, by majority vote, whether the elector, by a 603  
preponderance of the evidence, is a United States citizen. 604

(D) If the board determines that an elector is a United 605  
States citizen under division (C) of this section, the board 606  
shall record that fact in the elector's voter registration 607  
record and report that fact to the secretary of state. 608

(E) If the board determines that an elector has failed, by 609  
a preponderance of the evidence, to prove that the elector is a 610  
United States citizen, the board shall record that fact and 611  
report it to the secretary of state. Not more than twenty days 612  
after the board's decision, the elector may appeal the decision 613  
to the court of common pleas in the county in which the elector 614  
resides. If the board's determination falls not more than ninety 615  
days before an election, the court of common pleas shall hear 616  
the case on an expedited basis. 617

(F) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 618  
implementation of this section. 619

**Sec. 3503.06.** (A) No person shall be entitled to vote at 620  
any election, unless the person is registered as an elector and 621  
will have resided in the county and precinct where the person is 622  
registered for at least thirty days at the time of the next 623  
election. 624

(B) No person shall be entitled to sign any petition, 625  
unless the person is registered as an elector and resides in a 626  
precinct in which the candidacy or issue that is the subject of 627  
the petition will appear on the ballot. If a person for whom a 628  
board of elections's official registration list or the statewide 629  
voter registration database indicates is not verified as 630

eligible to vote signs a petition, that person's signature shall 631  
not be counted, unless and until the person is verified as 632  
eligible to vote. 633

(C) (1) (a) Except for a nominating petition for 634  
presidential electors, no person shall be entitled to circulate 635  
any petition unless the person is a resident of this state and 636  
is at least eighteen years of age. 637

(b) No person shall be entitled to circulate a nominating 638  
petition for presidential electors unless the person is at least 639  
eighteen years of age. 640

(2) All election officials, in determining the residence 641  
of a person circulating a petition under division (C) (1) of this 642  
section, shall be governed by the following rules: 643

(a) That place shall be considered the residence of a 644  
person in which the person's habitation is fixed and to which, 645  
whenever the person is absent, the person has the intention of 646  
returning. 647

(b) A person shall not be considered to have lost the 648  
person's residence who leaves the person's home and goes into 649  
another state for temporary purposes only, with the intention of 650  
returning. 651

(c) A person shall not be considered to have gained a 652  
residence in any county of this state into which the person 653  
comes for temporary purposes only, without the intention of 654  
making that county the permanent place of abode. 655

(d) If a person removes to another state with the 656  
intention of making that state the person's residence, the 657  
person shall be considered to have lost the person's residence 658  
in this state. 659

(e) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) (2) (f) of 660  
this section, if a person removes from this state and 661  
continuously resides outside this state for a period of four 662  
years or more, the person shall be considered to have lost the 663  
person's residence in this state, notwithstanding the fact that 664  
the person may entertain an intention to return at some future 665  
period. 666

(f) If a person removes from this state to engage in the 667  
services of the United States government, the person shall not 668  
be considered to have lost the person's residence in this state 669  
during the period of that service, and likewise should the 670  
person enter the employment of the state, the place where that 671  
person resided at the time of the person's removal shall be 672  
considered to be the person's place of residence. 673

(g) If a person goes into another state and, while there, 674  
exercises the right of a citizen by voting, the person shall be 675  
considered to have lost the person's residence in this state. 676

**Sec. 3503.13.** (A) (1) Except as otherwise provided in 677  
division (A) (2) of this section, voter registration forms 678  
submitted by applicants and the statewide voter registration 679  
database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code 680  
are public records subject to disclosure under section 149.43 of 681  
the Revised Code. 682

(2) None of the following are subject to disclosure under 683  
division (A) (1) of this section: 684

(a) An elector's full or partial social security number, 685  
driver's license or state identification card number, telephone 686  
number, or electronic mail address; 687

(b) A confidential voter registration record, as described 688

in section 111.44 of the Revised Code; 689

(c) The address of a designated public service worker, if 690  
the designated public service worker has submitted a redaction 691  
request to the board of elections under section 149.45 of the 692  
Revised Code; 693

(d) An elector's proof of citizenship; 694

(e) Any other information that is prohibited from being 695  
disclosed by state or federal law. 696

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized 697  
signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures 698  
on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the 699  
secretary of state, provided that the board includes the 700  
required voter registration information in the statewide voter 701  
registration database established under section 3503.15 of the 702  
Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials 703  
have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner 704  
required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code. 705

**Sec. 3503.14.** (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 706  
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 707  
and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall 708  
meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 709  
1993 and shall ~~include spaces for~~ require the applicant to 710  
provide all of the following: 711

(1) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's full name as it appears on the 712  
applicant's identification provided to register to vote; 713

(2) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's residence address; 714

(3) The current date; 715

(4) The ~~voter's~~ applicant's date of birth; 716

(5) ~~The voter to provide at least one of the following~~ 717  
forms of identification that meet the requirements of 52 U.S.C. 718  
21083(a)(5)(A): 719

(a) ~~The voter's applicant's current and valid Ohio~~ 720  
driver's license or state identification card number if the 721  
applicant has one; 722

(b) ~~The~~ Or, if the applicant does not have a current and 723  
valid Ohio driver's license or state identification card, the 724  
last four digits of the voter's applicant's social security 725  
number. A board of elections shall not accept or process a voter 726  
registration application if the applicant does not provide a 727  
current and valid Ohio's driver's license or state 728  
identification card number, when available records from the 729  
bureau of motor vehicles indicate that the applicant has a 730  
current and valid Ohio's driver's license or state 731  
identification card number. If a board of elections rejects an 732  
application for this reason, the board shall send the applicant 733  
a notice, to the address the applicant indicated on the form, 734  
instructing the applicant to apply to register to vote using the 735  
applicant's Ohio's driver's license or state identification card 736  
number and include with the notice a blank voter registration 737  
form. 738

(6) Proof of United States citizenship as defined in 739  
division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, except 740  
that the applicant is not required to provide proof of 741  
citizenship if the applicant has previously provided proof of 742  
citizenship that has been verified by the board when registering 743  
to vote or submitting a change of residence or change of name in 744  
this state. If an applicant who previously renounced, forfeited, 745  
or otherwise lost United States citizenship applies to register 746

to vote, the applicant is required to provide proof of 747  
citizenship when registering to vote. 748

~~(6)~~ (7) The voter's applicant's signature. 749

The registration form shall include a space on which the 750  
person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and 751  
provide the person's address and a space on which the person 752  
registering an applicant shall name the employer who is 753  
employing that person to register the applicant. 754

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 755  
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 756  
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 757  
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 758  
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 759  
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 760  
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 761  
that data to the statewide voter registration database 762  
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 763

(B) None of the following persons who are registering an 764  
applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal 765  
duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's 766  
address, or name the employer who is employing the person to 767  
register an applicant on a form prepared under this section: 768

(1) An election official; 769

(2) A county treasurer; 770

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 771

(4) An employee of a designated agency; 772

(5) An employee of a public high school; 773

(6) An employee of a public vocational school;	774
(7) An employee of a public library;	775
(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;	776
(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;	777
(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	778
(11) An employee of an election official.	779
(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence. The person registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.	780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790
(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or failed to name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant as required under division (A) of this section.	791 792 793 794 795 796
(E) A voter registration application submitted online through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election	797 798 799 800 801

and signature-matching purposes. 802

(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" 803  
includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter 804  
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or 805  
returning those forms. 806

**Sec. 3503.15.** (A) The secretary of state shall establish 807  
and maintain a statewide voter registration database that shall 808  
be administered by the office of data analytics and archives in 809  
the office of the secretary of state and made continuously 810  
available to each board of elections and to other agencies as 811  
authorized by law. 812

The statewide voter registration database shall be the 813  
official list of registered electors for all elections conducted 814  
in this state. 815

(B) The statewide voter registration database shall, at a 816  
minimum, include all of the following: 817

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of 818  
elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and 819  
with the offices of all other boards of elections; 820

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records 821  
contained in the database with records maintained by each board 822  
of elections; 823

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to 824  
the records contained in the database by each board of elections 825  
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, 826  
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct 827  
updates of the database; 828

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered 829

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

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

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

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

(1) The elector's name;

(2) The elector's birth date;

(3) The elector's current residence address;

(4) The elector's precinct number;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

of the following apply: 885

(i) An elector's voter registration date shall not be 886  
during the period beginning on the day after the close of voter 887  
registration before an election and ending on the day of the 888  
election. If the date determined under division (C) (9) (a) of 889  
this section would be during that period, the voter registration 890  
date instead shall be the date on which the board of elections 891  
processes the application to register to vote after the day of 892  
the election. 893

(ii) A change of address or change of name form, including 894  
a provisional ballot affirmation that serves as a change of 895  
address or change of name form, is not considered an application 896  
to register to vote. 897

(iii) An application to register to vote that is submitted 898  
by an individual who is already registered to vote in this state 899  
is not considered an application to register to vote. 900

(10) The elector's voting history, including all of the 901  
following for each election in which the elector cast a ballot 902  
that was counted: 903

(a) The date of the election; 904

(b) If the election was a primary election, the political 905  
party whose ballot the elector cast at the primary election or 906  
an indication that the elector voted only on the questions and 907  
issues appearing on the ballot at a special election held on the 908  
day of the primary election; 909

(c) The type of ballot the elector cast. 910

(11) The elector's last activity date, which shall be 911  
determined in accordance with rules adopted by the secretary of 912

state pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code; 913

(12) The date, if any, on which a board of elections 914  
verified that the elector is a United States citizen, as 915  
described in division (A)(1) of section 3503.201 of the Revised 916  
Code, and which proof of citizenship, as defined in division 917  
(EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, was presented as 918  
evidence the elector is a United States citizen; 919

(13) The citizenship verification source, as defined in 920  
division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code; 921

(14) Whether the elector registered to vote using a 922  
federal or state form; 923

(15) Whether the elector was required to cast a 924  
provisional ballot, and the reason the elector was required to 925  
cast a provisional ballot, except if the elector's provisional 926  
ballot was counted under section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, 927  
the indication that the elector was required to cast a 928  
provisional ballot shall be removed from the database; 929

(16) Whether the elector's United State citizenship has 930  
been verified, and, if so, whether the elector is a citizen of 931  
the United States. 932

(17) Any other information the secretary of state requires 933  
to be included by rule adopted pursuant to Chapter 119. of the 934  
Revised Code. 935

(D) Every day during the period beginning on the forty- 936  
sixth day before an election and ending on the eighty-first day 937  
after the day of the election, a board of elections shall create 938  
a daily record of its voter registration database as of four 939  
p.m. and shall transmit the daily record to the secretary of 940  
state in a secure manner prescribed by the secretary of state. 941

The secretary of state shall archive the daily record and retain 942  
it for at least twenty-two months after the day of the election. 943

(E) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to 944  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement this section and 945  
sections 3503.151 to 3503.153 of the Revised Code, including 946  
rules doing all of the following: 947

(1) Specifying the manner in which any voter registration 948  
records maintained by boards of elections in other data formats 949  
shall be converted for inclusion in the statewide voter 950  
registration database; 951

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter 952  
registration records into the statewide voter registration 953  
database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, 954  
if new registration information is received, and for 955  
transmitting information securely to the secretary of state; 956

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled 957  
voter registration records from the statewide voter registration 958  
database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 959

(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, 960  
modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter 961  
registration database and to make updates of that database; 962

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the 963  
information contained in the statewide voter registration 964  
database. 965

(F) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's 966  
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter 967  
registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by 968  
the secretary of state under division (E) (3) of this section 969  
after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 970

3503.21 of the Revised Code. 971

(G) The secretary of state shall provide training in the 972  
operation of the statewide voter registration database to each 973  
board of elections and to any persons authorized by the 974  
secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database 975  
records, and to conduct updates of the database. 976

(H) A board of elections and any vendor with which it 977  
contracts to provide voter registration software or related 978  
services shall ensure that the board's voter registration system 979  
and practices comply with the requirements of this section and 980  
any rules adopted under this section. 981

**Sec. 3503.151.** (A) The secretary of state, through the 982  
office of data analytics and archives, and the boards of 983  
elections shall maintain the accuracy of the statewide voter 984  
registration database in accordance with this section. 985

(B) (1) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the 986  
department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 987  
department of job and family services, the department of 988  
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, 989  
shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state 990  
that is collected in the course of normal business and that is 991  
necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's 992  
registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration 993  
database, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. 994  
The department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the 995  
department of job and family services, the department of 996  
medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections 997  
shall provide that information and data to the secretary of 998  
state not later than the last day of each month. The secretary 999  
of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to 1000

the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of 1001  
the entity providing the data remains confidential while in the 1002  
possession of the secretary of state. No public office, and no 1003  
public official or employee, shall sell that information or data 1004  
or use that information or data for profit. 1005

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under Chapter 1006  
119. of the Revised Code that establish, by mutual agreement 1007  
with the bureau of motor vehicles, the content and format of the 1008  
information and data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide 1009  
to the secretary of state under division (B)(1) of this section 1010  
and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that 1011  
information and data. 1012

(3) The secretary of state shall obtain and make the 1013  
information and data the bureau of motor vehicles provides to 1014  
the secretary of state under division (B)(1) of this section, 1015  
and any data and information obtained from any source listed in 1016  
division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, available 1017  
to the boards of elections for purposes of registering voters, 1018  
updating voter registrations, or maintaining the statewide voter 1019  
registration database, except where prohibited by federal law or 1020  
regulations. 1021

(C) (1) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 1022  
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 1023  
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 1024  
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 1025  
statewide voter registration database. Except as otherwise 1026  
provided in division (C)(2) of this section, the secretary of 1027  
state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the 1028  
secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the 1029  
state providing the data remains confidential while in the 1030

possession of the secretary of state. 1031

(2) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 1032  
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 1033  
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 1034  
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 1035  
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 1036  
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 1037  
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 1038  
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 1039  
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 1040  
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 1041  
that receives confidential information or data under this 1042  
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 1043  
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 1044  
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 1045  
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 1046  
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 1047  
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 1048  
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 1049

(3) No person or entity that receives information or data 1050  
under division (C) of this section shall sell the information or 1051  
data or use the information or data for profit. 1052

(D) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the 1053  
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and 1054  
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state 1055  
receives under divisions (B) and (C) of this section that is 1056  
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the 1057  
accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is 1058  
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable 1059  
state and federal law: 1060

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) The number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles but is not associated with the first name, last

name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record. 1090  
1091

(iii) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(2) of this section, the number exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and is associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record, but the residence address that appears in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles is not the same as the residence address that appears in the voter registration record. 1092  
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1094  
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1098

(c) The record contains the last four digits of a social security number, but one of the following applies: 1099  
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(i) Those digits do not exist in the records of the United States social security administration. 1101  
1102

(ii) Those digits exist in the records of the United States social security administration but are not associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record. 1103  
1104  
1105  
1106

(iii) Those digits exist in the records of the United States social security administration, and are associated with the first name, last name, and date of birth that appear in the voter registration record, but available records from the bureau of motor vehicles indicate that the registrant has a current and valid Ohio driver's license or state identification number, and that the number is not in the voter registration record. 1107  
1108  
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1111  
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(2) The report shall exclude any voter registration record described in division (E)(1)(b)(iii) belonging to an elector to whom either of the following applies: 1114  
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1116

(a) The elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program described in sections 111.41 to 111.99 1117  
1118

of the Revised Code. 1119

(b) The elector is a designated public service worker, as 1120  
described in section 149.43 of the Revised Code, and one of the 1121  
following applies: 1122

(i) The elector has submitted a redaction request to the 1123  
secretary of state or to the board of elections under section 1124  
149.45 of the Revised Code. 1125

(ii) It is otherwise apparent from the elector's voter 1126  
registration record or from the records of the bureau of motor 1127  
vehicles that the elector is a designated public service worker. 1128

(3) The board of elections shall proceed under section 1129  
3503.202 of the Revised Code not later than two weeks after 1130  
receiving the report. 1131

(4) Subject to division (A) (2) of section 3503.13 of the 1132  
Revised Code, the secretary of state shall make the information 1133  
in each report available to the public on the secretary of 1134  
state's official web site. 1135

(F) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules under 1136  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish a uniform method 1137  
for addressing instances in which records contained in the 1138  
statewide voter registration database do not conform with 1139  
records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states 1140  
described in division (B) or (C) of this section. That method 1141  
shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being 1142  
canceled on the sole basis that the information in the 1143  
registration record does not conform to records maintained by 1144  
such an agency. 1145

(2) Information provided under division (B) or (C) of this 1146  
section for maintenance of the statewide voter registration 1147

database shall not be used to update the name or address of a 1148  
registered elector. The name or address of a registered elector 1149  
shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in 1150  
filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 1151

(3) ~~A~~ Except as otherwise provided in section 3503.201 of 1152  
the Revised Code, a board of elections shall contact a 1153  
registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division 1154  
~~(E) (1)~~ (F) (1) of this section to verify the accuracy of the 1155  
information in the statewide voter registration database 1156  
regarding that elector if that information does not conform with 1157  
information provided under division (B) or (C) of this section 1158  
and the discrepancy would affect the elector's eligibility to 1159  
cast a regular ballot. 1160

**Sec. 3503.152.** The secretary of state shall conduct ~~an~~ 1161  
~~annual~~ a monthly review of the statewide voter registration 1162  
database, and shall conduct a review immediately after the 1163  
deadline to register to vote in an election, for each election, 1164  
to identify ~~persons~~ individuals who ~~appear not~~ are verified to 1165  
be United States citizens, as follows: 1166

(A) The secretary of state shall compare the information 1167  
in the statewide voter registration database with the 1168  
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of 1169  
motor vehicles and other approved sources under section 3503.151 1170  
of the Revised Code to identify ~~any person~~ all individuals who 1171  
~~does all of the following, in the following order:~~ 1172

~~(1) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles~~ 1173  
~~that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen;~~ 1174

~~(2) Registers to vote, submits a voter registration change~~ 1175  
~~of residence or change of name form, or votes in this state;~~ 1176

~~(3) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles~~ 1177  
~~that indicates that the person is not a~~ 1178  
~~are verified to be~~ 1179  
~~United States citizen~~ 1180  
~~citizens. The individual's information in~~ 1181  
~~the statewide voter registration database shall be updated to~~ 1182  
~~indicate whether the individual is a verified United States~~  
~~citizen or not a verified United States citizen.~~

~~(B)(1) The secretary of state shall send a report to~~ 1183  
~~each board of elections of the individuals residing in the~~ 1184  
~~county who have been identified under division (A) of this~~ 1185  
~~section and shall make the report available to the public, and~~ 1186  
~~the report shall include the following:~~ 1187

~~(a) Individuals that have been identified as not being a~~ 1188  
~~verified United States citizen, who were not included in the~~ 1189  
~~previous report, or who had no citizenship indication in the~~ 1190  
~~previous report;~~ 1191

~~(b) Individuals that have been identified as not being a~~ 1192  
~~verified United States citizen, who were previously identified~~ 1193  
~~as a verified United States citizen, including individuals who~~ 1194  
~~are no longer United States citizens;~~ 1195

~~(c) Individuals who were identified as not being a~~ 1196  
~~verified United States citizen in the previous report, or who~~ 1197  
~~had no citizenship indication in the previous report, who have~~ 1198  
~~been identified as a United States citizen, including the date~~ 1199  
~~of verification, and whether the information regarding~~ 1200  
~~citizenship verification source and evidence of citizenship is~~ 1201  
~~missing;~~ 1202

~~(d) Individuals that have been identified as not being a~~ 1203  
~~verified United States citizen, or being a verified United~~ 1204  
~~States citizen, if there is no longer an indication of~~ 1205

citizenship. 1206

(2) The board of elections and the secretary of state shall review each report and investigate any irregularities. The board of elections shall make necessary updates to the voter registration database within two weeks after receiving each report, including both of the following: 1207  
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(a) Changing an individual's information to reflect that an individual has or has not been verified as a United States citizen, as applicable. If the individual has been verified as a United States citizen, the date the individual was verified, the type of evidence used to verify citizenship, and the citizenship verification source. If the individual is not a verified United States citizen, marking the individual's name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to indicate that the individual must vote by provisional ballot, and the reason why. 1212  
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(b) Removing a provisional ballot indication for any individual that has been verified as a United States citizen, if the database indicates that the only reason the individual was required to cast a provisional ballot was that the individual was not verified as a United States citizen. 1222  
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(3) The board of elections shall send a written notice to each ~~person~~ individual that has been identified as not being a verified United States citizen under division (A) of this section, which shall inform the individual that the individual must cast a provisional ballot until the applicant's citizenship can be verified, instructing the ~~person~~ individual either to confirm that the person is a United States citizen provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections of the county in which the individual resides or to submit a completed voter 1227  
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registration cancellation form to the ~~secretary of state board~~. 1236  
The ~~secretary of state board~~ shall include a blank voter 1237  
registration cancellation form with the notice, as well as an 1238  
information sheet, as prescribed by the secretary of state 1239  
explaining why the individual has not been verified as a United 1240  
States citizen, and what steps the individual can take to be 1241  
verified as a United States citizen. The information sheet shall 1242  
include all of the following information: 1243

(a) Proof of United States citizenship can be provided to 1244  
the board of elections any time before an election, and within 1245  
four days after an election, and once the board verifies United 1246  
States citizenship, the board will remove the indication that 1247  
the individual must cast a provisional ballot, unless there are 1248  
other reasons the individual must cast a provisional ballot; 1249

(b) Instructions on how to obtain evidence of United 1250  
States citizenship, such as a passport or birth certificate, or 1251  
how to request a hearing before the board of elections to 1252  
establish United States citizenship under section 3503.012 of 1253  
the Revised Code, for individuals who believe the individual is 1254  
a United States citizen, but lacks evidence to verify; 1255

(c) Guidance on how to obtain a free state identification 1256  
card with verified United States citizenship status through the 1257  
bureau of motor vehicles; 1258

(d) Information on how the board of elections' expanded 1259  
disability and confined services program will accept evidence of 1260  
proof of citizenship; 1261

(e) How to contact the board of elections with questions; 1262

(f) When conducting the first comprehensive citizen review 1263  
of the statewide voter registration database after the effective 1264

date of this amendment, an additional pamphlet prescribed by the 1265  
secretary of state explaining why the individual is receiving a 1266  
notice requesting proof of citizenship and why the additional 1267  
information is necessary to provide secure and accurate voter 1268  
rolls. If 1269

(4) If the individual provides proof of citizenship to the 1270  
board of elections, the board promptly shall record that fact, 1271  
and the evidence verifying United States citizenship, in the 1272  
individual's registration record, including the citizenship 1273  
verification source and the date the individual's citizenship 1274  
was verified, and notify the secretary of state. The board shall 1275  
attempt to determine the authenticity of the evidence of proof 1276  
of citizenship using information from the bureau of motor 1277  
vehicles or other sources under section 3503.151 of the Revised 1278  
Code, and if the board cannot verify that the individual is a 1279  
United States citizen, the board shall send a notice to the 1280  
individual, notify the secretary of state, and refer the matter 1281  
to an appropriate prosecuting authority. If the board verifies 1282  
that the individual is a United States citizen, the board shall 1283  
proceed under division (B) of section 3503.201 of the Revised 1284  
Code. 1285

(5) If the individual cancels the individual's voter 1286  
registration, the board promptly shall notify the secretary of 1287  
state and refer the matter to an appropriate prosecuting 1288  
authority. 1289

(C) If, within thirty days after the first notice is sent 1290  
under division (B) of this section, the ~~person~~ individual fails 1291  
to respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in 1292  
division (C) or (D) of this section not later than thirty days 1293  
after the notice is sent provide proof of citizenship to the 1294

board of elections or cancel the person's voter registration, 1295  
the ~~secretary of state board~~ promptly shall send the ~~person-~~ 1296  
individual a second notice and form. 1297

~~(C) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice-~~ 1298  
~~is sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (B) of-~~ 1299  
~~this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that~~ 1300  
~~the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state-~~ 1301  
~~shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration.~~ 1302

~~(D) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice-~~ 1303  
~~was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (B) of-~~ 1304  
~~this section sends a completed voter registration cancellation-~~ 1305  
~~form to the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall-~~ 1306  
~~instruct the board of elections of the county in which the-~~ 1307  
~~person is registered to cancel the person's registration.~~ 1308

~~(E)-(D) (1) If a person who is sent, within thirty days~~ 1309  
after a second notice is sent under division (B)-(C) of this 1310  
section, the individual fails to respond to the secretary of- 1311  
state in the manner described in division (C) or (D) of this- 1312  
section not later than thirty days after the second notice is- 1313  
sent provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections or 1314  
cancel the individual's voter registration, the secretary of- 1315  
state board shall refer the matter to the attorney general- 1316  
secretary of state and the appropriate prosecuting authority for 1317  
further investigation and possible prosecution under section 1318  
3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any other applicable section of 1319  
the Revised Code. ~~If,~~ 1320

(2) If, after the thirtieth day after the second notice is 1321  
sent secretary of state refers a person to the appropriate 1322  
prosecuting authority under division (D) (1) of this section, the 1323  
person sends a completed individual provides proof of 1324

citizenship to the board of elections or cancels the 1325  
individual's voter registration cancellation form to the 1326  
~~secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the~~ 1327  
~~board of elections of the county in which the person is~~ 1328  
~~registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify~~ 1329  
the attorney general secretary of state and the prosecuting 1330  
authority of the cancellation that fact. 1331

~~(F) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review~~ 1332  
~~described in this section during the ninety days immediately~~ 1333  
~~preceding a primary or general election for federal office.~~ 1334

**Sec. 3503.153.** (A) The statewide voter registration 1335  
database shall be made available on a web site of the office of 1336  
the secretary of state as follows: 1337

(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(2) of 1338  
this section, the following information from the statewide voter 1339  
registration database regarding a registered elector shall be 1340  
made available on the web site: 1341

(a) The elector's name; 1342

(b) The elector's birth date; 1343

(c) The elector's current residence address; 1344

(d) The elector's precinct number; 1345

(e) The elector's voter registration date, as described in 1346  
division (C)(9) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1347

(f) The elector's voting history, including the date of 1348  
each election, the political party for primary elections, and 1349  
the type of ballot each elector casts as described in division 1350  
(C)(10) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1351

(g) The elector's last activity date, as described in 1352  
division (C) (11) of section 3503.15 of the Revised Code; 1353

(h) Whether the elector was required to cast a provisional 1354  
ballot in the most recent election the elector voted in and the 1355  
reason the elector was required to cast a provisional ballot, 1356  
which may include the following, but which shall be removed if 1357  
that ballot was subsequently counted under section 3505.183 of 1358  
the Revised Code; 1359

(i) The acknowledgement notice under section 3503.152 of 1360  
the Revised Code was returned undeliverable. 1361

(ii) The elector has not provided verifiable proof of 1362  
United States citizenship. 1363

(iii) The elector's driver's license number, state 1364  
identification number, or the last four digits of the elector's 1365  
social security number could not be verified or does not match 1366  
the number found in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles 1367  
or the records from any citizenship verification source. 1368

(iv) The elector's residence address is not valid. 1369

(i) Whether the elector registered to vote with a federal 1370  
or state form; 1371

(j) Whether or not the elector has been verified as a 1372  
United States citizen and, if so, the date the elector was 1373  
verified as a United States citizen under section 3503.201 of 1374  
the Revised Code, the evidence the elector used as proof of 1375  
citizenship, and the citizenship verification source. 1376

(2) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1377  
general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter 1378  
registration database shall permit an elector to search for the 1379

polling location at which that elector may cast a ballot. 1380

(3) No information in the statewide voter registration 1381  
database that is exempt from disclosure under division (A)(2) of 1382  
section 3503.13 of the Revised Code shall be made available on 1383  
the web site. 1384

(4) The web site shall have the contact information for 1385  
all boards of elections in this state, as well as information on 1386  
how to verify citizenship for the purposes of voter registration 1387  
and information about actions that may be taken to remove a 1388  
provisional ballot indication and cast a regular ballot instead 1389  
of a provisional ballot. 1390

(B) (1) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule 1391  
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for 1392  
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes 1393  
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of 1394  
updating the information made available on the secretary of 1395  
state's web site under division (A)(2) of this section. Those 1396  
rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days 1397  
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the 1398  
secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 1399  
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 1400

(2) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1401  
general election, not later than one business day after 1402  
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (B) 1403  
(1) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 1404  
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 1405  
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 1406  
of division (A)(2) of this section. 1407

**Sec. 3503.16.** (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 1408

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

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

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

~~(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that~~

~~registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to~~ 1439  
~~the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not~~ 1440  
~~filed a notice of change of name with the board of elections may~~ 1441  
~~vote in that election by going to that registered elector's~~ 1442  
~~assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a~~ 1443  
~~change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section~~ 1444  
~~3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides~~ 1445  
~~to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change,~~ 1446  
~~such as a marriage license or court order that includes the~~ 1447  
~~elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and~~ 1448  
~~sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot.~~ 1449

~~(2)(B) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct~~ 1450  
~~to another within a county, does not move but changes the~~ 1451  
~~elector's name, or moves from one precinct to another within a~~ 1452  
~~county and changes the name of that registered elector on or~~ 1453  
~~prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and~~ 1454  
~~has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name,~~ 1455  
~~whichever is appropriate, with the board of elections may vote~~ 1456  
~~in that election if that registered elector complies with~~ 1457  
~~division (G) of this section or does all of the following:~~ 1458

~~(a)(1) Appears at anytime any time during regular~~ 1459  
~~business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the~~ 1460  
~~election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if~~ 1461  
~~the election is held on the day of a presidential primary~~ 1462  
~~election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through~~ 1463  
~~noon of the Saturday prior to the election at the office of the~~ 1464  
~~board of elections, appears at any time during regular business~~ 1465  
~~hours on the Monday prior to the election at the office of the~~ 1466  
~~board of elections, or appears on the day of the election at~~ 1467  
~~either of the following locations:~~ 1468

~~(i)~~ (a) The polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides; 1469  
1470

~~(ii)~~ (b) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections. 1471  
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~~(b)~~ (2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1476  
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~~(e)~~ (3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered elector as changed, whichever is appropriate; 1480  
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~~(d)~~ (4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1489  
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whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote 1499  
at any other location for that particular election. 1500

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 1501  
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 1502  
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 1503  
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 1504  
vote in that election if that registered elector complies with 1505  
division (G) of this section or does all of the following: 1506

(1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on 1507  
or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which 1508  
that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is 1509  
held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty- 1510  
fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday 1511  
prior to the election at the office of the board of elections 1512  
or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 1513  
Revised Code the board has designated another location in the 1514  
county at which registered electors may vote, at that other 1515  
location instead of the office of the board of elections, 1516  
appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the 1517  
election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1518  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1519  
has designated another location in the county at which 1520  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1521  
the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of 1522  
the election at the office of the board of elections or, if 1523  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1524  
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1525  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1526  
the office of the board of elections; 1527

(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1528

falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1529  
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1530

(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1531  
the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 1532  
pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1533  
the board has designated another location in the county at which 1534  
registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1535  
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 1536  
that registered elector has moved; 1537

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1538  
falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1539  
elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1540  
state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1541  
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 1542  
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 1543  
another location in the county at which registered electors may 1544  
vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 1545  
of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1546  
location for that particular election. 1547

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1548  
to division (G) of this section shall not make written 1549  
application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the 1550  
Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this 1551  
section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted 1552  
during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for 1553  
in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as 1554  
that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks 1555  
to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent 1556  
voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code 1557  
by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant 1558

to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be 1559  
insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in 1560  
section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted. 1561

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised 1562  
Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site 1563  
different from the office of the board at which registered 1564  
electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this 1565  
section. 1566

(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or 1567  
change of name, the board of elections shall ~~immediately send~~ 1568  
~~the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of~~ 1569  
~~residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall~~ 1570  
~~update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is~~ 1571  
~~incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the~~ 1572  
~~acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the~~ 1573  
~~information necessary to complete or update that registrant's~~ 1574  
~~registration process it in accordance with section 3503.201 of~~ 1575  
the Revised Code. 1576

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be 1577  
available at each polling place, and when these forms are 1578  
completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 1579  
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 1580  
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 1581  
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1582

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 1583  
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 1584  
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 1585  
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 1586  
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 1587  
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 1588

within five days after receiving them. 1589

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1590  
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1591  
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1592  
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1593  
has designated another location in the county at which 1594  
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 1595  
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1596  
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1597  
of the following: 1598

(1) Makes a written application on a form prescribed by 1599  
the secretary of state that includes all of the information 1600  
required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code to the 1601  
appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or after the 1602  
twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the registered 1603  
elector wishes to vote through the close of business on the 1604  
seventh day prior to that election and requests that the absent 1605  
voter's ballot be sent to the address to which the registered 1606  
elector has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the 1607  
address of that registered elector who has not moved but has had 1608  
a change of name; 1609

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had 1610  
a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is 1611  
qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division 1612  
(B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that 1613  
the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of 1614  
elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or 1615  
infirmity; 1616

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent 1617  
voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the 1618

address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice 1619  
of change of name, whichever is appropriate; 1620

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1621  
falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector 1622  
has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before 1623  
the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of 1624  
personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that 1625  
prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of 1626  
elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1627  
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other 1628  
location or address for that particular election. 1629

**Sec. 3503.19.** (A) Persons qualified to register or to 1630  
change their registration because of a change of address or 1631  
change of name may register or change their registration in 1632  
person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at 1633  
the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1634  
vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a 1635  
public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a 1636  
branch office established by the board of elections, or in 1637  
person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the 1638  
secretary of state or at the office of a board of elections. A 1639  
registered elector may also change the elector's registration on 1640  
election day at any polling place where the elector is eligible 1641  
to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the 1642  
Revised Code. 1643

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1644  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1645  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1646  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any 1647  
voter registration application or change of registration form 1648

that it receives to the board of elections of the county in 1649  
which the state or local office is located, within five days 1650  
after receiving the voter registration application or change of 1651  
registration form. 1652

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 1653  
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1654  
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1655  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1656  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1657  
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 1658  
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 1659  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1660  
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 1661  
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 1662  
registration application received after that day entitles the 1663  
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 1664

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1665  
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1666  
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1667  
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 1668  
registration application or change of name or change of address 1669  
form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the 1670  
identity of the state or local office that receives the 1671  
registration. 1672

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 1673  
are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 1674  
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 1675  
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1676  
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 1677  
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 1678

voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 1679  
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 1680  
valid for that election if received by the office of the 1681  
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1682  
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1683  
general election. 1684

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1685  
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1686  
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1687  
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1688  
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1689  
1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 1690  
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 1691  
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 1692  
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 1693  
Revised Code. 1694

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 1695  
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 1696  
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 1697  
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 1698  
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 1699  
the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 1700  
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 1701  
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 1702  
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 1703  
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 1704  
elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 1705  
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1706

(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an 1707  
applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 1708

through another person to any board of elections or the office 1709  
of the secretary of state. 1710

(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a 1711  
voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that 1712  
person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the 1713  
office of the secretary of state. 1714

(d) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 1715  
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 1716  
or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an 1717  
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 1718  
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 1719  
elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 1720  
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 1721  
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 1722  
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 1723  
(B) (2) (b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day 1724  
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 1725  
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 1726  
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 1727  
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 1728  
election. 1729

~~(C) (1) (C) A board of elections that receives a voter 1730  
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 1731  
statements made in the registration form shall register the 1732  
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 1733  
process the application, unless that application is received 1734  
during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an 1735  
election in accordance with section 3503.201 of the Revised 1736  
Code. The board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing 1737  
of each of the following: 1738~~

~~(a) The applicant's registration;~~ 1739

~~(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote;~~ 1740

~~(c) In bold type as follows:~~ 1741

~~"Voters must bring photo identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Voters who do not provide photo identification will still be able to vote by casting a provisional ballot."~~ 1742  
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~~The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause the notification to be delivered to the correct address.~~ 1746  
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~~(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) (1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned to the board.~~ 1749  
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~~At the first election at which a voter whose name has been so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to vote by provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the voter's notification was returned from that voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United States mail of the cancellation.~~ 1755  
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~~(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of this section in any election during the period of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, the person's registration shall be canceled.~~

Sec. 3503.201. (A) When the board of elections receives a voter registration application or a notice of change of address or change of name that is complete, the board shall verify whether the applicant is a United States citizen by doing one of the following:

(1) If the applicant has provided the number of the applicant's Ohio driver's license or state identification card or if the applicant's voter registration record already contains that number, confirming, using information obtained from the bureau of motor vehicles or from other sources under section 3503.151 of the Revised Code, that the applicant has submitted documentation to the bureau that indicates that the applicant is a United States citizen.

(2) If the applicant has provided the last four digits of the applicant's social security number, confirming, using information obtained from any source listed in division (FF) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code, that indicates the applicant is a United States citizen.

(3) Determining that the applicant's existing voter registration record obtained from the statewide voter

registration database indicates that a board of elections has 1798  
previously verified the applicant as a United States citizen. 1799

(B) (1) If the board is able to verify the applicant's 1800  
United States citizenship under division (A) (1) of this section, 1801  
the application is complete, and the board is satisfied as to 1802  
the truth of the statements made in the registration form, the 1803  
board shall register the applicant or update the applicant's 1804  
registration and shall indicate whether the applicant registered 1805  
using a federal or state voter registration form, the evidence 1806  
used as proof of citizenship, the citizenship verification 1807  
source, and the date on which the applicant's citizenship was 1808  
verified, and shall, if applicable, remove any indications that 1809  
the applicant must cast a provisional ballot as long as no other 1810  
reasons exist that the applicant must cast a provisional ballot, 1811  
not later than twenty business days after receiving the 1812  
application, unless that application is received during the 1813  
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election, and 1814  
promptly shall send the applicant an acknowledgment notice. 1815

(2) The acknowledgment notice shall include all of the 1816  
following information: 1817

(a) The fact that the elector has been registered to vote 1818  
or has had the elector's registration updated, as applicable; 1819

(b) The precinct in which the elector is to vote; 1820

(c) In bold type as follows: 1821

"Voters must bring photo identification to the polls in 1822  
order to verify identity. Voters who do not provide photo 1823  
identification will still be able to vote by casting a 1824  
provisional ballot. If a voter recently became a United States 1825  
citizen, the voter must provide the voter's naturalization 1826

certificate to the bureau of motor vehicles and have the voter's 1827  
driver's license or state identification updated in order to 1828  
cast a regular ballot. Otherwise, the voter must present a 1829  
current and valid United States passport or passport card, or a 1830  
United States military identification card, Ohio national guard 1831  
identification card, or United States department of veterans 1832  
affairs identification card. Failure to update driver's license 1833  
or state identification, or to present any of the identification 1834  
listed above, may result in a requirement to vote 1835  
provisionally." 1836

(3) The board promptly shall send the acknowledgment 1837  
notice by nonforwardable mail. If the acknowledgment notice is 1838  
returned to the board as undeliverable, it shall investigate and 1839  
cause the acknowledgment notice to be delivered to the correct 1840  
address. 1841

(4) If, after investigating as required under division (B) 1842  
(3) of this section, the board is unable to verify the elector's 1843  
correct address, it shall proceed under section 3503.202 of the 1844  
Revised Code. 1845

(C) If the board is unable to verify the applicant's 1846  
United States citizenship under division (A) of this section or 1847  
if the application is otherwise incomplete, the board promptly 1848  
shall proceed under divisions (B) (2), (B) (3), (C), and (D) of 1849  
section 3503.152 of the Revised Code. 1850

(D) If the board determines that the applicant appears not 1851  
to be eligible to vote, the board shall reject the form and 1852  
refer the matter to the prosecuting attorney of the county for 1853  
investigation. 1854

Sec. 3503.202. (A) When either of the following occurs, 1855

the board of elections shall send the elector a confirmation 1856  
notice and shall mark the elector's name in the official 1857  
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1858  
indicate that the elector must vote by provisional ballot, and 1859  
the reason why: 1860

(1) The board determines that it is unable to verify an 1861  
elector's residence address, as described in division (B)(4) of 1862  
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code. 1863

(2) (a) The board receives a report from the secretary of 1864  
state under division (E) of section 3503.151 of the Revised Code 1865  
indicating that the board must verify the elector's Ohio 1866  
driver's license or state identification card number, the last 1867  
four digits of the elector's social security number, or the 1868  
elector's residence address. 1869

(b) The board shall not follow the procedures of division 1870  
(A)(2)(a) of this section on the basis that an elector appears 1871  
in a report indicating that the board must verify the elector's 1872  
residence address if it is apparent to the board that the 1873  
elector is a participant in the address confidentiality program 1874  
described in sections 111.41 to 111.99 of the Revised Code or is 1875  
a designated public service worker as described in section 1876  
149.43 of the Revised Code. 1877

(c) Upon receiving notice in a subsequent report under 1878  
division (A)(2)(a) of this section that an elector's residence 1879  
address in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles has been 1880  
updated to match the elector's residence address in the voter 1881  
registration record, the board shall remove the indication that 1882  
the elector must vote by provisional ballot for that reason and 1883  
shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by 1884  
provisional ballot if no other reasons exist that require the 1885

elector to cast a provisional ballot. 1886

(B) (1) If the board must verify an elector's residence address, and the elector provides a valid residence address to the board before the elector next appears to vote, the board shall correct the elector's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot for that reason and shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot if no other reasons exist that require the elector to cast a provisional ballot. 1887  
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(2) If the board must verify an elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number or the last four digits of the elector's social security number, and the elector provides at least one of the following to the board before the elector next appears to vote, the board shall correct the elector's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot for that reason and shall remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional ballot if no other reasons exist that require the elector to cast a provisional ballot: 1895  
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(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card number that exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state; 1905  
1906  
1907  
1908

(b) The last four digits of a social security number that exists in the records of the United States social security administration and is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state; 1909  
1910  
1911  
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1913

(c) A correction to the elector's first name, last name, 1914

or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that 1915  
the number in the elector's registration record meets the 1916  
requirements of division (B) (2) (a) or (b) of this section, as 1917  
applicable, as confirmed by the secretary of state. 1918

(C) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of 1919  
this section, at any election at which the elector appears to 1920  
vote, the elector shall vote by provisional ballot under section 1921  
3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1922

(2) If the board must verify the elector's Ohio driver's 1923  
license or state identification card number or the last four 1924  
digits of the elector's social security number, then in order 1925  
for the elector's provisional ballot to be eligible to be 1926  
counted, in addition to meeting all other requirements described 1927  
in division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the 1928  
elector shall provide at least one of the following on the 1929  
provisional ballot affirmation or shall appear in person at the 1930  
office of the board within four days after the day of the 1931  
election and provide at least one of the following: 1932

(a) An Ohio driver's license or state identification card 1933  
that exists in the records of the bureau of motor vehicles and 1934  
is associated with the elector's first name, last name, and date 1935  
of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of state; 1936

(b) The last four digits of a social security number that 1937  
exists in the records of the United States social security 1938  
administration and is associated with the elector's first name, 1939  
last name, and date of birth, as confirmed by the secretary of 1940  
state; 1941

(c) A correction to the elector's first name, last name, 1942  
or date of birth in the elector's registration record such that 1943

the number in the elector's registration record meets the 1944  
requirements of division (C) (2) (a) or (b) of this section, as 1945  
applicable, as confirmed by the secretary of state. 1946

(3) If no reason exists for an elector to vote by 1947  
provisional ballot, the elector's provisional ballot is counted 1948  
pursuant to division (B) (3) of section 3505.183 of the Revised 1949  
Code and, if applicable, pursuant to this section, the board 1950  
shall correct the elector's registration, if needed, and shall 1951  
remove the indication that the elector must vote by provisional 1952  
ballot. 1953

(4) If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to 1954  
division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the 1955  
Revised Code or, if applicable, pursuant to this section and 1956  
section 3503.201 of the Revised Code, or if the board cannot 1957  
verify that the elector is a United States citizen, the board 1958  
shall cancel the elector's registration and shall notify the 1959  
elector by United States mail of the cancellation. The notice 1960  
shall inform the elector that the elector may again register to 1961  
vote if the elector is eligible to do so. If the elector's 1962  
registration was canceled because of failure to verify United 1963  
States citizenship, the board shall notify the appropriate 1964  
prosecuting authority and the secretary of state. 1965

**Sec. 3503.21.** (A) The registration of a registered elector 1966  
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following: 1967

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written 1968  
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on 1969  
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the 1970  
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a 1971  
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from 1972  
reregistering to vote at any time. 1973

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code;	1974 1975
(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;	1976 1977 1978 1979 1980
(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;	1981 1982 1983
(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section 5122.301 of the Revised Code;	1984 1985 1986
(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a location outside the county of registration in accordance with division (B) of this section;	1987 1988 1989
(7) The failure of the registered elector, after having been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either of the following:	1990 1991 1992
(a) Respond to such a notice and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections;	1993 1994 1995
(b) Update the elector's registration and vote at least once during a period of four consecutive years, which period shall include two general federal elections.	1996 1997 1998
(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the Revised Code.	1999 2000 2001

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

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

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

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter registration information to the secretary of state as required

under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of 2032  
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15 2033  
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections 2034  
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the 2035  
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send 2036  
the information to the national change of address service 2037  
described in division (B) of this section and request that 2038  
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any 2039  
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the 2040  
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to 2041  
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary 2042  
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a 2043  
notice to each person on the list transmitted by the secretary 2044  
of state requesting confirmation of the person's change of 2045  
address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed return 2046  
envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify or 2047  
correct the change of address information. 2048

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in 2049  
division (A) (7) or (B) (2) of this section shall be canceled not 2050  
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second 2051  
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or 2052  
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of 2053  
the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or 2054  
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later. 2055

(F) (1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to 2056  
division (A) (2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of 2057  
elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by 2058  
the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was 2059  
registered, informing the recipient that the elector's 2060  
registration has been canceled, of the reason for the 2061  
cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, 2062

the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the error. 2063  
2064

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to division (A) (2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be restored and treated as though it were never canceled. 2065  
2066  
2067

**Sec. 3505.181.** (A) All of the following individuals shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election: 2068  
2069

(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; 2070  
2071  
2072  
2073  
2074  
2075

(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to provide photo identification to the election officials; 2076  
2077

(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 2078  
2079  
2080  
2081  
2082

(4) An individual ~~whose notification of registration has been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose~~ name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook has been marked under ~~division (C) (2) of~~ section ~~3503.19~~ 3503.202 of the Revised Code; 2083  
2084  
2085  
2086  
2087

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code; 2088  
2089

(6) An individual who ~~changes the individual's name and~~ 2090

~~remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name 2091  
change under division (B) (1) (b) of section 3503.16 of the 2092  
Revised Code, moves from one precinct to another within a 2093  
county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the 2094  
individual's name, or moves from one county to another within 2095  
the state, and completes and signs the required forms and 2096  
statements under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the 2097  
Revised Code; 2098~~

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the 2099  
precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is 2100  
not that of the person who signed that name in the registration 2101  
forms; 2102

(8) An individual whose United States citizenship has not 2103  
been verified by the board of elections under Chapter 3503. of 2104  
the Revised Code. 2105

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional 2106  
ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to 2107  
cast a provisional ballot as follows: 2108

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify 2109  
the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot 2110  
in that election. 2111

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 2112  
section, the individual shall complete and execute a written 2113  
affirmation before an election official at the polling place 2114  
stating that the individual is both of the following: 2115

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the 2116  
individual desires to vote; 2117

(b) Eligible to vote in that election. 2118

(3) An election official at the polling place shall 2119  
transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter 2120  
information contained in the written affirmation executed by the 2121  
individual under division (B) (2) of this section to an 2122  
appropriate local election official for verification under 2123  
division (B) (4) of this section. 2124

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the 2125  
ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under 2126  
division (B) (3) of this section determines that the individual 2127  
is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall 2128  
be counted as a vote in that election. 2129

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional 2130  
ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the 2131  
individual written information that states that any individual 2132  
who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under 2133  
the system established under division (B) (5) (b) of this section 2134  
whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, 2135  
the reason that the vote was not counted. 2136

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 2137  
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 2138  
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 2139  
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 2140  
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 2141  
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 2142  
established under this division also shall provide to an 2143  
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 2144  
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 2145  
elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 2146  
individual's voter registration. 2147

The appropriate state or local election official shall 2148

establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 2149  
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 2150  
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 2151  
access system established under this division. The system shall 2152  
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 2153  
the individual's own provisional ballot. 2154

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 2155  
ballot, the individual provides photo identification, the 2156  
individual shall record the type of identification provided on 2157  
the provisional ballot affirmation and, if the individual 2158  
provides an Ohio driver's license, state identification card, or 2159  
interim identification document, the individual also shall write 2160  
the individual's driver's license or state identification card 2161  
number on the provisional ballot affirmation. 2162

(7) (a) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be 2163  
counted when it is cast by an individual who does not have photo 2164  
identification because the individual has a religious objection 2165  
to being photographed, the individual shall complete an 2166  
affidavit of religious objection under section 3505.19 of the 2167  
Revised Code. The election officials shall attach the affidavit 2168  
to the individual's provisional ballot envelope. If the 2169  
individual does not complete the affidavit at the time of 2170  
casting the provisional ballot, the individual may appear at the 2171  
office of the board of elections within four days after the day 2172  
of the election and complete the affidavit. 2173

(b) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted 2174  
when it is cast by any other individual who does not have or is 2175  
unable to provide photo identification to the election 2176  
officials, the individual who cast that ballot, within four days 2177  
after the day of the election, shall appear at the office of the 2178

board of elections and provide photo identification. 2179

(8) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 2180  
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 2181  
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 2182  
cast that ballot, within four days after the day of that 2183  
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 2184  
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 2185  
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 2186  
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 2187

(9) For a provisional ballot to be eligible to be counted 2188  
when it is cast by an individual who has not been verified as a 2189  
United States citizen, the individual shall submit proof of 2190  
citizenship to the board of elections with the individual's 2191  
provisional ballot or within four days after the day of the 2192  
election, and the board shall verify whether the individual is a 2193  
United States citizen. 2194

(C) (1) If an individual declares that the individual is 2195  
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 2196  
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 2197  
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 2198  
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 2199  
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 2200  
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 2201  
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 2202  
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 2203  
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 2204  
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 2205  
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 2206  
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 2207  
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 2208

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 2209  
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 2210  
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 2211  
ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this 2212  
section. If the individual is in the correct polling location 2213  
for the precinct in which the individual is registered and 2214  
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, 2215  
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes 2216  
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's 2217  
provisional ballot affirmation: 2218

(a) The name or number of the individual's correct 2219  
precinct; 2220

(b) A statement that the election official instructed the 2221  
individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote; 2222

(c) A statement that the election official informed the 2223  
individual that casting a provisional ballot in the wrong 2224  
precinct would result in all or a portion of the votes on the 2225  
ballot being rejected; 2226

(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the 2227  
individual is casting a provisional ballot; and 2228

(e) The name of the polling location in which the 2229  
individual is casting a provisional ballot. 2230

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause 2231  
voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place 2232  
on the day of each election. 2233

(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 2234  
3505.183 of the Revised Code: 2235

(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the 2236

following:	2237
(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;	2238 2239 2240 2241
(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is at a polling place in that county to determine the correct precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides in the county.	2242 2243 2244 2245 2246
(2) "Voting information" means all of the following:	2247
(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for that election;	2248 2249
(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the hours during which polling places will be open;	2250 2251
(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;	2252 2253
(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters under applicable federal and state laws;	2254 2255
(e) General information on voting rights under applicable federal and state laws, including information on the right of an individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged to have been violated;	2256 2257 2258 2259 2260
(f) General information on federal and state laws regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and misrepresentation.	2261 2262 2263

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

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

"Provisional Ballot Affirmation

(A) Clearly print your full name: \_\_\_\_\_

(B) Write your date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

(C) (1) Write your current address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If yes, write your former address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

(D) (1) You must show photo identification to the election

official that includes your name and photograph and is not 2291  
expired. Check the type of photo identification you provided: 2292

\_\_\_\_\_ An Ohio driver's license or state identification 2293  
card or an interim identification form issued by the Bureau of 2294  
Motor Vehicles. If you showed your Ohio driver's license or 2295  
state identification card or an interim identification form, 2296  
write your full driver's license or state identification card 2297  
number: \_\_\_\_\_ 2298

\_\_\_\_\_ A United States passport or passport card; 2299

\_\_\_\_\_ A United States military identification card, Ohio 2300  
national guard identification card, or United States department 2301  
of veterans affairs identification card. 2302

(2) If you do not have photo identification because you 2303  
have a religious objection to being photographed, complete an 2304  
affidavit of religious objection. The precinct election official 2305  
will attach it to the provisional ballot envelope. 2306

(3) If you did not show photo identification to the 2307  
election official or complete an affidavit of religious 2308  
objection, you must appear at the office of the board of 2309  
elections during the four days after the election and provide 2310  
photo identification or complete an affidavit of religious 2311  
objection for your vote to be eligible to be counted. 2312

(4) ~~If Complete this section if you need to update your~~ 2313  
~~voter registration, you may provide additional information~~ 2314  
~~below. This information will not be used for ballot counting~~ 2315  
~~purposes or if you need to verify the identification you used to~~ 2316  
~~register to vote.~~ 2317

Write your full Ohio driver's license or state 2318  
identification card number, which also serves as proof of 2319

citizenship if you have submitted documentation to the bureau of 2320  
motor vehicles indicating that you are a United States citizen: 2321  
\_\_\_\_\_ 2322

OR 2323

Write the last four digits of your Social Security number: 2324  
\_\_\_\_\_ and attach proof of citizenship to the outside 2325  
of this envelope. You are not required to attach proof of 2326  
citizenship if you have previously provided proof of citizenship 2327  
to a board of elections in Ohio, and that proof of citizenship 2328  
has been verified. 2329

"Proof of citizenship" means evidence that, when verified 2330  
as authentic, indicates that you are a United States citizen, in 2331  
the form of one of the following: a copy of the front and back 2332  
of a current or expired Ohio driver's license, state 2333  
identification card, or interim identification form, if you have 2334  
submitted documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 2335  
indicating that you are a United States citizen; a copy of a 2336  
birth certificate, certification of report of birth, or consular 2337  
report of birth abroad; a copy of the identification page of a 2338  
current or expired United States passport; a copy of the front 2339  
and back of a United States passport card; or a copy of a 2340  
certificate of naturalization or certificate of citizenship. 2341

If the name on your proof of citizenship is different from 2342  
your current legal name, you must also attach proof of your 2343  
change of name, such as a legible copy of a marriage license or 2344  
court order. 2345

If you are updating your registration, you have not 2346  
previously provided proof of citizenship to a board of 2347  
elections, and you do not provide it when you cast this ballot, 2348

you must provide proof of citizenship to the board of elections 2349  
on or before the fourth day following this election and the 2350  
board of elections must verify your United States citizenship in 2351  
order for your ballot to be eligible to be counted. 2352

(E) If your right to vote has been challenged, you must 2353  
provide any required additional information to the board of 2354  
elections on or before the ~~seventh~~ fourth day following this 2355  
election. 2356

(F) Sign and date the following statement: 2357

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the 2358  
United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the 2359  
time of the general election; that I have lived in this state 2360  
for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am 2361  
voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct 2362  
in which I am voting this provisional ballot; and that I am 2363  
eligible to vote in the election in which I am voting this 2364  
provisional ballot. 2365

I understand that, if the information I provide on this 2366  
provisional ballot affirmation is not fully completed and 2367  
correct, if the board of elections determines that I am not 2368  
registered to vote, a resident of this precinct, or eligible to 2369  
vote in this election, or if the board of elections determines 2370  
that I have already voted in this election, my provisional 2371  
ballot will not be counted. I understand that, if I am not 2372  
currently registered to vote or if I am not registered at my 2373  
current address or under my current name, this form will serve 2374  
as an application to register to vote or update my registration 2375  
for future elections, as long as I provide all of the 2376  
information required to register to vote or update my 2377  
registration. I further understand that knowingly providing 2378

false information is a violation of law and subjects me to 2379  
possible criminal prosecution. 2380

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2381  
that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my 2382  
knowledge and belief. 2383

\_\_\_\_\_ 2384

Signature of Voter 2385

\_\_\_\_\_ 2386

Date 2387

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A 2388  
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE." 2389

In addition to any information required to be included on 2390  
the written affirmation, an individual casting a provisional 2391  
ballot may provide additional information to the election 2392  
official to assist the board of elections in determining the 2393  
individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the 2394  
date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if 2395  
known. 2396

If the individual provided all of the information required 2397  
under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to register to vote or 2398  
to update the individual's registration on the provisional 2399  
ballot affirmation, the board of elections shall consider the 2400  
individual's provisional ballot affirmation to also serve as a 2401  
notice of change of name, change of residence, or both, or as a 2402  
voter registration form, as applicable, for that individual only 2403  
for the purposes of future elections. 2404

**Sec. 3505.183.** (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to 2405  
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall 2406

separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the 2407  
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one 2408  
member of each major political party shall place the sealed 2409  
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the 2410  
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes 2411  
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those 2412  
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While 2413  
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and 2414  
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board 2415  
receives information regarding the validity of a specific 2416  
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board 2417  
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that 2418  
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted. 2419

(B) (1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid 2420  
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records 2421  
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional 2422  
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable 2423  
election. The board shall examine the information contained in 2424  
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the 2425  
provisional ballot under division (B) (2) of section 3505.181 of 2426  
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in 2427  
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to 2428  
be eligible to be counted: 2429

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of 2430  
birth, and current address; 2431

(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter 2432  
in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted; 2433

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in 2434  
the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted. 2435

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 2436  
in an affirmation under division (B) (1) of this section, in 2437  
determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled 2438  
to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional 2439  
information for determining ballot validity provided by the 2440  
provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the 2441  
provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 2442  
of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections 2443  
during the four days after the day of the election under 2444  
~~division (B) (7) or (8) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code,~~ 2445  
to assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility 2446  
to vote. 2447

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and 2448  
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2449  
section and comparing the information required under division 2450  
(B) (1) of this section with the individual's information in the 2451  
statewide voter registration database, the board determines that 2452  
all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope 2453  
shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box 2454  
to be counted: 2455

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly 2456  
registered to vote. 2457

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to 2458  
cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election in which the 2459  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2460

(c) The individual provided all of the information 2461  
required under division (B) (1) of this section in the 2462  
affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2463  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2464

(d) One of the following applies: 2465

(i) The individual provided photo identification at the 2466  
time of casting the provisional ballot or appeared at the office 2467  
of the board within four days after the day of the election and 2468  
provided photo identification. If the individual provided the 2469  
individual's Ohio driver's license or state identification card 2470  
or an interim identification form, the individual provided the 2471  
individual's driver's license number or state identification 2472  
card number and the number is not different from the 2473  
individual's driver's license number or state identification 2474  
card number contained in the statewide voter registration 2475  
database. 2476

(ii) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 2477  
objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code at the time 2478  
of casting the provisional ballot or at the office of the board 2479  
within four days after the day of the election and the affidavit 2480  
is valid under that section. 2481

(e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 2482  
month and day of the individual's date of birth are not 2483  
different from the day and month of the individual's date of 2484  
birth contained in the statewide voter registration database. 2485

This division does not apply to an individual's 2486  
provisional ballot if ~~either of the following is true:~~ 2487

~~(i) The individual's date of birth contained in the 2488  
statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 2489~~

~~(ii) The the board of elections has found, by a vote of at 2490  
least three of its members, that the individual has met all 2491  
other requirements of division (B) (3) of this section. 2492~~

(f) The individual's current address is not different from 2493

the individual's address contained in the statewide voter 2494  
registration database, unless the individual indicated that the 2495  
individual is casting a provisional ballot because the 2496  
individual has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of 2497  
address, as described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of 2498  
the Revised Code. 2499

(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional 2500  
information required under division (B) (8) of section 3505.181 2501  
of the Revised Code within four days after the day of the 2502  
election. 2503

(h) If the individual cast a provisional ballot because 2504  
the individual is registered to vote but the individual's United 2505  
States citizenship has not been verified, the board verifies the 2506  
individual's United States citizenship. 2507

(i) If applicable, the individual provided the information 2508  
required under division (C) (2) of section 3503.202 of the 2509  
Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or within 2510  
four days after the day of the election. 2511

(4) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of 2512  
this section, if, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation 2513  
and additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of 2514  
this section and comparing the information required under 2515  
division (B) (1) of this section with the individual's 2516  
information in the statewide voter registration database, the 2517  
board determines that any of the following applies, the 2518  
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 2519  
shall not be counted: 2520

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2521  
qualified or is not properly registered to vote. 2522

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not 2523  
eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in 2524  
which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2525

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the 2526  
information required under division (B) (1) of this section in 2527  
the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the 2528  
individual cast the provisional ballot. 2529

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the 2530  
election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot. 2531

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any 2532  
additional information required under division (B) (8) of section 2533  
3505.181 of the Revised Code within four days after the day of 2534  
the election. 2535

(vi) The individual failed to provide photo 2536  
identification, to provide the individual's driver's license or 2537  
state identification card number if the individual provided 2538  
photo identification in the form of an Ohio driver's license or 2539  
state identification card or an interim identification form, or 2540  
to complete an affidavit of religious objection. 2541

(vii) The individual failed to execute an affirmation 2542  
under division (B) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 2543

(viii) The individual provided photo identification in the 2544  
form of an Ohio driver's license or state identification card or 2545  
an interim identification form and the driver's license number 2546  
or state identification card number the individual provided is 2547  
different from the individual's driver's license number or state 2548  
identification card number contained in the statewide voter 2549  
registration database. 2550

(ix) The individual completed an affidavit of religious 2551

objection under section 3505.19 of the Revised Code, but the 2552  
affidavit is not valid under that section. 2553

(x) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 2554  
month and day of the individual's date of birth are different 2555  
from the day and month of the individual's date of birth 2556  
contained in the statewide voter registration database. 2557

This division does not apply to an individual's 2558  
provisional ballot if ~~either of the following is true:~~ 2559

~~(I) The individual's date of birth contained in the 2560  
statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800. 2561~~

~~(II) The the board of elections has found, by a vote of at 2562  
least three of its members, that the individual has met all of 2563  
the requirements of division (B) (3) of this section, other than 2564  
the requirements of division (B) (3) (e) of this section. 2565~~

(xi) The individual's current address is different from 2566  
the individual's address contained in the statewide voter 2567  
registration database, unless the individual indicated that the 2568  
individual is casting a provisional ballot because the 2569  
individual has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of 2570  
address, as described in division (A) (6) of section 3505.181 of 2571  
the Revised Code. 2572

(xii) If the individual cast a provisional ballot because 2573  
the individual is registered to vote and the board is unable to 2574  
verify the individual's United States citizenship. 2575

(xiii) If applicable, the individual did not provide the 2576  
information required under division (C) (2) of section 3503.202 2577  
of the Revised Code on the provisional ballot affirmation or 2578  
within four days after the day of the election. 2579

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

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

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

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

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

division (C) (2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 2610

(2) A board of elections that remakes a provisional ballot 2611  
under division (D) (1) of this section shall remake the 2612  
provisional ballot on a ballot for the appropriate precinct to 2613  
reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the 2614  
individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 2615  
individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 2616  
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 2617  
which the individual was eligible to vote. 2618

(3) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 2619  
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 2620  
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 2621  
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 2622  
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 2623  
shall not be counted. 2624

(E) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division 2625  
(B) (4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be 2626  
preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until 2627  
the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the 2628  
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which 2629  
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 2630

(F) Provisional ballots that the board determines are 2631  
eligible to be counted under division (B) (3) or (D) of this 2632  
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for 2633  
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No 2634  
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county 2635  
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all 2636  
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of 2637  
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in 2638  
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times 2639

that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional 2640  
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots 2641  
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose 2642  
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in 2643  
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual 2644  
ballot. 2645

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (2) of 2646  
this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a board of 2647  
elections from examining provisional ballot affirmations and 2648  
additional information under divisions (B) (1) and (2) of this 2649  
section to determine the eligibility of provisional ballots to 2650  
be counted during the seven days after the day of an election. 2651

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional 2652  
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions 2653  
(B) (1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by 2654  
an individual who must provide photo identification, complete an 2655  
affidavit of religious objection, or provide additional 2656  
information to the board of elections under ~~division (B) (7) or~~ 2657  
~~(8) of~~ section 3505.181 of the Revised Code for the board to 2658  
determine the individual's eligibility until the individual does 2659  
so or until the eighth day after the day of the election, 2660  
whichever is earlier. 2661

**Sec. 3505.20.** Any person offering to vote may be 2662  
challenged at the polling place by any precinct election 2663  
official. If the board of elections has ruled on the question 2664  
presented by a challenge prior to election day, its finding and 2665  
decision shall be final, and the voting location manager shall 2666  
be notified in writing. If the board has not ruled, the question 2667  
shall be determined as set forth in this section. If any person 2668  
is so challenged as unqualified to vote, the voting location 2669

manager shall tender the person the following oath: "You do 2670  
swear or affirm under penalty of election falsification that you 2671  
will fully and truly answer all of the following questions put 2672  
to you concerning your qualifications as an elector at this 2673  
election." 2674

(A) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2675  
ground that the person is not a United States citizen, the 2676  
precinct election officials shall put the following questions: 2677

(1) Are you a citizen of the United States? 2678

(2) ~~Are you a native or naturalized citizen?~~ 2679

~~(3) Where were you born?~~ 2680

~~(4) What official documentation do~~ Do you possess to prove 2681  
proof of your United States citizenship? Please provide that 2682  
documentation. 2683

If the person offering to vote ~~claims to be a naturalized~~ 2684  
~~citizen of the United States, the person shall, before the vote~~ 2685  
~~is received, produce~~ produces verified proof of citizenship in 2686  
the form of a current and valid driver's license or state 2687  
identification card issued April 7, 2023, or after without a 2688  
noncitizen designation, or a current or expired United States 2689  
passport or passport card for inspection of the precinct 2690  
election officials ~~a certificate of naturalization,~~ and declare 2691  
declares under oath that the person is ~~the identical person~~ 2692  
~~named in the certificate. If the person states under oath that,~~ 2693  
~~by reason of the naturalization of the person's parents or one~~ 2694  
~~of them, the person has become a citizen of the United States,~~ 2695  
~~and when or where the person's parents were naturalized, the~~ 2696  
~~certificate of naturalization need not be produced~~ the person 2697  
shall be permitted to cast a regular ballot. If the person is 2698

unable to provide ~~a certificate of naturalization~~ verified 2699  
proof of citizenship as described in this division on the day of 2700  
the election, the precinct election officials shall provide to 2701  
the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 2702  
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 2703  
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 2704  
board of elections ~~determines~~ verifies that the ~~voter person~~ is 2705  
~~properly registered~~ a United States citizen and eligible to vote 2706  
in the election. 2707

(B) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2708  
ground that the person has not resided in this state for thirty 2709  
days immediately preceding the election, the precinct election 2710  
officials shall put the following questions: 2711

(1) Have you resided in this state for thirty days 2712  
immediately preceding this election? If so, where have you 2713  
resided? 2714

(2) Did you properly register to vote? 2715

(3) Can you provide some form of identification containing 2716  
your current mailing address in this precinct? Please provide 2717  
that identification. 2718

(4) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 2719  
location in this or in any other state at this election? 2720

(5) Have you applied for an absent voter's ballot in any 2721  
state for this election? 2722

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 2723  
the person's eligibility to cast a ballot in the election, the 2724  
precinct election officials shall provide to the person, and the 2725  
person may vote, a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 2726  
the Revised Code. The provisional ballot shall not be counted 2727

unless it is properly completed and the board of elections 2728  
determines that the voter is properly registered and eligible to 2729  
vote in the election. 2730

(C) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2731  
ground that the person is not a resident of the precinct where 2732  
the person offers to vote, the precinct election officials shall 2733  
put the following questions: 2734

(1) Do you reside in this precinct? 2735

(2) When did you move into this precinct? 2736

(3) When you came into this precinct, did you come for a 2737  
temporary purpose merely or for the purpose of making it your 2738  
home? 2739

(4) What is your current mailing address? 2740

(5) Do you have some official identification containing 2741  
your current address in this precinct? Please provide that 2742  
identification. 2743

(6) Have you voted or attempted to vote at any other 2744  
location in this or in any other state at this election? 2745

(7) Have you applied for any absent voter's ballot in any 2746  
state for this election? 2747

The precinct election officials shall direct an individual 2748  
who is not in the appropriate polling place to the appropriate 2749  
polling place. If the individual refuses to go to the 2750  
appropriate polling place, or if the precinct election officials 2751  
are unable to verify the person's eligibility to cast a ballot 2752  
in the election, the precinct election officials shall provide 2753  
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 2754  
under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 2755

ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 2756  
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2757  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2758

(D) If the person is challenged as unqualified on the 2759  
ground that the person is not of legal voting age, the precinct 2760  
election officials shall put the following questions: 2761

(1) Are you eighteen years of age or more? 2762

(2) What is your date of birth? 2763

(3) Do you have some official identification verifying 2764  
your age? Please provide that identification. 2765

If the precinct election officials are unable to verify 2766  
the person's age and eligibility to cast a ballot in the 2767  
election, the precinct election officials shall provide to the 2768  
person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot under 2769  
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional ballot 2770  
shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and the 2771  
board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2772  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2773

The voting location manager shall put such other questions 2774  
to the person challenged as are necessary to determine the 2775  
person's qualifications as an elector at the election. If a 2776  
person challenged refuses to answer fully any question put to 2777  
the person, is unable to answer the questions as they were 2778  
answered on the registration form by the person under whose name 2779  
the person offers to vote, or refuses to sign the person's name 2780  
or make the person's mark, or if for any other reason a majority 2781  
of the precinct election officials believes the person is not 2782  
entitled to vote, the precinct election officials shall provide 2783  
to the person, and the person may vote, a provisional ballot 2784

under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. The provisional 2785  
ballot shall not be counted unless it is properly completed and 2786  
the board of elections determines that the voter is properly 2787  
registered and eligible to vote in the election. 2788

A qualified citizen who has certified the citizen's 2789  
intention to vote for president and vice-president as provided 2790  
by Chapter 3504. of the Revised Code shall be eligible to 2791  
receive only the ballot containing presidential and vice- 2792  
presidential candidates. 2793

However, not later than the thirtieth day before the day 2794  
of an election and in accordance with section 3503.24 of the 2795  
Revised Code, any person qualified to vote may challenge the 2796  
right of any other person to be registered as a voter, or the 2797  
right to cast an absent voter's ballot, or to make application 2798  
for such ballot. Such challenge shall be made in accordance with 2799  
section 3503.24 of the Revised Code, and the board of elections 2800  
of the county in which the voting residence of the challenged 2801  
voter is situated shall make a final determination relative to 2802  
the legality of such registration or application. 2803

**Sec. 3509.05.** (A) When an elector receives an absent 2804  
voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, 2805  
the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note 2806  
whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any 2807  
voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the 2808  
board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the 2809  
ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and 2810  
the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the 2811  
board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and 2812  
sealed within the identification envelope received from the 2813  
board of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 2814

cause the statement of voter on the outside of the 2815  
identification envelope to be completed and signed, under 2816  
penalty of election falsification. 2817

(B) The elector shall provide one of the following: 2818

(1) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 2819  
identification card number on the statement of voter on the 2820  
identification envelope; 2821

(2) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2822  
number on the statement of voter on the identification envelope; 2823

(3) A copy of the elector's photo identification in the 2824  
return envelope with the identification envelope. 2825

(C) (1) The elector shall mail the identification envelope 2826  
to the office of the board of elections in the return envelope, 2827  
postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver ~~it~~ the 2828  
identification envelope in the return envelope to the office of 2829  
the board, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, 2830  
father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, 2831  
or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, 2832  
adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle, 2833  
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the 2834  
office of the board in accordance with division (D) of this 2835  
section. The return envelope shall be returned by no other 2836  
person, in no other manner, and to no other location, except as 2837  
otherwise provided in section 3509.08 of the Revised Code. No 2838  
person may personally deliver the return envelope of more than 2839  
two electors for each election. 2840

(2) If the board maintains multiple offices in the county, 2841  
as permitted under division (C) of section 3501.10 of the 2842  
Revised Code, the board may designate any of its offices for the 2843

return of absent voter's ballots under this section, provided 2844  
that the board shall designate only one office to which absent 2845  
voter's ballots shall be returned under this section. 2846

(3) (a) The board of elections may place not more than one 2847  
secure receptacle outside the office of the board, on the 2848  
property on which the office of the board is located, for the 2849  
purpose of receiving absent voter's ballots under this section. 2850

(b) A secure receptacle shall be open to receive ballots 2851  
only during the period beginning on the first day after the 2852  
close of voter registration before the election and ending at 2853  
seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election. The receptacle 2854  
shall be open to receive ballots at all times during that 2855  
period. 2856

(c) A secure receptacle shall be monitored by recorded 2857  
video surveillance at all times. The video recordings are a 2858  
public record. The board shall do one of the following: 2859

(i) Make the video recordings available for inspection 2860  
upon request in accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised 2861  
Code. 2862

(ii) Make each day's video recording available to the 2863  
public on the internet for streaming or download without charge 2864  
within seventy-two hours after the recording ends and make the 2865  
video recordings available to the public upon request in 2866  
accordance with section 149.43 of the Revised Code. 2867

(d) Only a bipartisan team of election officials may open 2868  
a secure receptacle or handle its contents. A bipartisan team of 2869  
election officials shall collect the contents of each secure 2870  
receptacle and deliver them to the board for processing at least 2871  
once each day and at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the 2872

election. If, at seven-thirty p.m. on the day of the election, 2873  
there are persons waiting in line to deposit absent voter's 2874  
ballots in a receptacle, those persons shall be permitted to 2875  
deposit the ballots. 2876

(4) (a) During the period beginning on the forty-fifth day 2877  
before election day and ending on the day after election day, on 2878  
each day the office of the board of elections is open for 2879  
business, the board shall report to the secretary of state all 2880  
of the following information concerning the previous business 2881  
day: 2882

(i) The number of return envelopes purporting to contain 2883  
absent voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent 2884  
voter's ballots the board received by personal delivery, other 2885  
than to a receptacle described in division (C) (3) of this 2886  
section; 2887

(ii) If the board has placed a secure receptacle outside 2888  
the office of the board under division (C) (3) of this section, 2889  
the number of return envelopes purporting to contain absent 2890  
voter's ballots or uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 2891  
ballots the board received in the receptacle. 2892

(b) As soon as practicable after receiving a report under 2893  
division (C) (4) (a) of this section, the secretary of state shall 2894  
make the information in the report available to the public on 2895  
the secretary of state's official web site. 2896

(D) (1) If the elector delivers the elector's own ballots, 2897  
the elector shall show photo identification to the election 2898  
officials to confirm that the elector is the person who cast the 2899  
ballots. 2900

(2) (a) If the elector's family member listed in division 2901

(C) (1) of this section delivers the elector's ballots, the 2902  
elector's family member shall show photo identification to the 2903  
election officials and shall sign a statement under penalty of 2904  
election falsification, on a form prescribed by the secretary of 2905  
state, that includes all of the following: 2906

(i) The elector's family member's name and residence 2907  
address; 2908

(ii) An affirmation that the elector's family member is 2909  
delivering the elector's ballots at the elector's request; 2910

(iii) An affirmation that the elector's family member is 2911  
not delivering a ballot for more than two electors for that 2912  
election. 2913

(b) Upon receiving a properly completed statement under 2914  
division (D) (3) (a) of this section and verifying the identity of 2915  
the elector's family member delivering the elector's ballot, the 2916  
election officials shall accept the ballots and attach the 2917  
statement to the return envelope. 2918

(3) The election officials shall not accept any marked 2919  
absent voter's ballots that are returned to the board by 2920  
personal delivery, except as permitted under divisions (D) (1) to 2921  
(3) of this section. 2922

(E) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(D) (2)~~ ~~(E)~~ 2923  
(2) of this section, all envelopes containing marked absent 2924  
voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the board 2925  
not later than the close of the polls on the day of an election. 2926  
Absent voter's ballots delivered to the office of the board 2927  
later than the times specified shall not be counted, but shall 2928  
be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes in 2929  
which they are delivered, until the time provided by section 2930

3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other 2931  
ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at 2932  
which time they shall be destroyed. 2933

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in division ~~(D) (2) (b)~~ 2934  
(E) (2) (b) of this section, any return envelope that is 2935  
postmarked prior to the day of the election shall be delivered 2936  
to the director prior to the fifth day after the election. 2937  
Ballots delivered in envelopes postmarked prior to the day of 2938  
the election that are received after the close of the polls on 2939  
election day through the fourth day thereafter shall be counted 2940  
on the fifth day at the board of elections in the manner 2941  
provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 3509.06 of the 2942  
Revised Code or in the manner provided in division (E) of that 2943  
section, as applicable. Any such ballots that are received by 2944  
the director later than the fourth day following the election 2945  
shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the 2946  
sealed identification envelopes as provided in division (A) of 2947  
this section. 2948

(b) Division ~~(D) (2) (a)~~ (E) (2) (a) of this section shall not 2949  
apply to any mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing 2950  
system, including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 2951  
501.1. 2952

**Sec. 3511.02.** (A) Notwithstanding any section of the 2953  
Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 2954  
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 2955  
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 2956  
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 52 U.S.C.A. 20301, 2957  
this application shall be sufficient for voter registration and 2958  
as a request for an absent voter's ballot. Uniformed services or 2959  
overseas absent voter's ballots may be obtained by any person 2960

meeting the requirements of section 3511.011 of the Revised Code 2961  
by applying electronically to the secretary of state or to the 2962  
board of elections of the county in which the person's voting 2963  
residence is located in accordance with section 3511.021 of the 2964  
Revised Code or by applying to the board of elections of the 2965  
county in which the person's voting residence is located, in one 2966  
of the following ways: 2967

(1) That person may make written application for those 2968  
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to 2969  
the office of the board or may mail it, send it by facsimile 2970  
machine, send it by electronic mail, send it through internet 2971  
delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections 2972  
or the secretary of state, or otherwise send it to the board. 2973  
Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, 2974  
the application shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary 2975  
of state and shall contain all of the following information: 2976

- (a) The elector's name; 2977
- (b) The elector's signature; 2978
- (c) The address at which the elector is registered to 2979  
vote; 2980
- (d) The elector's date of birth; 2981
- (e) ~~One of the following:~~ 2982
  - ~~(i) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 2983  
identification card number;~~ 2984
  - ~~(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2985  
number;~~ 2986
  - ~~(iii) A copy of the elector's photo identification and 2987  
evidence that the elector is a United States citizen, as 2988~~

<u>described in division (EE) of section 3501.01 of the Revised</u>	2989
<u>Code, if the photo identification does not establish proof of</u>	2990
<u>citizenship under that division.</u>	2991
(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent	2992
voter's ballots are requested;	2993
(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is	2994
a qualified elector;	2995
(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed	2996
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310;	2997
(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in	2998
the state immediately preceding the commencement of service,	2999
immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the	3000
service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United	3001
States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal	3002
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish	3003
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the	3004
United States, whichever is applicable;	3005
(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the	3006
elector's party affiliation;	3007
(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the	3008
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed;	3009
(l) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the	3010
elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they	3011
shall be so sent;	3012
(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the	3013
elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of	3014
elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery,	3015
the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact	3016

information; 3017

(n) The elector's current foreign address and evidence 3018  
that the elector resides at that address. 3019

(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division 3020  
(A) (3) of this section may use a single federal post card 3021  
application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent 3022  
voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in 3023  
a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 3024  
that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the 3025  
Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated 3026  
by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting 3027  
constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to 3028  
the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application 3029  
shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 3030  
3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied 3031  
separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 3032  
ballots for each election. 3033

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas 3034  
absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to 3035  
such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father- 3036  
in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or 3037  
sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting 3038  
parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, 3039  
son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The 3040  
application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only 3041  
by the board or on a single federal post card as provided in 3042  
division (A) (2) of this section. The form of the application 3043  
shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The board shall 3044  
furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in 3045  
this division desiring to make the application, only upon the 3046

request of such a relative made in person at the office of the 3047  
board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to 3048  
the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in 3049  
division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and 3050  
sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following: 3051

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are 3052  
requested; 3053

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed 3054  
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 52 U.S.C. 20310; 3055

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to 3056  
vote; 3057

(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of 3058  
residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of 3059  
service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or 3060  
near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the 3061  
United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 3062  
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 3063  
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 3064  
United States, as the case may be; 3065

(e) The elector's date of birth; 3066

(f) One of the following: 3067

(i) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state 3068  
identification card number; 3069

(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 3070  
number; 3071

(iii) A copy of the elector's photo identification. 3072

(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent 3073

voter's ballots are requested; 3074

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 3075  
a qualified elector; 3076

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 3077  
elector's party affiliation; 3078

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to 3079  
the elector as specified in division (A) (3) of this section; 3080

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the 3081  
telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile 3082  
machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be 3083  
sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by 3084  
the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet 3085  
contact information to which ballots shall be sent through 3086  
internet delivery; 3087

(l) The signature and address of the person making the 3088  
application. 3089

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration 3090  
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the 3091  
application may include the elector's program participant 3092  
identification number instead of the address at which the 3093  
elector is registered to vote. 3094

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas 3095  
absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the office of the 3096  
board not earlier than the first day of January of the year of 3097  
the elections for which the uniformed services or overseas 3098  
absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety 3099  
days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to 3100  
be voted, whichever is earlier. An application to receive 3101  
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots by mail or 3102

by another method permitted under section 3511.021 of the Revised Code shall be delivered to the office of the board not later than the close of business on the seventh day preceding the day of the election.

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors only, the applicant shall submit to the board, in addition to the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices.

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

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

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

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the secretary of state or the board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the

application. 3132

**Sec. 3511.14.** (A) A board of elections shall accept and 3133  
process federal write-in absentee ballots ~~for all elections for~~ 3134  
~~office and for all ballot questions and issues,~~ as required 3135  
under "The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 3136  
~~Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff, et seq., as~~ 3137  
~~amended 52 U.S.C. 20303.~~ 3138

(B) A uniformed services or overseas voter may use the 3139  
declaration accompanying a federal write-in absentee ballot to 3140  
apply to register to vote simultaneously with the submission of 3141  
the federal write-in absentee ballot, if the declaration is 3142  
received not later than thirty days before the day of the 3143  
election. If the declaration is received after that date, the 3144  
declaration shall be considered an application to register to 3145  
vote for all subsequent elections. 3146

**Section 2.** That existing sections 3375.011, 3501.01, 3147  
3501.05, 3503.01, 3503.06, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.151, 3148  
3503.152, 3503.153, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3505.181, 3149  
3505.182, 3505.183, 3505.20, 3509.05, 3511.02, and 3511.14 of 3150  
the Revised Code are hereby repealed. 3151

**Section 3.** This act shall be known as the Voter 3152  
Verification Act. 3153

**Section 4.** The General Assembly, applying the principle 3154  
stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that 3155  
amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of 3156  
simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, 3157  
presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended 3158  
by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the 3159  
sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections 3160

as presented in this act:	3161
Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code as amended by both	3162
H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly.	3163
Section 3505.183 of the Revised Code as amended by both	3164
H.B. 45 and H.B. 458 of the 134th General Assembly.	3165



August 29, 2024

Honorable Matt Huffman  
President, Ohio Senate  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Honorable Jason Stephens  
Speaker, Ohio House of Representatives  
77 South High Street, 14th Floor  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Potential Election Legislation

Dear President Huffman and Speaker Stephens,

I write to make you aware of three policy matters that have recently come to light. To ensure the ongoing integrity of Ohio's elections, I suggest urgent legislative attention to each of them.

1. A federal court's decision in a recent case impacts Ohio's ban on ballot harvesting, likely requiring a re-examination of voting assistance protocols and the security of drop boxes.
2. A new decision by the Supreme Court of the United States gives us an opportunity to better enforce Ohio's constitutional citizenship requirement for participating in elections.
3. The General Assembly should consider adopting a new provisional ballot voting requirement for voters with mismatched registration records.

### **Protecting Ohio's Election Integrity**

First, a federal court's recent decision in a lawsuit brought by the League of Women Voters ("the LWV") impacts Ohio's prohibition on ballot harvesting. Although the decision is limited in scope, it could nonetheless have a broader effect on ballot security.

The LWV sought to challenge certain provisions of House Bill 458, adopted by the General Assembly and signed into law by the Governor in 2023. While the court declined to act on most of the LWV's claims, it issued an order limited in scope to disabled voters who wish to utilize someone other than a relative as defined by R.C. 3509.05 to assist them with the return of an absentee ballot. Specifically, the court prohibited the state from administering, implementing, or enforcing R.C. 3599.21(A)(9) and (A)(10) "against any disabled voter or against any individual who assists any disabled voter."<sup>1</sup>

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AMERICAN <sup>1</sup> See Op. at 38, 42

The law adopted by the General Assembly in 2023 defined the type of person legally eligible to assist a voter with the return of an absentee ballot as either a qualified relative or a mail carrier. The court determined that this restriction violates Section 208 of the federal Voting Rights Act, which allows a disabled voter to be assisted by “a person of the voter's choice.” Unfortunately, this decision does not provide relief to a family who believes their disabled relative is receiving ballot assistance without their knowledge, approval, or input, or who may have been coerced or misguided by individuals attempting to “assist” their voting decisions.

The court’s decision is limited in scope. However, it highlights a need for additional steps to enforce Ohio’s ban on ballot harvesting. Without the appropriate safeguards, a person could return any number of ballots to an unattended drop box simply by claiming (whether truthfully or not) the permissive authority granted under Section 208. This effectively creates an unintended loophole in Ohio’s ballot harvesting law that we must address. I suspect this is exactly the outcome the LWV intended. Under the guise of assisting the disabled, their legal strategy seeks to make Ohio’s elections less secure and more vulnerable to cheating, especially as it relates to the use of drop boxes. The security of the delivery of absentee ballots remains paramount, so this leaves us with the obvious question of a remedy.

Pending legislative action to address enforcement of Ohio’s prohibition on ballot harvesting I will direct boards to post a notification on each drop box indicating that voter-assisted ballots must be returned inside the board office, where the voter assistant will be asked to complete an attestation form confirming that they are complying with applicable state or federal law. This effectively means **ONLY A VOTER’S PERSONAL BALLOT** may be returned via drop box. I am acting under my statutory authority to compel the observance of election laws (*see* R.C. 3501.05), in this case Ohio’s ban on ballot harvesting. However, I strongly encourage you to consider codifying any additional safeguards that might be necessary due to attempts to erode the integrity of our elections, including possibly banning drop boxes as a result of this court decision which makes it harder to guard against ballot harvesting.

### **Enforcing Ohio’s Citizenship Requirement**

Second, the Supreme Court of the United States granted last week a request by Arizona’s Republican legislative leaders and the Republican National Committee to reinstate a law requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote. The court’s decision limits the application of the law only to voter registration forms prescribed by the state, but this ruling effectively gives the Ohio General Assembly the option to adopt a similar requirement. I recommend that we do so. As the prescriptive authority for election-related forms in Ohio, I ask that you consider codifying a proof of citizenship requirement that can be incorporated into the state-issued voter registration applications prescribed by my office. I also propose the addition of a clearly disclaimed warning that states: “The Ohio Constitution prohibits a noncitizen of the United States from registering and voting at any state or local election held in this state. It is illegal for a noncitizen to register and vote in Ohio.” Unfortunately, the court’s order does not preclude use of a longstanding federally-prescribed voter registration form that does not require proof of citizenship, so this remedy is not infallible; however, any incremental step we can take in the adoption of election integrity safeguards is a step worth taking. Upon the General Assembly’s action, I will immediately require front-end citizenship verification for all state-prescribed forms, and I will

direct all boards of elections to add additional steps to check citizenship status for registrants using the federally-prescribed form.

My office just conducted the most comprehensive citizenship verification audit ever performed on Ohio's voter rolls. We have expanded our review of citizenship records provided by the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles and obtained access to the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) federal Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database, which allows government agencies to check citizenship status more effectively. We are working to implement more extensive cross-checks of Social Security Administration records, federal jury pool data, and citizenship records maintained by the justice system. Additionally, my office has asked the Biden-Harris administration to grant access to the Person Centric Query System (PCQS) database, the Person Centric Identity Services database, and the Central Index System 2, also maintained by DHS. I am currently preparing to take legal action to compel the administration to follow the law and make these resources available as our requests continue to go unanswered. Our latest investigation resulted in the recent referral of 597 individuals who registered to vote in Ohio despite not being citizens of the United States, including evidence that 138 of those registrants also cast a ballot. Our citizenship audit is ongoing as we acquire new data. Adopting a proof-of-citizenship requirement on the front end of the registration process would help to reduce our current reliance on these back-end election integrity efforts.

### **Ensuring the Accuracy of Ohio's Voter Rolls**

Finally, I ask that the General Assembly consider codifying a new provisional voting requirement for individuals who provide inaccurate information on a voter registration application. The DATA Act, which became law in 2023, gave my office the authority to conduct more extensive audits and analysis of election data. In compliance with state law, our Office of Data Analytics and Archives has identified numerous voter registration applications containing mismatched data, which differs from information on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles or the Social Security Administration (BMV/SSA).

These mismatched voter registration applications are flagged and sent to the relevant county board of elections, which then sends the voter a notice asking that the mismatched information be corrected. If the voter fails to respond and engages in no voter-initiated activity for a specified period, the registration is removed from the rolls. The problem here is what happens when a voter with a mismatched registration record *does* engage in voter-initiated activity while the record is under review. Current law requires that a voter in confirmation status be returned to "active" status upon engaging in a voter-initiated activity, meaning the mismatched record never gets corrected. This leads to inaccurate data on Ohio's voter rolls and erodes public confidence in the integrity of our elections. Further, it complicates our statutory requirement "to ensure that the accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable state and federal law" and prevents us from ensuring that individuals who are not eligible to vote are promptly removed from the database. (*See* R.C. 3503.151)

As Ohio's chief election official, I propose adding a statutory mandate that any voter whose registration requires the reconciliation of mismatched data be required to cast a provisional ballot. This forces the voter to cure any mismatched information before a ballot can be counted.

To be clear, the voter registration would not be canceled but rather placed in a “provisional confirmation” status for further action. This approach mirrors current law regarding an unverified voter address. The board of elections sends an acknowledgment notice to new registrants confirming the registration and assigning a voting location. If the notice is returned by USPS as undeliverable, the board must place the registration in confirmation status, and the voter must either correct the mismatched information on file or cast a provisional ballot and correct the information through the cure process. The provisional confirmation status would follow a similar process. This change is essential to maintaining the accuracy of our voter rolls and ensuring the integrity of our elections.

Thank you for the vital role you play in ensuring that Ohio elections are secure, accurate, and accessible. While it may be unrealistic to accomplish these reforms before the upcoming election, they are nonetheless changes that should be considered as soon as possible. In the meantime, as we hope for legislative action as quickly as practicable, we will work with the boards of elections to mitigate each of these concerns to the best of our ability within the current authorities given to us by the Revised Code and the Ohio Constitution. As always, I stand ready to assist you in any way with enactment of these reforms. Consider my office a resource as we continue to build on Ohio’s national reputation as “the gold standard” of election administration.

Yours in service,



Frank LaRose  
Ohio Secretary of State

cc: John Barron, Chief of Staff, Ohio Senate  
Matt Oyster, Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio Senate  
Brittney Colvin, Chief of Staff, Ohio House of Representatives  
Heather Blessing, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel, Ohio House of Representatives

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Here is a brief transcript of the Proponent Testimony given for HB 552

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From Allison Crisci-Nickolai <allisonnickolai@msn.com>

Date Thu 11/21/2024 10:10 PM

To ohio4truth <ohio4truth@proton.me>; Becky Bailey <beckybailey99@proton.me>; Lt Col Marcell Strbich <mstrbic@protonmail.com>; Cleta Mitchell <cleta@cletamitchell.com>; ewattsohio@gmail.com <ewattsohio@gmail.com>; jim@rigano.net <jim@rigano.net>

Cc swiggam@gmail.com <swiggam@gmail.com>; Rep61 <Rep61@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep77 <Rep77@ohiohouse.gov>

 2 attachments (49 KB)

HB 552 11-20 PROPONENT testimony notes and questions.docx; HB 552 11-20 PROPONENT testimony notes and questions.docx;

To All, A HUGE THANK YOU! Proponent testimony was well prepared and the team was ready for any questions asked by the Committee Members.

To Scott Wiggam and Beth Lear, Thank you for proposing this important legislation contained in HB552 to strengthen Ohio voter registration process and procedures.

I have attached a written summary of the presenters, topics presented, and the questions that came from the House Government Oversight Committee during Proponent Testimony for your review.

Allison Nickolai

## HB 552 Testimony Notes and Questions

### Proponent Testimony Speaker 1:

**Marcell Strbich** – An expert in System design and vulnerability/risk assessment. Introductions to what Committee will hear about including the presenter list. Testimony included procedural reform of Voter Verification and how it impacts 4 layers of administration. Emphasized the necessary interaction of all entities in cross checking for valid registrations, Before registration, and not after registrations enter the voter rolls, Also, Drop Box vulnerability portion of Bill,

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- Q: You believe there is a much greater NON CITIZEN issue than the 137:
- A: YES but the only way to know is to implement the process. Evidence based approach not media, not narrative

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**Gail Niederlehner:** Bill introduces only eligible citizens vote in Ohio elections: Safe not sorry. No verification before entry on the voter rolls. If there is No identity verification, voters remain on rolls 4 years even when BMV comes back as mismatch. Other important functions, banking, financial, etc all have safeguards, why not elections and voter rolls. With this bill, Voter with incomplete record goes into provisional status. HB 237 allows loophole for any registrations without DL/ID. Just one instance of ineligible vote cast erodes public confidence in elections. \*\*Follow up to Brown from Sponsor Testimony. Boards don't verify against BMV. They have No capability. Absentee ballots received may or MAY NOT have been validated before their ballot is accepted.

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- Q: ERIC's mission, was to eliminate bad voter registrations from voter rolls, ERIC uses BMV, NCOA, BVS to provide information to member affiliates. ERIC's mission seem to do what this bill is doing, so why did we pull out of that agreement?
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- Q: A Non citizen goes in to BMV to get an ID (or DL), Non citizen is placed on the back, so what's the issue?. Also, Ineligible voters put on voter rolls data of 50K. Where does that data come from?
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- Q: We often look at other states to see what they are doing. What are some challenges in other states on legislation about citizenship validation? Do you feel like this bill addresses other states issues with litigation? .
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I don't think many of us would be as calm over this situation if it had happened to us. Thank you for your testimony.

## Jacob Flowers

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**From:** mstrbic <mstrbic@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 21, 2024 4:00 PM  
**To:** Rep81; Rep48; Rep30; Rep90; Rep49; Rep89; Rep10  
**Cc:** Rep91; frank@ohiosos.gov; Rep61; Rep77  
**Subject:** H.B. 552 Testimony Follow-Up (Voter Proof/Verification of Citizenship)  
**Attachments:** BOE assn member HB 472 Letter.docx; BOE assn member HB 472 Opposition Letter .docx

Rep Hoops and Government Oversight Committee Members,

At proponent testimony yesterday, you encouraged constituent-proponents to engage with County BOEs/OAEO to win their support. I think it's important the House Government Oversight Committee members understand the outcome of our prior experience to work with OAEO in good faith. OAEO Executive Director's Aaron Ockerman's standing position is best evidenced below in a letter he wrote to BOE members in June 2024.

In the letter, OAEO is "*happy to report*" that prior similar bills H.B. 472/S.B. 274 "*saw no action*" and is NOT interested in implementing enhanced eligibility identity verification standards of review. In fact, OAEO Director, proceeded to galvanize enduring opposition by referring to lameduck as "*tumultuous*" and "*a time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.*"

Keep in mind this update to the BOE members from OAEO Director came just 5 days after constituent-proponents for stronger election identity verification legislation met to find common ground and work through differences. ***After reading this update from OAEO Director to the BOE members who wrote letters of opposition for H.B. 472/S.B.274, do you still think they are a good faith actor who really wants to see transparency, oversight and greater accountability for citizenship verification?***

I would encourage and respectfully ask the committee to move forward with H.B. 552 even with opposition hearings. Allow opponents to explain why they are against implementing a constitutional proof of citizenship amendment opposed to documenting citizenship verification activity and against public transparency reporting requirements via SoS.

Enforcing Ohio's constitutional mandate for preventing non-citizens from registering and voting is a top imperative for Ohioans and the incoming Trump administration. I know because I actively work with and communicate with Clela Mitchell, who submitted written testimony in support of H.B. 552. The important work that your committee does and its efforts to move this legislation are being closely followed by the new administration.

Thank you,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col. USAF (ret)  
Proponent H.B. 552 Voter Verification Act  
937-607-4237

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**From:** "Aaron Ockerman" <aaron@ockermanconsulting.com>  
**To:** "oaeo-members@googlegroups.com" <oaeo-members@googlegroups.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, Jun 30, 2024 at 12:29 PM  
**Subject:** HB 472 updates

Dear OAEO members:

As you are likely aware, the Ohio General Assembly is on break until after the November election. Barring some unforeseen emergency, there will be no legislative activity before the election.

I am happy to report that neither HB 472 nor SB 274 saw action in the final days before summer recess. Having spoken to many of you at conference, I know you are busy at work educating your local reps and senators about the provisions of the bills, raising concerns, and offering to be a resource for positive changes to Ohio's elections laws. It is important that this work continue over the summer as "lame duck" will be a tumultuous time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.

To that end I have attached two excellent letters that were sent by local BOE's to their legislators. They strike a wonderful tone, being direct and to the point, but respectful and educational. I trust they will be helpful to you.

It was great seeing so many of you at conference. Happy Independence Day to you all!

Aaron

From: Jim Ehrman  
864 Leonard Street  
Fostoria, OH 44830  
jamescehrman@gmail.com

06/28/2024

To: The Honorable Bill Reineke  
Senate Building  
1 Capitol Square  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
221  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Senator Reineke,

My name is Jim Ehrman and I reside at 864 Leonard Street, Fostoria, Ohio. I am currently the Deputy Director for the Seneca County Board of Elections. I also continue to serve on the Seneca County Republican Central Committee. In the past I have served as Director for the Board of Elections and have been the Ohio Secretary of State, Republican Election Official of the Year. Also, in the past I have served at various times as Chairman, Secretary, First Vice Chairman and Second Vice Chairman for the Seneca County Republican Central Committee.

I am writing to you today after reading HB 472/SB 274. I have found several areas of concern and am asking you to oppose this bill. It is my understanding that this bill was introduced as a bill "to enhance election security". However, upon reading the bill, I have developed grave concerns that this bill will reduce both accuracy and security in Ohio's elections.

Our system of requiring bipartisan teams to work from beginning to end throughout the election process; from overseeing the programming of our election machines; to publicly testing each voting machine's logic and accuracy to ensure that each voting machine is working, marking and tabulating ballots correctly before each election; to accurately processing absentee and day of election ballots and then tabulating the initial results on election night; to subsequently researching and comparing Provisional Ballots to both the election day and absentee ballot check ins in the immediate days after an election, working to ensure no one attempts to double vote; to completing an accurate final count and finally to the partial hand count audit verifying the accuracy of all that has transpired, all on a tight schedule after elections ensures that Ohio's elections are secure, accurate, well audited, and reported in a timely way. All of this has moved Ohio elections to the forefront of the election process, being held up as the "gold standard" for other States to emulate. I have serious concerns that much of this will be altered to less secure, less timely and less well-regarded methods should this bill be enacted. It is for these reasons that I oppose this bill in its entirety. It is my belief that many of the provisions of the bill will unravel well over 20 years' worth of efforts by various Ohio Secretaries of State and members of the Ohio legislature from both parties that have over time drastically and demonstrably improved Ohio's election law. Moreover, I

suspect this bill would create problems in Ohio that currently plague other States and would then draw national attention to Ohio for suddenly having issues that until now, were not a problem.

While not all inclusive, over the following paragraphs I will attempt to highlight what I believe are some of the most dangerous pieces found in this legislation:

**Firstly, I am concerned** that as written, this bill encourages counties to shift to the hand counting of ballots as opposed to the current electronic tabulation (Seneca County first shifted to electronic tabulation around **1977** to enhance both speed and accuracy.). Various studies across the U.S. and Globally since the late 1960s have shown hand counting of ballots during an election to be significantly less accurate and much slower than the digital tabulation of votes. Additionally, per the Ohio Legislative Service Commission's Legislative Budget Office, this would likely increase the cost of elections in each County by up to \$4.50 per vote. A cost that would have to be paid for out of County budgets.

Seneca County is a smaller county in Ohio and for Seneca County alone, this would have increased costs for the 2024 Primary election by up to \$37,984.00. Moreover, if this would have been in place at the 2020 general election it would have cost Seneca County an additional \$117,306.00 for that one November election alone. This additional ongoing cost would be a burden to the County and would likely be prohibitive in larger Counties. Furthermore, hand counts are slow. They require significant manpower to be done in a bipartisan manner and will take significant time, thus ending the ability of Boards of Election to timely report the accurate results of an election by noon the day following an election. It would likely take days, if not weeks, after an election for Statewide or Federal office results to be reported and longer still for a final count and subsequent audit for accuracy.

**My next concern** with this bill is a requirement that ALL voting equipment must adhere to VVSG 2.0. This is a federal list of voluntary guidelines that no election vendor currently meets. Mandating these guidelines would decertify all voting equipment in Ohio and leave us with no viable alternative before the Presidential Election this November. Further, IF somehow a vendor were able to meet all the specifications it would likely cost well over \$114.5 million across the State to implement these machines. (This number is based on the cost of a similar program where the State provided funding for under SB 135 of the 132<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, per the Legislative Budget Office.) Given that this is now the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, and inflation has been rampant these last few years, I expect there will be a significantly higher cost for the new technology, should the bill pass. That is IF this can be developed, certified, and released in a timely way by vendors, in time for acquisition and subsequent training of Ohio SOS staff, Boards of Elections and Staff and then poll workers, immediately before a Presidential election. It is important to once again note here, Ohio is currently the "gold standard" for elections in the United States and abroad. There are currently no other States in the Country that require this level of certification for election equipment, thus there is no real market for the election vendors to develop towards regarding this goal, at least not yet. Moreover, our elections are currently securely conducted by bipartisan teams in all 88 Ohio Counties. After many audits and investigations Ohio's elections are secure and accurate with no widespread fraud or inaccuracies found.

**My next major concerns** regarding this bill have to do with absentee voting. First and foremost, I am concerned with the absentee ballot ID requirements. Requiring voters who cast an absentee ballot by mail to include photocopies of their identification places an undue burden on this group of voters. Undoubtedly, there are many voters who do not possess the equipment or capability to meet the requirement. This would specifically apply to older or home bound Ohioans who may find this very difficult to comply with. Further, we already have significant portions of the voter's personal information at the Board of Elections, including their name, address, date of birth and either or both the last 4 digits of their social security number and/or their State of Ohio Driver's License or State ID number as well as their signature. When an application to absentee vote is received at a Board of Elections office, the information on that application is compared to the information we have. Further, when a voted absentee ballot is received in its identification envelope, we compare the information on that envelope to both what is in our system and what is on the application for an absentee ballot. This is already a very secure way of handling absentee ballots. Adding a copy of a photo ID to the envelope would both likely be burdensome and would potentially allow a vector for the unscrupulous to intercept those envelopes to seize the information on that photocopy for identity theft purposes as it works its way through the postal system.

I am also very concerned with the bill's requirement of not opening absentee ballots until after the close of the election day polls. This is something we have already dealt with in the past and a requirement we altered for good reason. Currently, the Boards of Election are allowed to open the absentee envelopes and further to begin the process of preparing those absentee ballots for tabulation prior to the end of the election day. To be clear, these ballots cannot be tabulated until after the election ends at 7:30 p.m. Having those potentially thousands of ballots ready for tabulation allows for both accurate and quicker processing allowing for timely election results. Shifting back to not opening these until after election day ends will cause a significant delay in reporting election night results forcing Boards of Election to be unable to comply with current requirements of reporting no later than noon the day after the election.

Additionally, our system currently looks at the Election Day and Absentee reports by the next day and then allows the Boards of Elections to begin researching each Provisional ballot one at a time, looking at the Absentee and Election Day lists and comparing those Provisional ballot envelopes allowing Boards to check and ensure no one attempts to vote an absentee or regular ballot and then also vote a Provisional ballot. Current systems are set up to ensure this system works well, accurately, and quickly allowing all 88 Boards of Elections to communicate with one another & ensuring that Provisional ballots are correctly cast and countable. The changes that would be necessary with the passage of this bill are simply not currently set up in any Board of Elections systems. The current systems lack the ability to intake, file and review Provisional ballots first. It would be difficult to compare Provisional ballots against regularly cast Absentee and Election Day ballots, as the system needs the absentee and day of election recorded voters first. This would be a radical overhaul of systems and software which would again likely be extremely expensive to implement, especially in a timely way. This dramatic change will likely cause immediate inaccuracies compared to continuing to use proven systems, order and technology to research Provisional voters after the Absentee and Election Day votes.

**Finally, I am very concerned** about the changes in voter registration requirements. Requiring Boards of Elections to obtain, catalog and store driver's license photos for all the voters in their databases borders on an impossible task to complete. Current voter registration systems do not allow for this or have a potential space where this might be stored within the systems. This would create an unnecessary hardship for the Boards of Elections and for the vendors we rely on. Should this happen, it will certainly get done with an unknown financial cost to our vendors, which will certainly be passed on to each Board of Elections and thus to the County Commissioners for further required and necessary budget increases. Additionally, allowing "commercial services" to audit the State's voter registration database, creates an attack vector for malicious actors seeking to steal identities and leaves our systems less secure. This information is currently audited annually by the Ohio SOS, working with the Boards of Elections to make any changes or corrections. Adding an outside service to again audit this will be costly and will reduce, not enhance database security.

I want to take a moment to thank you for reading over my concerns. I appreciate that in a busy work week you have taken these few moments and I hope that you will consider opposing this bill and letting the sponsors and your leadership team know about your concerns. If you need additional information, please don't hesitate to call or text me and I would be happy to sit down and discuss this further. Additionally, if you need more information while you are in Columbus, please reach out to Aaron Ockerman at the Ohio Association of Elections officials. It is likely that he is better able to articulate these concerns and may also have a better way of placing these concerns in a bullet point document for members of the General Assembly, if necessary.

Best Regards,

Jim Ehrman, MOL, OREO, Godan, LUTCF  
Deputy Director, Seneca County Board of Elections

Ohio elections have been proven time and time again to be secure and accurate. Some of the current security standards, implemented by the Ohio Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Department of Homeland Security have set standards that other states are envious of. Per Ohio law, the structure of Ohio's election boards sets bipartisan requirements that are fair, honest and administered without a political hat. All the standards and practices of the county boards of elections, as well as the Secretary of State are a testament to the high security standards in Ohio. With post-election audit results holding at 99.9% – 99.98%, it is obvious that Ohio is doing something right. While we can appreciate efforts to make elections even more secure, some efforts contained in HB 472 / SB 274 may be very costly to county boards, burdensome to voters, troublesome for election workers, create additional security concerns, delay the process of counting ballots, create inaccurate results, and disenfranchise many voters.

The proposed requirement for absentee voters to provide a copy of their identification for registering to vote or to request an absentee ballot is burdensome and disenfranchising to voters, especially our elderly voters. It would be difficult for this population to make a copy of their identification. It would also be challenging for folks who do not have access to a copier. The laws in HB 458 have already shortened the time frame for voters to request and return ballots and this will only disenfranchise more people. On the administrative side of this bill, requiring a copy of a voter's identification with their absentee applications will cause numerous delays and issues for our staff to obtain information from voters who may have not included a copy of their identification. This would mean numerous phone calls, explaining to voters what it is they are required to provide, explaining to voters how to obtain a copy (not especially easy with the elderly), and providing additional instructions/deadlines to voters. Not only would voters become frustrated and not vote, but the public backlash for these types of regulations makes our jobs as election officials even harder.

The security issues raised regarding cataloging every voter identification is impossible. The amount of storage to house records of this magnitude would be unattainable and the costs would obviously be the county's responsibility. For example, Sandusky County's board office is so small that we have had to use alternative methods for creating a space for voters during the early voting period. Also, it would not be secure to house these records off-site. Our voter registration systems do not have the capability to retain these records and the cost to pay the vendors to re-write and develop programs to do such things would be very costly. This is not only unfair to Ohio county boards to require such an expense, but ultimately, taxpayers would be footing the bill. As a taxpaying citizen, I find that to be somewhat of a double whammy. Not only are you requiring voters to obtain copies (gas, costs of copies, inconvenience, etc.), but this would also hit their pocketbooks on the backside in paying for the storage of these massive records and/or the reprogramming of the voter registration systems.

Ohio currently allows boards to begin opening and scanning the absentee ballots prior to Election Day. This provides an opportunity for boards to ensure that all the ballots being returned are properly accounted for and gives boards a little bit of a head start when doing the final tabulations. In turn, this helps to provide fast, accurate election results. The time it would take to process returned ballots would be drawn out for many days (if not weeks), especially during a Presidential Election. This will not only greatly increase the time period for election results but could also cause issues with processing. By the end of the 30 day early voting period, election officials are exhausted (mentally and physically) and adding more layers to a very detailed and complex process will only lead to more errors and slower reporting.

Just the words 'hand counting ballots' make most of my staff want to quit. Again, the level of exhaustion at the end of the 30 day early voting period is already a lot. When early voting ends, we gear up for what will be at least a 16 hour Election Day, election night reporting, provisional ballot reviews, extra board meetings, absentee ballots that are still being returned, etc., so the thought of counting anything by hand in that frame of mind is impossible. This would be filled with errors and **very** time-consuming. Imagine working long hours in a very stressful environment, for about 20 days straight without a day off, then pull off a perfect Election Day only to be required to plug along for as many more days/weeks it would take to obtain accurate hand counts. As most people will tell you, their focus and ability to function at such a pace would be lost. How costly would this be? It would require a very large network of teams (which means hiring more staff), it would require a different site for this process to take place (security issues and costs would be significant). How accurate would we expect the results to be? How many days or weeks before results could be available? Sandusky County trusts that the accuracy and logistics testing done on all voting equipment is proof that the machines work. It proves that the machines can count the ballots faster and are spot-on with accuracy. We trust that the post-election audits speak for themselves and should be used as a tool for educating voters who distrust the voting process. Election deniers are already provided an opportunity to observe the audit process, though few ever take the time to actually observe and those same folks are always encouraged to be a precinct election official. Perhaps, it would be more of an educational opportunity for those folks to actually observe the processes and to take part in working on Election Day, versus creating more hurdles, increasing the costs of elections, putting undue requirements on voters and election officials.

We appreciate your time and consideration for the issues brought forth. We ask that you contact your county board of elections to sign up to work as a precinct election official, and encourage all elected officials, election deniers and anyone who is curious about the processes to take part in our democracy. It is truly a remarkable process by which Ohio has set the gold standard and that other states can only attempt to reproduce. We would also request that HB 472 / SB 274 be held from any further advancement until our Representatives and Senators

have a chance obtain more feedback from voters and election officials. As someone who has been in the field for over 15 years, I believe this is the very minimum of what can be done to establish more trust and transparency in Ohio elections. Voting can be a very confusing and difficult process for some people to navigate and changing the laws every couple of years, only provides more hurdles for our voters. Again, we appreciate your time and attention to this very important matter.

## Jacob Flowers

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**From:** Mark Pukita <mark@mark4ohio.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 22, 2024 6:52 AM  
**To:** Rep30; mstrbic; Rep48; Rep49; Rep10; Rep89; Rep90; Rep81  
**Cc:** Rep77; Rep91; frank@ohiosos.gov; Rep61  
**Subject:** Re: H.B. 552 Testimony Follow-Up (Voter Proof/Verification of Citizenship)

Thanks, Marcell.

It looks to me like taxpayers (who pay the dues for OAE0 for their BOE's members) are paying for an organization to lobby AGAINST strengthening Ohio's election system. I'd like a show of hands of those copied on this message of those who agree with me. If you don't, please explain why you disagree.

I plan to go extremely public with this. It's absolutely unacceptable. I'll be naming names & spotlighting where everyone stands on this insane situation. Ohio's BOEs need to terminate their relationship with either OAE0 or terminate O

On November 21, 2024 at 3:59:59 PM, mstrbic ([mstrbic@protonmail.com](mailto:mstrbic@protonmail.com)) wrote:

Rep Hoops and Government Oversight Committee Members,

At proponent testimony yesterday, you encouraged constituent-proponents to engage with County BOEs/OAE0 to win their support. I think it's important the House Government Oversight Committee members understand the outcome of our prior experience to work with OAE0 in good faith. OAE0 Executive Director's Aaron Ockerman's standing position is best evidenced below in a letter he wrote to BOE members in June 2024.

In the letter, OAE0 is "*happy to report*" that prior similar bills H.B. 472/S.B. 274 "*saw no action*" and is NOT interested in implementing enhanced eligibility identity verification standards of review. In fact, OAE0 Director, proceeded to galvanize enduring opposition by referring to lameduck as "*tumultuous*" and "*a time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.*"

Keep in mind this update to the BOE members from OAE0 Director came just 5 days after constituent-proponents for stronger election identity verification legislation met to find common ground and work through differences. ***After reading this update from OAE0 Director to the BOE members who wrote letters of opposition for H.B. 472/S.B.274, do you still think they are a good faith actor who really wants to see transparency, oversight and greater accountability for citizenship verification?***

I would encourage and respectfully ask the committee to move forward with H.B. 552 even with opposition hearings. Allow opponents to explain why they are against implementing a constitutional proof of citizenship amendment opposed to documenting citizenship verification activity and against public transparency reporting requirements via SoS.

Enforcing Ohio's constitutional mandate for preventing non-citizens from registering and voting is a top imperative for Ohioans and the incoming Trump administration. I know because I actively work with and communicate with Clela Mitchell, who submitted written testimony in support of H.B. 552. The important work that your committee does and its efforts to move this legislation are being closely followed by the new administration.

Thank you,  
Marcell Strbich, Lt Col. USAF (ret)

Proponent H.B. 552 Voter Verification Act  
937-607-4237

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**From:** "Aaron Ockerman" <aaron@ockermanconsulting.com>  
**To:** "oaeo-members@googlegroups.com" <oaeo-members@googlegroups.com>  
**Sent:** Sun, Jun 30, 2024 at 12:29 PM  
**Subject:** HB 472 updates

Dear OAEO members:

As you are likely aware, the Ohio General Assembly is on break until after the November election. Barring some unforeseen emergency, there will be no legislative activity before the election.

I am happy to report that neither HB 472 nor SB 274 saw action in the final days before summer recess. Having spoken to many of you at conference, I know you are busy at work educating your local reps and senators about the provisions of the bills, raising concerns, and offering to be a resource for positive changes to Ohio's elections laws. It is important that this work continue over the summer as "lame duck" will be a tumultuous time and we need to do the hard work now to avoid anything bad happening.

To that end I have attached two excellent letters that were sent by local BOE's to their legislators. They strike a wonderful tone, being direct and to the point, but respectful and educational. I trust they will be helpful to you.

It was great seeing so many of you at conference. Happy Independence Day to you all!

Aaron

## Jacob Flowers

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**To:** Rep30; mstrbic; Rep48; Rep49; Rep10; Rep89; Rep90; Rep81  
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I plan to go extremely public with this. It's absolutely unacceptable. I'll be naming names & spotlighting where everyone stands on this insane situation. Ohio's BOEs need to terminate their relationship with either OAEO or terminate Ockerman's position with the organization. And, taxpayers need to be aware they're paying for this apparent insanity.

Regards,

Mark Pukita  
Mark Pukita • 614-499-0599 (c) • [mark@mark4ohio.com](mailto:mark@mark4ohio.com)  
4240 Hobbs Landing Drive West, Dublin, OH 43017

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