

HB 1952 -- Voter Registration Challenges

Sponsor: Cox

This bill allows any registered voter to challenge the registration of any other registered voter by filing a sworn statement before the local election authority stating the grounds for the challenge.

The local election authority must seek to verify a challenge to residency using a confirmation notice sent promptly to the voter whose residency is challenged. If the official confirmation notice response form is not returned within 30 days, the authority must enter the voter's name on a suspended list. Notices may not be used to challenge voters within 75 days prior to a general election for state and county offices.

For challenges other than residency, the local election authority must conduct a hearing on the challenge within 20 days of its filing or on a later date requested by either party and agreed to by both parties. The authority must hear evidence or review evidence or arguments submitted by an affidavit and promptly issue a written opinion after the hearing of its findings to all parties involved. If the authority rules against a registered voter, his or her registration must be canceled on the thirty-first day after the decision is issued. Procedures for the hearing notice and receipt of testimony are specified in the bill.