

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 638

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MCCANN BEATTY.

0499H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 115, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to automatic voter registration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 115, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 115.950, to read as follows:

115.950. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the office of the secretary of state shall establish a process to conduct automatic voter registration based on driver's license information which shall provide recommendations to local election authorities for the automatic registration of eligible voters.

2. The department of revenue and the motor vehicle and driver licensing division shall, periodically as required by rule or policy, provide the secretary of state's office with such information as the office of the secretary of state specifies is necessary to conduct recommendations for automatic voter registration.

3. The office of the secretary of state shall provide lists of nonbinding recommendations for inclusion on voter registration lists to local election authorities and such authorities shall include such recommendations on voter registration lists subject to existing verification procedures for determining whether an individual is eligible to register to vote and eligible to vote. Local election authorities shall retain full jurisdiction and power to decline to register individuals not verified to be eligible to vote and to remove the names of individuals who are no longer eligible to vote from voter registration lists.

4. Within two months of receipt of a proposed voter registration list, but prior to including a recommended individual on a voter registration list, the local election authority

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 shall send notice of potential automatic registration which shall include a paid postcard for
19 purposes of declining registration. If, after a period of one month, the postcard is not
20 returned to the local election authority, the individual's name shall be added to the voter
21 registration list; except that, any time a postcard is received, the individual's name shall
22 be removed from the voter registration list. This subsection shall not be construed to
23 prevent removal from voter registration lists by any other method allowed under this
24 chapter.

25 5. The provisions of this section allow for automatic voter registration in addition
26 to any other method of registration allowed under this chapter and shall not be interpreted
27 to invalidate any other method for voter registration.

28 6. The provisions of this section with regard to the office of the secretary of state,
29 the department of revenue, and local election authorities shall be subject to the
30 appropriation and payment of funds necessary to conduct automatic voter registration and
31 verification procedures.

32 7. The office of the secretary of state may promulgate all necessary rules for the
33 administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in
34 section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become
35 effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and,
36 if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any
37 of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay
38 the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held
39 unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted
40 after August 28, 2017, shall be invalid and void.

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