

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with amendments to the A-Engrossed Measure. (Printed B-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Atkinson, Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Rosenbaum

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Erin Seiler, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/5, 5/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates 10-member National Voter Registration State Compliance Council (Council) consisting of representatives of the Governor, county clerks, Secretary of State, and five designated voter registration agencies. Directs Council to assess federal guidelines, identify barriers, and ensure compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA). Directs Council to submit report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to elections by December 1, 2011. Allows Council to submit second report, no later than December 1, 2012. Directs Governor's Office and Secretary of State to staff Council. Sunsets Council on January 2, 2014. Declares emergency; effective on passage

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Timeline for federal compliance
- Lack of federal guidance regarding compliance with NVRA
- Federal lawsuits against states out-of-compliance
- Reduction of inefficiencies in voter registration process
- Implementation efforts by Oregon Secretary of State
- Oregon Department of Transportation and Department of Motor Vehicles voter registration activities

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Removes "Act" from name of Council. Directs Council to submit report to interim committee of Legislative Assembly related to elections by December 1, 2011. Allows Council to submit second report, no later than December 1, 2012. Sunsets Council January 2, 2014.

BACKGROUND: The NVRA established procedures to increase voter registration of eligible citizens in elections for federal office; to protect the integrity of the political process; and to assure accurate and current voter registration rolls. To increase registration of eligible citizens, the NVRA required States to permit voter registration by the following means (in addition to any other method provided by state law): (a) by application simultaneous with an application for a motor vehicle driver's license ("motor-voter" registration); (b) by use of a uniform mail application; and, (c) by application in person at a designated agency. Text of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 is accessible on the US House of Representatives website at <http://www.fvap.gov/resources/media/nvralaw.pdf>.

Voter registration in Oregon is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of State and County Elections Offices.

5/24/2011 8:44:00 AM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

Committee Services Form – 2011 Regular Session