

# House Bill 2198

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Secretary of State Kate Brown)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires designated voter registration agencies to submit change of address information to Secretary of State for purposes of updating voter registration.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to information for voter registration records; creating new provisions; and amending ORS  
3 247.208 and 247.295.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 247.208 is amended to read:

6 247.208. (1) The Secretary of State by rule, in accordance with the requirements of the National  
7 Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31), shall designate agencies as voter registration agencies.  
8 Agencies designated may include state, county, city or district offices and federal and nongovern-  
9 mental offices with the agreement of the federal or nongovernmental offices.

10 (2) Services required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31) shall be made  
11 available in connection with any registration card at each voter registration agency designated by  
12 the Secretary of State.

13 (3) A person providing services referred to in subsection (2) of this section at a voter registra-  
14 tion agency [*shall*] **may** not:

15 (a) Seek to influence the political preference or party registration of a person registering to  
16 vote;

17 (b) In accordance with provisions of the Oregon Constitution, display such political preference  
18 or party allegiance;

19 (c) Make any statement to a person registering to vote or take any action the purpose or effect  
20 of which is to discourage a person from registering to vote;

21 (d) Make any statement to a person registering to vote or take any action the purpose or effect  
22 of which is to lead the person to believe that a decision to register or not to register has any  
23 bearing on the availability of services or benefits; or

24 (e) Seek to induce any person to register or vote in any particular manner.

25 (4) Each state agency required to be designated a voter registration agency under the National  
26 Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31) shall, with each application for service or assistance  
27 and with each recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to the service or assist-  
28 ance:

29 (a) Distribute a registration card, including all statements required under the National Voter  
30 Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31); and

31 (b) Provide a form including other information required by the National Voter Registration Act

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 of 1993 (P.L. 103-31).

2 (5) Information relating to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application  
3 made at an office described in subsection (4) of this section [*shall*] **may** not be used for any purpose  
4 other than voter registration.

5 (6) A completed registration card accepted at a voter registration agency designated under this  
6 section shall be delivered to a county clerk or the Secretary of State.

7 **(7) A voter registration agency designated under this section that receives a person's**  
8 **change of address, whether electronically, verbally or in writing, shall submit the change of**  
9 **address to the Secretary of State for purposes described in ORS 247.292.**

10 [(7)] (8) At least once each biennium, the Secretary of State shall:

11 (a) Assess new and developing federal guidelines regarding compliance with the National Voter  
12 Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31);

13 (b) Identify steps necessary to ensure ongoing compliance with the National Voter Registration  
14 Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31);

15 (c) Identify barriers to and research opportunities for ensuring the accuracy, security and effi-  
16 ciency of current voter registration processes at voter registration agencies designated under this  
17 section; and

18 (d) Identify ways to improve use of current technology.

19 **SECTION 2.** ORS 247.295 is amended to read:

20 247.295. (1) The Secretary of State shall subscribe to a change of address service that is ap-  
21 proved or endorsed by the United States Postal Service and use the service to verify the accuracy  
22 of the addresses of electors contained in the centralized voter registration system.

23 [(2)] If the secretary determines that the address of an elector is different from the address for  
24 the elector as contained in the records of the county clerk, the secretary shall provide the infor-  
25 mation [*obtained under this section*] to the county clerk of each affected county.

26 **(2) If the Secretary of State receives an elector's change of address information submit-**  
27 **ted from a voter registration agency under ORS 247.208 and determines that the address is**  
28 **different from the address for the elector as contained in the records of the county clerk,**  
29 **the secretary shall provide the information to the county clerk of each affected county.**

30 (3) Based on information received under this section, each county clerk shall update the regis-  
31 tration of electors in the county if the clerk determines that an update is required.

32 **SECTION 3. The amendments to ORS 247.208 and 247.295 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2013**  
33 **Act apply to change of address information received on or after the effective date of this 2013**  
34 **Act.**