

House Bill 3179

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

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**.

Directs Secretary of State to designate Department of Revenue as voter registration agency.
Becomes operative January 1, 2014.
Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to voter registration; creating new provisions; amending ORS 247.208; and declaring an
3 emergency.

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

10 **(b) The secretary shall designate the Department of Revenue as a voter registration**
11 **agency.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 (a) Distribute a registration card, including all statements required under the National Voter

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 Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31); and

2 (b) Provide a form including other information required by the National Voter Registration Act
3 of 1993 (P.L. 103-31).

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

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

9 (7) At least once each biennium, the Secretary of State shall:

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

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

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

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

18 **SECTION 2. (1) Section 1 of this 2013 Act becomes operative on January 1, 2014.**

19 **(2) The Secretary of State and the Department of Revenue may take any action neces-**
20 **sary before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section to enable the secre-**
21 **tary and department to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1)**
22 **of this section, all the duties, functions and powers conferred on the secretary and depart-**
23 **ment by section 1 of this 2013 Act.**

24 **SECTION 3. This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
25 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect**
26 **on its passage.**