

HB 3408 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Rep. Nosse

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 06/08/17

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 8-1-0-0

Yeas: 8 - Barreto, Hack, Holvey, Kennemer, Nosse, Rayfield, Smith Warner, Williamson

Nays: 1 - McLane

Fiscal: No fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

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WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Clarifies that person may update or register to vote by having another person deliver registration card to designated agency or official. Requires county clerk use all available resources to complete voter registration card when it is returned with missing or incomplete information.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Voter registration methods
- Information required in order to register
- Existing ability of third party to turn-in voter registration cards
- Penalty if third party fails to turn-in voter registration card
- Current practice of county clerks to attempt to resolve incomplete cards
- Percentage of incomplete cards
- Fiscal impact on counties

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes requirement for county clerk to document three attempts to contact individual by phone, email and mail.

BACKGROUND:

There are multiple ways that a person can register to vote or update their voter registration including mailing or personally delivering a completed voter registration card to a designated official in the county clerk's office. It is common for organizations engaged in political or election-related activities to conduct voter registration drives or other voter registration outreach, to help people complete voter registration cards and then deliver the cards to the appropriate entity on their behalf. House Bill 3408-A makes it clear in statute that a person may deliver a completed voter registration on behalf of another person.

When registering to vote, a person must provide their name, residential address and date of birth. The information must be legible and accurate, and signed by the individual in order for the county clerk to register them. If any of the information is missing or incomplete, the county clerk is required to attempt to contact the person. House Bill 3408-A specifies the steps that county clerks must undertake when a registration card is returned with incomplete or missing information, including but not limited to using the current or previous addresses and phone numbers of registrants, or date of birth from a previous registration. If the clerk is unable to obtain the information from current sources, they are to use reasonable efforts to contact registrants by phone, mail and email before it is determined that the person cannot be registered.