

HB 2499 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Rules

Action Date: 06/08/21

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 7-0-0-0

Yeas: 7 - Bonham, Drazan, Fahey, Holvey, Salinas, Smith Warner, Zika

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Melissa Leoni, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/6, 6/2, 6/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows Department of Revenue (DOR) to disclose taxpayer address to the Secretary of State (SOS) to verify accuracy of elector addresses in the centralized voter registration system (CVRS). Allows SOS to provide information from CVRS to DOR; limits DOR use of data, and requires SOS to provide more current addresses to county clerks. Requires electronic voter registration system to accept voter registration from qualified individual with social security number, and allows individual to submit digital signature. Allows electronic voter registration system to permit approved third-party organizations to securely submit registration cards electronically on behalf of individuals. Requires implementation by January 1, 2024. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Automatic voter registration outcomes
- Providing additional opportunities for automatic registration and address updates
- Allowing online voter registration based on the same information as paper forms
- Pennsylvania's application programming interface example
- Required attestation for voter registration

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Automatic voter registration (AVR) is a process where eligible voters are automatically registered to vote when they interact with certain government agencies, most commonly as an opt-out process following interactions with state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) offices. In 2016, Oregon became the first state to automatically register eligible citizens who are not currently registered to vote when they apply for an original, renewal, or replacement driver license, permit, or identification card through the DMV. House Bill 2177 (2015) required the Oregon Department of Transportation, as a designated voter registration agency, to provide the Elections Division of the Secretary of State (SOS) with the electronic records of each person who may be eligible to vote after certain interactions with the DMV. The law, known as "Oregon Motor Voter," was enacted by the Legislative Assembly to modernize the federal "Motor Voter Act" that required DMVs in most states to offer voter registration services, primarily by asking customers if they would like to register. Under Oregon Motor Voter, if a person is not already registered to vote, they receive a card and a pre-paid postage return envelope from the SOS Elections Division following certain interactions with the DMV. As of April 2020, 18 other states and the District of Columbia have also adopted AVR provisions.

HB 2499 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Bill 2499 A allows the Department of Revenue (DOR) to disclose taxpayer address information to the Secretary of State (SOS) to verify accuracy of elector addresses; updates the electronic voter registration system to allow individuals to register to vote with their social security number and submit electronic signatures; and allows approved third-party organizations to securely submit registration cards electronically on behalf of individuals.