REFERENCE TITLE: voter registration; permanent early voting

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Forty-ninth Legislature
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HB 2274

Introduced by
Representatives Ableser, Sinema: Lopes, Pancrazi, Patterson, Schapira, Young Wright

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 16-152 AND 16-544, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO ELECTIONS AND ELECTORS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

Section 1. Section 16-152, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-152. Registration form

A. The form used for the registration of electors shall contain:

1. The date the registrant signed the form.

2. The registrant's given name, middle name, if any, and surname.

3. The complete address of the registrant's actual place of residence, including street name and number, apartment or space number, city or town and zip code, or such description of the location of the residence that it can be readily ascertained or identified.

4. The registrant's complete mailing address, if different from the residence address, including post office address, city or town, zip code or other designation used by the registrant for receiving mail.

5. The registrant's party preference.

6. The registrant's telephone number, unless unlisted.

7. The registrant's state or country of birth.

8. The registrant's date of birth.

9. The registrant's occupation.

10. The registrant's Indian census number (optional to registrant).

11. The registrant's father's name or mother's maiden name.

12. One of the following identifiers for each registrant:

(a) The Arizona driver license number of the registrant or nonoperating identification license number of the registrant that is issued pursuant to section 28-3165.

(b) If the registrant does not have an Arizona driver license or nonoperating identification license, the last four digits of the registrant's social security number.

(c) If the registrant does not have an Arizona driver license or nonoperating identification license or a social security number and the registrant attests to that, a unique identifying number consisting of the registrant's unique identification number to be assigned by the secretary of state in the statewide electronic voter registration database.

13. A statement as to whether or not the registrant is currently registered in another state, county or precinct, and if so, the name, address, county and state of previous registration.

14. The question to the registrant "Are you a citizen of the United States of America?", appropriate boxes for the registrant to check "yes" or "no" and a statement instructing the registrant not to complete the form if the registrant checked "no".

15. The question to the registrant "Will you be eighteen years of age on or before election day?", appropriate boxes for the registrant to check "yes" or "no" and a statement instructing the registrant not to complete the form if the registrant checked "no".

16. A statement that the registrant has not been convicted of treason or a felony, or if so, that the registrant's civil rights have been restored.

17. A statement that the registrant is a resident of this state and of the county in which the registrant is registering.

18. A statement that executing a false registration is a class 6 felony.

19. The signature of the registrant.

20. If the registrant is unable to sign the form, a statement that the affidavit was completed according to the registrant's direction.

21. A statement that if an applicant declines to register to vote, the fact that the applicant has declined to register will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

22. A statement that if an applicant does register to vote, the office at which the applicant submits a voter registration application will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

23. A statement that the applicant shall submit evidence of United States citizenship with the application and that the registrar shall reject the application if no evidence of citizenship is attached.

24. THE QUESTION TO THE REGISTRANT "DO YOU WANT YOUR NAME TO BE PLACED ON THE PERMANENT EARLY VOTING LIST IN ORDER TO RECEIVE AUTOMATIC MAILINGS OF AN EARLY BALLOT FOR ALL SUBSEQUENT ELECTIONS IN WHICH YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?" AND APPROPRIATE BOXES FOR THE REGISTRANT TO CHECK "YES" OR "NO".

B. A duplicate voter receipt shall be provided with the form that provides space for the name, street address and city of residence of the applicant, party preference and the date of signing. The voter receipt is evidence of valid registration for the purpose of casting a provisional ballot as prescribed in section 16-584, subsection B.

C. The state voter registration form shall be printed in a form prescribed by the secretary of state.

D. The county recorder may establish procedures to verify whether a registrant has successfully petitioned the court for an injunction against harassment pursuant to section 12-1809 or an order of protection pursuant to section 13-3602 and, if verified, to protect the registrant's residence address, telephone number or voting precinct number, if appropriate, from public disclosure.

E. Subsection A of this section does not apply to registrations received from the department of transportation pursuant to section 16-112.

Sec. 2. Section 16-544, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

16-544. Permanent early voting list

A. Any voter may request to be included on a permanent list of voters to receive an early ballot for any election for which the county voter registration roll is used to prepare the election register. The county recorder of each county shall maintain the permanent early voting list as part of the voter registration roll.

B. In order to be included on the permanent early voting list, the voter shall make a written request specifically requesting that the voter's name be added to the permanent early voting list for all elections in which the applicant is eligible to vote. The application shall allow for the voter

to provide the voter's name, residence address, mailing address in the voter's county of residence, date of birth and signature. A COMPLETED AND VALID VOTER REGISTRATION FORM THAT INCLUDES THE VOTER'S INDICATION OF "YES" IN RESPONSE TO THE PERMANENT EARLY VOTING LIST QUESTION CONSTITUTES A VALID WRITTEN REQUEST FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION. The voter shall not list a mailing address that is outside of the voter's county of residence for the purpose of the permanent early voting list unless the voter is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 United States Code section 1973ff-6). In lieu of the application, the applicant may submit a written request that contains the required information.

C. On receipt of a request to be included on the permanent early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall compare the signature on the request form with the voter's signature on the voter's registration form and, if the request is from the voter, shall mark the voter's registration file as a permanent early ballot request.

D. Not less than one hundred twenty days before any election scheduled in March or September, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail to all voters who are eligible for the election and who are included on the permanent early voting list an election notice by nonforwardable mail that is marked with the statement required by the postmaster to receive an address correction notification. The notice shall include the dates of the elections that are the subject of the notice, the dates that the voter's ballot is expected to be mailed and the address where the ballot will be mailed. If the upcoming election is a partisan open primary election and the voter is not registered as a member of one of the political parties that is recognized for purposes of that primary, the notice shall include information on the procedure for the voter to designate a political party ballot. The notice shall be delivered with return postage prepaid and shall also include a means for the voter to do any of the following:

1. Change the mailing address for the voter's ballot to another location in the voter's county of residence.

2. Update the voter's residence address in the voter's county of residence.

3. Request that the voter not be sent a ballot for the upcoming election or elections indicated on the notice.

E. If the notice that is mailed to the voter is returned undeliverable by the postal service, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall take the necessary steps to contact the voter at the voter's new residence address in order to update that voter's address or to move the voter to inactive status as prescribed in section 16-166, subsection A. If a voter is moved to inactive status, the voter shall be removed from the permanent early voting list. If the voter is removed from the permanent early voting list, the voter shall only be added to the permanent early

voting list again if the voter submits a new request pursuant to this section.

F. Not later than ~~on~~ the first day of early voting, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall mail an early ballot to all eligible voters included on the permanent early voting list in the same manner prescribed in section 16-542, subsection C. If the voter has not returned the notice or otherwise notified the election officer within forty-five days before the election that the voter does not wish to receive an early ballot by mail for the election or elections indicated, the ballot shall automatically be scheduled for mailing.

G. If a voter who is on the permanent early voting list is not registered as a member of a recognized political party and fails to notify the county recorder of the voter's choice for political party ballot within forty-five days before a partisan open primary election, the following apply:

1. The voter shall not automatically be sent a ballot for that partisan open primary election only and the voter's name shall remain on the permanent early ~~ballot~~ VOTING list for future elections.

2. To receive an early ballot for the primary election, the voter shall submit the voter's choice for political party ballot to the county recorder.

H. After a voter has requested to be included on the permanent early voting list, the voter shall be sent an early ballot by mail automatically for any election at which a voter at that residence address is eligible to vote until any of the following occurs:

1. The voter requests in writing to be removed from the permanent early ~~ballot~~ VOTING list.

2. The voter's registration or eligibility for registration is moved to inactive status or canceled as otherwise provided by law.

3. The notice sent by the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections is returned undeliverable and the county recorder or officer in charge of elections is unable to contact the voter to determine the voter's continued desire to remain on the list.

I. A voter may make a written request at any time to be removed from the permanent early voting list. The request shall include the voter's name, residence address, date of birth and signature. On receipt of a completed request to remove a voter from the permanent early voting list, the county recorder or other officer in charge of elections shall remove the voter's name from the list as soon as practicable.

J. An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in the uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting act of 1986 (P.L. 99-410; 42 United States Code section 1973ff-6) is eligible to be placed on the permanent early voting list pursuant to this section.

K. A voter's failure to vote an early ballot once received does not constitute grounds to remove the voter from the permanent early voting list.