

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0692.01 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 24-1145

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

DeGraaf,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees

State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MODIFICATIONS TO THE VOTER REGISTRATION PAGE OF
102 THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

By July 1, 2024, the secretary of state is required to include, on the voter registration page on the secretary of state's official website (website), places for a registered elector to:

- Confirm the registered elector's mailing address;
 - Select whether to receive a mail ballot or to vote in person;
- and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

- Select which major political party's ballot to receive for a primary election.

The secretary of state is required to ensure that the default selection for every registered elector for each election is to vote in person. The secretary of state is required to add a notice to the website to explain the costs incurred in sending mail ballots to registered electors, and the amount of taxpayer money that is wasted by sending mail ballots that will not be used.

On or after July 1, 2024, every registered elector is required to access the registered elector's voter registration through the website at least one time during each election cycle to verify the registered elector's address and make the selections regarding the registered elector's voting and ballot preference (selections). Each registered elector is required to make the selections only once for an election cycle but may alter the selections as many times as the registered elector wishes prior to specified elections. The secretary of state is required to allow electors who first register to vote on or after July 1, 2024, to make selections when registering to vote. If a registered elector does not make the selections for an election cycle, the registered elector is presumed to have opted to vote in person and the registered elector will not receive a mail ballot.

The secretary of state and the designated election official in each county (election official) are required to provide written notice, in specified places, of the requirements that a registered elector confirm the registered elector's address and make the selections.

For the 2024-2025 state fiscal year and for each state fiscal year thereafter, the staff of the joint budget committee of the general assembly is required to determine whether there is a reduction as a result of the bill, compared to the previous fiscal year, in the amount appropriated to the department of state to reimburse counties for the costs of conducting elections. The general assembly is required to appropriate an amount equal to 50% of any such reduction for programs that combat food vulnerability among children in the state.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-2-202.5, **add** (3)(f)
3 and (9) as follows:

4 **1-2-202.5. Online voter registration - online changes in elector**
5 **information.** (3) The electronic voter registration form must include:

6 (f) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2024, A PLACE FOR AN ELECTOR TO
7 MAKE THE SELECTIONS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (9)(a)(II) AND (9)(b)(II)

1 OF THIS SECTION.

2 (9) (a) BY JULY 1, 2024, FOR A PRIMARY ELECTION, THE
3 SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL INCLUDE PLACES FOR A REGISTERED ELECTOR
4 TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING SELECTIONS ON THE WEB PAGE OF THE
5 SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE THAT ALLOWS A REGISTERED
6 ELECTOR TO VIEW THE REGISTERED ELECTOR'S VOTER REGISTRATION:

7 (I) A PLACE FOR A REGISTERED ELECTOR TO CONFIRM THE
8 REGISTERED ELECTOR'S MAILING ADDRESS; AND

9 (II) AFTER A REGISTERED ELECTOR CONFIRMS THE REGISTERED
10 ELECTOR'S MAILING ADDRESS, A PLACE FOR THE REGISTERED ELECTOR TO
11 SELECT FROM THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS AS APPLICABLE:

12 (A) "PLEASE DO NOT SEND A BALLOT. I RESERVE MY RIGHT TO
13 VOTE IN PERSON";

14 (B) "PLEASE SEND A BALLOT FOR THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY
15 CANDIDATES";

16 (C) "PLEASE SEND A BALLOT FOR THE DEMOCRAT PRIMARY
17 CANDIDATES"; AND

18 (D) "PLEASE SEND A BALLOT FOR THE (OTHER MAJOR POLITICAL
19 PARTY AS APPLICABLE) PRIMARY CANDIDATES".

20 (b) BY JULY 1, 2024, FOR A STATE COORDINATED, GENERAL,
21 CONGRESSIONAL, VACANCY, SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE, OR RECALL ELECTION,
22 THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL INCLUDE PLACES FOR A REGISTERED
23 ELECTOR TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING SELECTIONS ON THE WEB PAGE OF THE
24 SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE THAT ALLOWS A REGISTERED
25 ELECTOR TO VIEW THE REGISTERED ELECTOR'S VOTER REGISTRATION:

26 (I) A PLACE FOR A REGISTERED ELECTOR TO CONFIRM THE
27 REGISTERED ELECTOR'S MAILING ADDRESS; AND

1 (II) AFTER A REGISTERED ELECTOR CONFIRMS THE REGISTERED
2 ELECTOR'S MAILING ADDRESS, A PLACE FOR THE REGISTERED ELECTOR TO
3 SELECT FROM THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

4 (A) "PLEASE DO NOT SEND A BALLOT. I RESERVE MY RIGHT TO
5 VOTE IN PERSON";

6 (B) "PLEASE SEND A BALLOT";

7 (c) (I) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ENSURE THAT OF THE
8 STATEMENTS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (9)(a)(II) AND (9)(b)(II) OF THIS
9 SECTION, THE DEFAULT STATEMENT FOR EVERY ELECTION AND FOR ALL
10 REGISTERED ELECTORS IS THE STATEMENT "PLEASE DO NOT SEND A
11 BALLOT. I RESERVE MY RIGHT TO VOTE IN PERSON".

12 (II) FOR A PRIMARY ELECTION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL
13 ENSURE THAT FOR REGISTERED ELECTORS WHO ARE AFFILIATED WITH A
14 MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY WHO DO NOT SELECT THE OPTION TO VOTE IN
15 PERSON AS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (9)(a)(II)(A) OF THIS SECTION, ONLY
16 THE OPTION THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH THE REGISTERED ELECTOR'S
17 POLITICAL PARTY AS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (9)(a)(II)(B), (9)(a)(II)(C),
18 AND (9)(a)(II)(D) OF THIS SECTION WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE
19 REGISTERED ELECTOR TO SELECT ON THE WEBSITE. THE SECRETARY OF
20 STATE SHALL ALSO ENSURE THAT ALL THREE OPTIONS SPECIFIED IN
21 SUBSECTIONS (9)(a)(II)(B), (9)(a)(II)(C), AND (9)(a)(II)(D) OF THIS
22 SECTION WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLY TO REGISTERED ELECTORS WHO ARE
23 NOT AFFILIATED WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY.

24 (d) THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL ADD A NOTICE TO THE
25 SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE THAT APPEARS BEFORE A
26 REGISTERED ELECTOR MAKES THE SELECTIONS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS
27 (9)(a) AND (9)(b) OF THIS SECTION THAT STATES:

1 DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL IN EACH COUNTY HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME
2 BEFORE AN ELECTION TO PRINT AND MAIL BALLOTS, A REGISTERED
3 ELECTOR MUST MAKE OR ALTER THE SELECTIONS REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION
4 (9)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION AT LEAST SIXTY DAYS BEFORE ANY STATE
5 PRIMARY, COORDINATED, GENERAL, CONGRESSIONAL VACANCY, SPECIAL
6 LEGISLATIVE, OR RECALL ELECTION FOR WHICH THE REGISTERED ELECTOR
7 WANTS THE SELECTION TO APPLY.

8 (IV) IF A REGISTERED ELECTOR DOES NOT ACCESS THE REGISTERED
9 ELECTOR'S VOTER REGISTRATION THROUGH THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S
10 OFFICIAL WEBSITE AT LEAST ONE TIME DURING EACH ELECTION CYCLE TO
11 VERIFY THE REGISTERED ELECTOR'S ADDRESS AND MAKE APPLICABLE
12 SELECTIONS AS REQUIRED IN SUBSECTION (9)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION, THE
13 REGISTERED ELECTOR IS PRESUMED TO HAVE OPTED TO VOTE IN PERSON
14 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (9)(a)(II)(A) OR (9)(b)(II)(A) OF THIS SECTION,
15 AND THE APPLICABLE DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL SHALL NOT MAIL A
16 BALLOT TO THE REGISTERED ELECTOR. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL
17 INCLUDE NOTICE OF THE PRESUMPTION SPECIFIED IN THIS SUBSECTION
18 (9)(e)(IV) ON THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL WEBSITE.

19 (f) (I) THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE DESIGNATED ELECTION
20 OFFICIAL IN EACH COUNTY SHALL PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE
21 REQUIREMENTS OF SUBSECTION (9)(e) OF THIS SECTION IN PUBLIC PLACES
22 AND BY PUBLISHING A NOTICE IN AT LEAST ONE NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
23 CIRCULATION IN THE STATE AND IN AT LEAST ONE NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL
24 CIRCULATION IN EACH COUNTY IN THE STATE.

25 (II) THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE DESIGNATED ELECTION
26 OFFICIAL IN EACH COUNTY SHALL ENSURE THAT THE NOTICE REQUIRED BY
27 SUBSECTION (9)(f)(I) OF THIS SECTION INCLUDES A QUICK RESPONSE (QR)

1 CODE OR OTHER MACHINE-READABLE CODE CONSISTING OF AN ARRAY OF
2 SQUARES AND USED FOR STORING THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICIAL
3 INTERNET WEBSITE FOR THE WEB PAGE THAT PROVIDES REGISTERED
4 ELECTORS ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION RECORDS.

5 (g) FOR THE 2024-2025 STATE FISCAL YEAR AND FOR EACH STATE
6 FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, THE STAFF OF THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE
7 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL DETERMINE IF THERE IS A REDUCTION,
8 COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS FISCAL YEAR, IN THE AMOUNT APPROPRIATED
9 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO REIMBURSE COUNTIES FOR THE COSTS
10 OF CONDUCTING ELECTIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-5-505.5, AS A
11 RESULT OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION (9). THE GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO FIFTY PERCENT OF
13 ANY SUCH REDUCTION FOR PROGRAMS THAT COMBAT FOOD
14 VULNERABILITY AMONG CHILDREN IN THE STATE.

15 **SECTION 2. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
16 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
17 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
18 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
19 institutions.