

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to online voter registration; creating  
 3           s. 97.0525, F.S.; requiring the Division of Elections  
 4           of the Department of State to develop an online voter  
 5           registration system; providing application and  
 6           security requirements; requiring the system to compare  
 7           information submitted online to records of the  
 8           Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles;  
 9           providing for the disposition of voter registration  
 10          applications; requiring system compliance with federal  
 11          accessibility provisions; providing for construction;  
 12          requiring a report to the Legislature; providing an  
 13          effective date.

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 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 17           Section 1. Section 97.0525, Florida Statutes, is created  
 18 to read:

19           97.0525 Online voter registration.—

20           (1) Beginning October 1, 2017, an applicant may submit an  
 21 online voter registration application using the procedures set  
 22 forth in this section.

23           (2) The division shall establish a secure Internet website  
 24 to permit an applicant to:

25           (a) Submit a voter registration application, including  
 26 first-time voter registration applications and updates to

27 existing voter registration records.

28 (b) Submit information necessary to establish an  
29 applicant's eligibility to vote, pursuant to s. 97.041, which  
30 must include the information required for the uniform statewide  
31 voter registration application pursuant to s. 97.052(2).

32 (c) Swear to the oath required pursuant to s. 97.051.

33 (3) The division shall establish appropriate technological  
34 security measures, including use of a unique identifier for each  
35 applicant, to prevent unauthorized persons from altering a  
36 voter's registration information.

37 (4) (a) The online voter registration system shall compare  
38 the Florida driver license number or Florida identification  
39 number submitted pursuant to s. 97.052(2)(n) to information  
40 maintained by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
41 Vehicles to confirm that the name and date of birth on the  
42 application are consistent with the records of the Department of  
43 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

44 (b) If the applicant's name and date of birth are  
45 consistent with the records of the Department of Highway Safety  
46 and Motor Vehicles, the online voter registration system shall  
47 transmit, using the statewide voter registration system  
48 maintained pursuant to s. 98.035, the applicant's registration  
49 application, along with the digital signature of the applicant  
50 on file with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
51 Vehicles, to the supervisor of elections. The applicant's  
52 digital signature satisfies the signature requirement of s.

53 97.052(2)(q).

54 (c) If the applicant's name and date of birth cannot be  
55 verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and  
56 Motor Vehicles, or if the applicant indicated that he or she has  
57 not been issued a Florida driver license or Florida  
58 identification card, the online voter registration system shall  
59 populate the applicant's information into a printable voter  
60 registration application pursuant to s. 97.052(2) and direct the  
61 applicant to print, sign, and date the application and deliver  
62 the application to the supervisor of elections for disposition  
63 pursuant to s. 97.073.

64 (5) Upon submission of a completed online voter  
65 registration application, the website must generate an immediate  
66 electronic confirmation that the supervisor of elections has  
67 received the application and provide instructions regarding the  
68 ability of a registrant to check the status of the application  
69 thereafter.

70 (6) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the  
71 supervisor of elections shall process the application pursuant  
72 to s. 97.053.

73 (7) The online voter registration system must conform to  
74 nationally accepted standards for accessibility for individuals  
75 with disabilities, including s. 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of  
76 1973, s. 255 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and the Web  
77 Content Accessibility Guidelines of the World Wide Web  
78 Consortium, to ensure equal access for voters with disabilities.

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79        (8) A legal distinction may not be made between online  
80 voter registration under this section and voter registration in  
81 person, by mail, or by other methods provided by general law.

82        Section 2. No later than January 1, 2016, the Division of  
83 Elections of the Department of State shall submit a report to  
84 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
85 Representatives regarding implementation of online voter  
86 registration. In the report, the division shall summarize  
87 progress to date in implementing online voter registration and  
88 expected implementation timeframes and shall propose any further  
89 legislation needed to facilitate online voter registration.

90        Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.