

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2278

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BLAND MANLOVE.

4696H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

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### AN ACT

To amend chapter 115, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to automatic voter registration.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Chapter 115, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be  
2 known as section 115.970, to read as follows:

3 **115.970. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, before January 1, 2024,**  
4 **the office of the secretary of state shall establish a process to conduct automatic voter**  
5 **registration based on driver's license and nondriver identification card information and**  
6 **shall provide recommendations to local election authorities for the automatic**  
7 **registration of eligible voters.**

8 **2. The department of revenue and the motor vehicle and driver licensing division**  
9 **shall, periodically as required by rule or policy, provide the secretary of state's office**  
10 **with such information as the secretary of state specifies is necessary to conduct**  
11 **recommendations for automatic voter registration.**

12 **3. When an individual is finally discharged from probation, parole, or**  
13 **incarceration and the discharge is nonconditional, the department of corrections under**  
14 **chapter 217 shall submit to the secretary of state the individual's name; date of birth;**  
15 **residence or place of voter registration prior to probation, parole, or incarceration; and**  
16 **residence after discharge from probation, parole, or incarceration. The secretary of**  
**state shall forward this information to the local election authority for inclusion on voter**  
**registration lists, subject to the provisions of subsection 4 of this section.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.

17           **4. The office of the secretary of state shall provide lists of nonbinding**  
18 **recommendations for inclusion on voter registration lists to local election authorities,**  
19 **and such authorities shall include such recommendations on voter registration lists**  
20 **subject to existing verification procedures for determining whether an individual is**  
21 **eligible to register to vote and eligible to vote. Local election authorities shall retain full**  
22 **jurisdiction and power to decline to register individuals not verified to be eligible to vote**  
23 **and to remove the names of individuals who are no longer eligible to vote from voter**  
24 **registration lists.**

25           **5. Within sixty days of receipt of a proposed voter registration list, but prior to**  
26 **including a recommended individual on a voter registration list, the local election**  
27 **authority shall send notice of potential automatic registration, which shall include a paid**  
28 **postcard for purposes of declining registration. If after a period of thirty days the**  
29 **postcard is not returned to the local election authority, the individual's name shall be**  
30 **added to the voter registration list; except that, any time a postcard is returned, the**  
31 **individual's name shall be removed from the voter registration list. This subsection**  
32 **shall not be construed to prevent removal from voter registration lists by any other**  
33 **method allowed under this chapter.**

34           **6. The provisions of this section allow for automatic voter registration in**  
35 **addition to any other method of registration allowed under this chapter and shall not be**  
36 **interpreted to invalidate any other method of voter registration.**

37           **7. The provisions of this section with regard to the secretary of state, the**  
38 **department of revenue, and local election authorities shall be subject to the**  
39 **appropriation and payment of funds necessary to conduct automatic voter**  
40 **registration and verification procedures.**

41           **8. The office of the secretary of state may promulgate all necessary rules for the**  
42 **administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in**  
43 **section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall**  
44 **become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter**  
45 **536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable,**  
46 **and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to**  
47 **review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently**  
48 **held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or**  
49 **adopted after August 28, 2022, shall be invalid and void.**

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