

House Bill 3470

Sponsored by Representative DRAZAN; Representatives ELMER, SKARLATOS

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells the SOS to confirm voter registration data from ODOT and OHA. The Act tells the secretary not to send the data to a county clerk until and unless the person is confirmed to be a U.S. citizen. (Flesch Readability Score: 61.7).

Requires the Secretary of State to verify information provided to the secretary by the Department of Transportation and the Oregon Health Authority regarding voter registration. Prohibits the secretary from providing voter registration information the secretary receives from the Department of Transportation and the Oregon Health Authority to a county clerk until and unless the secretary verifies that the voter is a United States citizen.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to verification of voter registration information; creating new provisions; and amending
3 ORS 247.017 and 247.018.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 247.017 is amended to read:

6 247.017. (1) The Secretary of State shall by rule establish a schedule by which the Department
7 of Transportation shall provide to the secretary electronic records containing the legal name, age,
8 residence and citizenship information for, and the electronic signature of, each person who meets
9 qualifications identified by the secretary by rule.

10 (2) Upon receiving the electronic record for, and electronic signature of, a person described in
11 subsection (1) of this section **and subject to subsection (3) of this section**, the Secretary of State
12 shall provide the information to the county clerk of the county in which the person may be regis-
13 tered as an elector. The secretary or county clerk shall notify each person of the process to:

14 (a) Decline being registered as an elector.

15 (b) Adopt a political party affiliation.

16 (3) **Prior to providing any information to a county clerk under subsection (2) of this sec-**
17 **tion, the Secretary of State shall verify the information the Department of Transportation**
18 **provides to the secretary under subsection (1) of this section. The secretary may not provide**
19 **any information to a county clerk unless the secretary has verified that the person is a**
20 **United States citizen. Verification under this subsection includes a review of any document**
21 **showing that the person is a United States citizen.**

22 (4) If a person notified under subsection (2) of this section does not decline to be registered as
23 an elector within 21 calendar days after the Secretary of State or county clerk issues the notifica-
24 tion, the person's electronic record and electronic signature submitted under subsection (1) of this
25 section will constitute a completed registration card for the person for purposes of this chapter. The
26 person shall be registered to vote if the county clerk determines that the person is qualified to vote
27 under Article II, section 2, of the Oregon Constitution, and the person is not already registered to

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 vote.

2 [(4)] (5) A county clerk may not send a ballot to, or add to an elector registration list, a person
 3 who meets eligibility requirements until at least 21 calendar days after the Secretary of State or
 4 county clerk provided notification to the person as described in subsection (2) of this section.

5 [(5)] (6) In addition to providing electronic records to the Secretary of State under subsection
 6 (1) of this section, the Department of Transportation may by rule develop, and require the avail-
 7 ability or use of, any form or application the department determines is necessary to ensure compli-
 8 ance with the voter registration provisions of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L.
 9 103-31).

10 [(6)] (7) The Secretary of State shall adopt rules required to implement subsections (1) to [(4)]
 11 (5) of this section.

12 **SECTION 2.** ORS 247.018 is amended to read:

13 247.018. (1)(a) Subject to compliance with all applicable federal laws and regulations, the Sec-
 14 retary of State shall by rule establish a schedule by which the Oregon Health Authority shall pro-
 15 vide to the secretary electronic records, derived from information provided to the Oregon Health
 16 Plan, containing the legal name, age, residence and citizenship information for, and, if any, the
 17 electronic signature of, each person who is eligible to be a qualified elector under Article II, section
 18 2, of the Oregon Constitution.

19 (b) The secretary shall establish by rule, after consultation with the authority, what electronic
 20 records establish whether a person is eligible to be a qualified elector for purposes of this sub-
 21 section.

22 (c) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this subsection, the authority may not provide to the sec-
 23 retary any electronic records for a person who is not a citizen of the United States.

24 (2) When establishing a schedule under subsection (1) of this section, the secretary may adopt
 25 rules governing the format and frequency of data transfer. Any rules adopted under this subsection:

- 26 (a) Are subject to input and public comment, including comment from the authority; and
- 27 (b) May come into effect only after the secretary and authority test and verify the data transfer
 28 processes.

29 (3) The secretary:

30 (a) Shall by rule develop a process to obtain an electronic signature from the Department of
 31 Transportation for each person described in subsection (1) of this section for whom the authority
 32 does not provide an electronic signature under this section; and

33 (b) May use an electronic signature that is obtained under paragraph (a) of this subsection or
 34 that is otherwise in the secretary's possession, for the purpose of registering electors to vote under
 35 this section.

36 (4) Upon receiving the electronic record for a person described in subsection (1) of this section
 37 **and subject to subsection (5) of this section**, the secretary shall provide the information to the
 38 county clerk of the county in which the person may be registered as an elector. The secretary or
 39 county clerk shall notify each person of the process to:

- 40 (a) Decline being registered as an elector;
- 41 (b) Adopt a political party affiliation; and
- 42 (c) Provide a signature if no signature was provided under subsection (1) of this section and the
 43 secretary does not have a copy of the signature and is unable to obtain an electronic copy of the
 44 signature from the Department of Transportation under subsection (3) of this section.

45 (5) **Prior to providing any information to a county clerk under subsection (4) of this sec-**

1 **tion, the Secretary of State shall verify the information the Oregon Health Authority pro-**
 2 **vides to the secretary under subsection (1) of this section. The secretary may not provide**
 3 **any information to a county clerk unless the secretary has verified that the person is a**
 4 **United States citizen. Verification under this subsection includes a review of any document**
 5 **showing that the person is a United States citizen.**

6 (6) Notwithstanding the absence of any signature, if a person notified under subsection (4) of
 7 this section does not decline to be registered as an elector within 21 calendar days after the secre-
 8 tary or county clerk issues the notification, the person’s electronic record submitted to the county
 9 clerk under subsection (4) of this section will constitute a completed registration card for the person
 10 for purposes of this chapter. The person shall be registered to vote if the county clerk determines
 11 that the person is qualified to vote under Article II, section 2, of the Oregon Constitution, and the
 12 person is not already registered to vote.

13 [(6)] (7) A county clerk may not send a ballot to, or add to an elector registration list, a person
 14 who is determined under subsection [(5)] (6) of this section to be qualified to vote, and who is not
 15 already registered to vote, until at least 21 calendar days after the secretary or county clerk pro-
 16 vided notification to the person as described in subsection (4) of this section.

17 [(7)] (8) The transfer of personal information and data by the authority or department to the
 18 secretary under this section is limited to the information and data that is necessary to register
 19 electors. Information and data transferred to the secretary under this section may be used only for
 20 the purpose of registering electors.

21 [(8)] (9) The secretary shall adopt rules required to implement this section, including rules to
 22 ensure that no ballot is counted for a person registered to vote under this section whose registration
 23 record does not contain an electronic signature.

24 [(9)] (10) As used in this section, “electronic signature” means an electronic form of a hand-
 25 written signature that can be verified, in the manner described in ORS 254.470 (11), for the purpose
 26 of tallying ballots.

27 **SECTION 3. (1) The amendments to ORS 247.017 and 247.018 by sections 1 and 2 of this**
 28 **2025 Act become operative on June 1, 2026.**

29 **(2) The Secretary of State, the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Trans-**
 30 **portation may take any action before the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this**
 31 **section to exercise, on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this section,**
 32 **all of the duties, functions and powers conferred on the Secretary of State, the Oregon**
 33 **Health Authority and the Department of Transportation by the amendments to ORS 247.017**
 34 **and 247.018 by sections 1 and 2 of this 2025 Act.**