

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1556 Session of
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COMITTA, HANBIDGE, WILLIAMS, WHEATLEY, SOLOMON, MALAGARI AND
HOHENSTEIN, JUNE 3, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 3, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in preliminary provisions, further providing for
3 definitions; in registration system, further providing for
4 departmental responsibilities; in voter registration, further
5 providing for methods of voter registration and for
6 application with driver's license application, providing for
7 automatic voter registration and further providing for time,
8 for preparation and distribution of applications and for
9 approval of registration applications.

10 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
11 hereby enacts as follows:

12 Section 1. The definitions of "applicant," "registration
13 card" and "registration records" in section 1102 of Title 25 of
14 the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended and the
15 section is amended by adding definitions to read:

16 § 1102. Definitions.

17 Subject to additional definitions contained in subsequent
18 provisions of this part which are applicable to specific
19 provisions of this part, the following words and phrases when

1 used in this part shall have the meanings given to them in this
2 section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

3 "Applicable transaction."

4 (1) The term includes a transaction involving a
5 qualified elector at the following:

6 (i) The Department of Transportation, relating to an
7 initial application for a motor vehicle registration, the
8 renewal of a motor vehicle registration or any other
9 transaction in which the Department of Transportation
10 obtains all of the information from an applicant that
11 satisfies the requirements to register to vote.

12 (ii) The COMPASS website or a county assistance
13 office, relating to an initial application submitted
14 online for a federally funded or State-funded public
15 assistance program or an application for a
16 recertification, renewal or change of name or address
17 relating to a federally funded or State-funded public
18 assistance program administered by the United States
19 Department of Health and Human Services or the Department
20 of Human Services.

21 (iii) Any automatic voter registration agency,
22 relating to an initial or renewal application for
23 participation in a program or access to a benefit or
24 service administered by an automatic voter registration
25 agency or for the issuance or renewal of a license,
26 permit, registration, certificate or other authorization
27 issued by an automatic voter registration agency.

28 (2) The term includes any transaction for participation
29 in a program or access to a benefit or service administered
30 by an automatic voter registration agency or for a license,

1 permit, certificate or other authorization issued by an
2 automatic voter registration agency, which is completed, in
3 whole or in part, online by a qualified voter.

4 "Applicant." An individual who applies to be registered to
5 vote or who applies to be registered to vote automatically as
6 provided for in this part.

7 "Automatic voter registration." The process by which an
8 individual can automatically apply to register to vote through
9 the system as part of an applicable transaction with or at an
10 automatic voter registration agency or online.

11 "Automatic voter registration agency." The term includes,
12 but is not limited to:

13 (1) The Department of Aging.

14 (2) The Department of Health.

15 (3) The Department of Human Services.

16 (4) The Insurance Department.

17 (5) The Department of Labor and Industry.

18 (6) The Department of Revenue.

19 (7) The Department of State.

20 (8) The Department of Transportation.

21 (9) The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.

22 (10) The Pennsylvania Game Commission.

23 (11) Any other department, board, commission, agency or
24 office of the executive branch that approves participation in
25 a program or access to a benefit or service administered by
26 the department, board, commission, agency or office of the
27 executive branch or that issues a license, permit,
28 registration, certificate or other authorization in
29 accordance with applicable law or regulation.

30 * * *

1 "Electronic record." An official voter registration
2 application, which:

3 (1) Is completed by an individual as part of an
4 applicable transaction with an automatic voter registration
5 agency.

6 (2) Includes the individual's electronic signature.

7 (3) Is transmitted to the department, electronically, by
8 the automatic voter registration agency.

9 * * *

10 "Registration card." A registration record containing all
11 information required on the registration application or the
12 electronic record, including the elector's signature or
13 electronic signature, and suitable space for the insertion by
14 the appropriate official of the following information:

15 (1) The ward and election district of residence.

16 (2) The registrant's street address.

17 (3) Data required to be given upon removal from the
18 registrant's residence.

19 (4) The date of each election at which the registrant
20 votes.

21 (5) The number and letter of the stub of the ballot
22 issued to the registrant or the registrant's number in the
23 order of admission to the voting machines.

24 (6) The initials of the election officer who enters the
25 record of voting in the district register.

26 (7) Whether the registrant needs assistance to vote and,
27 if so, the nature of the disability.

28 "Registration records." The general register, district
29 register and any other record of registration, including an
30 electronic record, maintained by a commission. The term includes

1 any record maintained by the commission on the Statewide Uniform
2 Registry of Electors.

3 * * *

4 "System." The automatic voter registration system
5 established under section 1325.1 (relating to automatic voter
6 registration).

7 Section 2. Sections 1201, 1321 and 1323(a)(3) and (b)(1) and
8 (3) of Title 25 are amended to read:

9 § 1201. Departmental responsibilities.

10 The department shall do all of the following:

11 (1) Provide for applicants to submit their voter
12 registration application to a commission, the Department of
13 Transportation and other agencies designated in section 1325
14 (relating to government agencies).

15 (2) Prescribe a procedure and schedule for the return of
16 completed voter registration applications from the Department
17 of Transportation, the Department of [Public Welfare] Human
18 Services, armed forces recruitment centers, Offices of the
19 Clerk of Orphan's Court, automatic voter registration
20 agencies and all other offices authorized under this part to
21 the secretary or the appropriate commission.

22 (3) Develop, establish, implement and administer a
23 Statewide Uniform Registry of Electors in accordance with
24 Subchapter B (relating to Statewide Uniform Registry of
25 Electors (SURE)).

26 (4) Promulgate regulations necessary to administer this
27 part.

28 (5) Administer and enforce the provisions of section
29 1325.1 (relating to automatic voter registration).

30 § 1321. Methods of voter registration.

1 (a) Registration methods.--An individual qualified to
2 register to vote under section 1301(a) (relating to
3 qualifications to register) may apply to register as follows:

4 (1) Under section 1322 (relating to in-person voter
5 registration).

6 (2) Under section 1323 (relating to application with
7 driver's license application).

8 (3) Under section 1324 (relating to application by
9 mail).

10 (4) Under section 1325 (relating to government
11 agencies).

12 (5) Under section 1325.1 (relating to automatic voter
13 registration).

14 (b) Automatic voter registration.--An individual who is
15 qualified to register to vote under section 1301(a) and who
16 engages in an applicable transaction with an automatic voter
17 registration agency shall be registered through the system as
18 provided under section 1325.1, unless the individual chooses not
19 to register through automatic voter registration.

20 § 1323. Application with driver's license application.

21 (a) General rule.--

22 * * *

23 (3) [Any] Notwithstanding paragraphs (1) and (2), any
24 change of address submitted to the Department of
25 Transportation for the purposes of a vehicle registration
26 under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1301 (relating to registration and
27 certificate of title required), a renewal of registration
28 under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1307 (relating to period of registration),
29 driver licensing under 75 Pa.C.S. Ch. 15 (relating to
30 licensing of drivers) or an identification card under 75

1 Pa.C.S. § 1510 (relating to issuance and content of driver's
2 license) shall serve as notification of change of address for
3 voter registration for the registrant involved unless the
4 registrant indicates that the change of address is not for
5 voter registration purposes.

6 (b) Process.--

7 (1) The Department of Transportation shall:

8 (i) provide for an application for voter
9 registration as part of a driver's license application.

10 (ii) provide for an electronic record for automatic
11 voter registration under section 1325.1 (relating to
12 automatic voter registration); and

13 (iii) collect voter registration information as part
14 of an application submitted under 75 Pa.C.S. §§ 1301,
15 1307 and 1510 and Ch. 15 by an individual who meets the
16 qualifications to register to vote under section 1301(a)
17 (relating to qualifications to register.

18 * * *

19 (3) The voter registration application portion of the
20 application shall contain all the requirements of an official
21 voter registration application specified in section 1327
22 (relating to preparation and distribution of applications).

23 The voter registration portion of the application:

24 (i) may not require any information that duplicates
25 information required in the driver's license portion of
26 the form, other than a second signature; [and]

27 (ii) may require only the minimum amount of
28 information necessary to prevent duplicate voter
29 registration, to enable the commission to assess the
30 eligibility of the applicant and to administer voter

1 registration and other parts of the election process[.]i;
2 and
3 (iii) shall inform the individual that if no
4 political party enrollment is selected, the individual
5 will be designated as not affiliated with a political
6 party and will be unable to vote in a primary election.

7 * * *

8 Section 3. Title 25 is amended by adding a section to read:
9 § 1325.1. Automatic voter registration.

10 (a) Establishment.--The department shall establish a system
11 that provides for automatic voter registration of a qualified
12 elector who engages in an applicable transaction with an
13 automatic voter registration agency.

14 (b) Duties of the department.--The department shall:

15 (1) Administer the system.

16 (2) Ensure that the system is configured to
17 electronically transmit the voter registration information of
18 each qualified elector who registers to vote under this
19 section during an applicable transaction directly to the
20 department within five days of the applicable transaction in
21 a form and manner established by the secretary in
22 consultation with the automatic voter registration agency.

23 (3) Notwithstanding section 1325 (relating to government
24 agencies), enter into cooperative agreements with each
25 automatic voter registration agency. Each cooperative
26 agreement shall:

27 (i) Provide that the department conduct appropriate
28 training of automatic voter registration agency staff.

29 (ii) Provide all forms, material and equipment
30 necessary to carry out automatic voter registration

1 activities.

2 (iii) Stipulate that the department have oversight
3 responsibility to ensure proper compliance with
4 applicable Federal and State law.

5 (iv) Provide that each automatic voter registration
6 agency report any known barriers or impediments to
7 implementation of the system to the secretary and to the
8 appropriate standing committees of the General Assembly.

9 (4) Develop or approve for use an electronic record to
10 be used by each automatic voter registration agency to
11 facilitate automatic voter registration in accordance with
12 this section. The secretary may authorize the use of the
13 voter registration application form developed by the
14 Department of Transportation under section 1323 (relating to
15 application with driver's license application).

16 (5) Prescribe procedures and applicable schedules to
17 govern the transmittal of electronic records to the
18 department by automatic voter registration agencies. Each
19 electronic record shall provide the legal name, age, home
20 address and citizenship status for, and the electronic
21 signature of, each individual who certifies that the
22 individual is a citizen of the United States. An individual
23 who submits information in an electronic record or any other
24 information required under this chapter shall be subject to
25 penalties under 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn
26 falsification to authorities).

27 (6) Ensure that each individual whose electronic record
28 is transmitted to the department through the system is
29 transmitted to the appropriate commission.

30 (7) Prescribe procedures to ensure that information

1 contained in an electronic record, including information
2 relating to the decision of an applicant to decline automatic
3 voter registration, will not be used for any purpose other
4 than the maintenance of registration statistics, election
5 administration or prosecution of criminal violations of
6 election laws or laws of this Commonwealth relating to
7 perjury and false swearing under 18 Pa.C.S. (relating to
8 crimes and offenses).

9 (c) System requirements.--The system shall:

10 (1) Inform an applicant that the applicant will be
11 registered to vote under this section or will have a voter
12 registration record updated, if applicable, unless the
13 applicant declines to register to vote or update the voter
14 registration record under this section. If an applicant is
15 not a qualified elector, the system shall inform the
16 applicant:

17 (i) Of the qualifications to register to vote under
18 section 1301 (relating to qualifications to register).

19 (ii) That the applicant may only register to vote
20 under this section if the applicant meets all of the
21 qualifications required under section 1301.

22 (iii) Of the penalties for the submission of false
23 information in an electronic record.

24 (2) Inform the applicant that voter registration under
25 this section is voluntary and that neither registering nor
26 declining to register to vote or failing or refusing to
27 provide information required to apply to register to vote
28 under this section will not affect:

29 (i) an individual's eligibility for a benefit or
30 service;

1 (ii) the validity or status of an employment or
2 program application; or

3 (iii) eligibility for any financial assistance,
4 compensation, benefit or service available as
5 administered by the automatic voter registration agency,
6 including eligibility for the issuance or renewal of a
7 license, permit, certification, registration or any other
8 authorization issued by the automatic voter registration
9 agency.

10 (3) Require the electronic signature of the applicant to
11 attest that the information provided by the applicant is true
12 and that the applicant meets all the qualifications to
13 register to vote under section 1301, subject to the penalties
14 under 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904.

15 (4) Not require any information that duplicates the
16 information required to complete an applicable transaction.

17 (5) Require only the minimum amount of information
18 necessary for both an applicable transaction and to register
19 to vote under this section in order to:

20 (i) Prevent duplication of voter registration.

21 (ii) Enable the appropriate commission to review the
22 eligibility of applicants.

23 (iii) Enable the appropriate commission to
24 administer voter registration and other aspects of the
25 election process.

26 (6) Inform each applicant that if the applicant does not
27 enroll with a political party, the applicant will be
28 designated as not enrolled with a political party and will be
29 unable to vote in a primary election.

30 (d) Employee and agent prohibitions.--

1 (1) No employee or agent of an automatic voter
2 registration agency or any other individual who is
3 responsible for carrying out the requirements of this section
4 shall:

5 (i) Seek to influence an applicant's political party
6 enrollment.

7 (ii) Voice or display any political party preference
8 or allegiance.

9 (iii) Make any statements or take any actions with
10 the purpose or effect of discouraging the applicant from
11 providing voter registration information.

12 (iv) Make any statement or take any action which may
13 cause an applicant to believe or which is designed to
14 make an applicant believe or otherwise assume that the
15 decision to register or decline to register to vote or
16 fail or refuse to provide information required to
17 register to vote under this section will affect:

18 (A) the applicant's eligibility for a benefit or
19 service;

20 (B) the validity or status of an employment or
21 program application; or

22 (C) eligibility for any financial assistance,
23 compensation, benefit or service administered by the
24 automatic voter registration agency, including
25 eligibility for the issuance or renewal of a license,
26 permit, certification, registration or any other
27 authorization issued by the automatic voter
28 registration agency in accordance with law or
29 regulation.

30 (2) An employee or agent of an automatic voter

1 registration agency who fails to collect voter registration
2 information from an individual who volunteers to register to
3 vote under this section or who fails to transmit an
4 electronic record to the department may, at the discretion of
5 the automatic voter registration agency, be subject to
6 disciplinary action, including termination or suspension from
7 employment without pay.

8 (e) Posting requirements.--Automatic voter registration
9 agencies must provide reasonable space for nonpartisan signs or
10 posters advising individuals of automatic voter registration.
11 The signs and posters may be provided by the department.

12 (f) Transmission.--The following apply:

13 (1) Automatic voter registration agencies shall forward
14 electronic records, including the electronic signatures of
15 individuals, to the department.

16 (2) Upon receipt of an electronic record from an
17 automatic voter registration agency under paragraph (1), the
18 department shall transmit the electronic record to the
19 appropriate commission.

20 (3) Upon receipt of the electronic record from the
21 department under paragraph (2), the appropriate commission
22 shall notify the individual of the process to:

23 (i) Decline automatic voter registration under this
24 section.

25 (ii) Select a political party enrollment, along with
26 information as to which elections require a political
27 party enrollment for participation.

28 (4) The individual's electronic record submitted under
29 paragraph (1) shall constitute a completed electronic record
30 for purposes of this section. The individual shall be

1 registered to vote if the appropriate commission processes
2 the individual's electronic record under section 1328(b) (3)
3 and (c) (relating to approval of registration applications
4 and electronic records).

5 (5) A commission may not send a ballot to or add to an
6 elector registration list an individual who does not have a
7 processed electronic record under paragraph (4).

8 (g) Confidentiality.--The automatic voter registration
9 agency through which a qualified elector is registered under
10 this section shall not be considered a public record and shall
11 not be subject to public disclosure.

12 (h) Use of information.--Information relating to voter
13 registration collected in accordance this section, including,
14 but not limited to, an individual's citizenship status or
15 information relating to an individual's decision to decline to
16 register to vote under this section may not be used for any
17 purpose other than the maintenance of registration statistics,
18 election administration or prosecution of criminal violations of
19 election laws or laws of this Commonwealth relating to perjury
20 and false swearing under 18 Pa.C.S.

21 (i) Regulation.--The secretary shall promulgate regulations
22 to administer the provisions of this section.

23 Section 4. Sections 1326(b) (1) and (3) and (c) (1), 1327(a)
24 and (b) and 1328(a), (b) and (c) (1) are amended to read:

25 § 1326. Time.

26 * * *

27 (b) Deadlines.--In the administration of voter registration,
28 each commission shall ensure that any applicant who is a
29 qualified elector is registered to vote in an election when the
30 applicant has met any of the following conditions:

1 (1) In the case of voter registration with a motor
2 vehicle driver's license application under section 1323
3 (relating to application with driver's license application)
4 or automatic voter registration under section 1325.1
5 (relating to automatic voter registration), if the valid
6 voter registration application or electronic record is
7 submitted to the appropriate Department of Transportation
8 office or if an electronic record is received by the
9 department not later than 30 days before the date of the
10 election.

11 * * *

12 (3) In the case of voter registration at a voter
13 registration agency under section 1325 (relating to
14 government agencies) or automatic voter registration at an
15 automatic voter registration agency under section 1325.1, if
16 the valid voter registration application or electronic record
17 is accepted at the voter registration agency or if an
18 electronic record is received by the department under section
19 1325.1 not later than 30 days before the date of the
20 election.

21 * * *

22 (c) Special rules.--

23 (1) In the case of a special election within a
24 congressional, senatorial or representative district held on
25 a day other than the day of a primary, general or municipal
26 election, the registration application forms and electronic
27 records shall not be processed in the wards and election
28 districts comprising the district for the 30 days prior to
29 the special election for such election.

30 * * *

1 § 1327. Preparation and distribution of applications.

2 (a) Form.--

3 (1) The secretary shall prescribe the form of an
4 official voter registration application, including the form
5 of an electronic record. The official voter registration
6 application or electronic record shall provide space for the
7 following information about the applicant:

8 (i) Full name.

9 (ii) Address of residence. If the residence is a
10 portion only of the house, the location or number of the
11 room, apartment or floor which is occupied.

12 (iii) Mailing address if different than address of
13 residence.

14 (iv) Name and residence address on previous
15 registration and the year of that registration.

16 (v) Designation of political party, for the purpose
17 of voting at a primary election.

18 (vi) Date of birth.

19 (vii) Telephone number. An application shall not be
20 rejected because of noncompliance with this subparagraph.

21 (viii) Race. An application shall not be rejected
22 because of noncompliance with this subparagraph.

23 (ix) In the case of an electronic record, an e-mail
24 address. An electronic record shall not be rejected due
25 to the applicant's failure to provide an e-mail address.

26 (2) Data required on the voter registration application
27 or the electronic record shall not be more nor less than the
28 minimum data elements permissible for Federal voter
29 registration.

30 (3) Any person who assists in the completion of the

1 registration application shall sign the application and
2 indicate the person's address. In the case of those
3 registering under sections 1323 (relating to application with
4 driver's license application) and 1325 (relating to
5 government agencies) or section 1325.1 (relating to automatic
6 voter registration), the person providing assistance shall
7 insert the person's initials or employee or agent
8 identification number on a separate or detachable portion of
9 the application or computer data file.

10 (4) A voter registration application shall be printed on
11 stock of good quality and shall be of suitable uniform size.
12 Nothing in this part shall prohibit the design and use of an
13 electronic voter registration application which includes the
14 applicant's digitized or electronic signature. The
15 registration application shall contain the following
16 information; however, the information may be provided on a
17 separate form or on an electronic record for voter
18 registration made under section 1323 [or], 1325 or 1325.1:

19 (i) Notice that a registered elector does not need
20 to reregister unless the registered elector has moved.

21 (ii) Instructions on how to fill out and submit the
22 application and notification of when the application must
23 be submitted to a voter registration office in order to
24 be registered for the ensuing election.

25 (iii) Notice that the applicant must be a citizen of
26 the United States for at least one month prior to the
27 next election and a resident of this Commonwealth and the
28 election district for at least 30 days and must be at
29 least 18 years of age by the day of the next ensuing
30 election and has not been confined in a penal institution

1 for a conviction of a felony within the last five years.
2 The notice required in this subparagraph shall be in
3 print identical to the declaration under subsection (b).

4 (iv) Notice that political party enrollment is
5 mandatory to vote in a primary election of a political
6 party.

7 (v) [Notice] For a paper application, notice that
8 the commission will mail by nonforwardable mail to the
9 applicant a voter's identification card upon acceptance
10 of the application and that the applicant should contact
11 the commission if the identification card is not received
12 within 14 days from the date the application is sent to
13 the registration office.

14 (v.1) For automatic voter registration under section
15 1325.1, notice that the appropriate commission will
16 notify the individual by nonforwardable mail or, if an e-
17 mail address was provided, by e-mail, of the
18 registration, and that if the individual was
19 inadvertently registered to vote through an automatic
20 voter registration agency after declining to register to
21 vote, the department shall correct the error and notify
22 the appropriate commission that the individual may not be
23 considered to have become registered to vote under
24 section 1325.1.

25 (vi) Notice that registration is not complete until
26 the application or electronic record is processed and
27 accepted by the commission.

28 (vii) A warning to the applicant that making a false
29 registration or furnishing false information is perjury.
30 The notice required in this subparagraph shall be in

1 print identical to the declaration under subsection (b).

2 (viii) Instructions to Federal or State employees
3 who wish to retain voting residence in county of last
4 residence to so indicate on the application.

5 (ix) Notice that, if an individual declines to
6 register to vote, the fact that the individual has
7 declined to register will remain confidential and will be
8 used only for voter registration purposes. The notice
9 required in this subparagraph shall be in print identical
10 to the declaration under subsection (b).

11 (x) Notice that, if an individual does register to
12 vote, the [office] commission or automatic voter
13 registration agency at which the individual submits a
14 voter registration application or an electronic record
15 will remain confidential and will be used for voter
16 registration purposes only. The notices required in this
17 subparagraph shall be in print or in the system identical
18 to the declaration in subsection (b).

19 (5) In jurisdictions where there is a single language
20 minority, the secretary may print a bilingual application or
21 provide for a bilingual electronic record.

22 (6) In jurisdictions where a single language minority
23 exceeds 5% of the population, the secretary shall:

24 (i) print a bilingual application or provide for a
25 bilingual electronic record; and

26 (ii) conduct a public educational program among that
27 language group alerting both organizations and
28 individuals of that group of the availability of the
29 bilingual application or bilingual electronic record and
30 encouraging individuals to register to vote.

1 (7) To implement section 1324 (relating to application
2 by mail), the secretary shall print an official voter
3 registration mail application designed to preserve the
4 confidentiality of the information required to be submitted.
5 The application shall contain information required by this
6 section and shall include the name of each county seat, its
7 post office mailing address and zip code and its telephone
8 number. Voter registration mail applications shall contain
9 information indicating whether the application is a new
10 registration, change of party enrollment, change of address
11 or change of name.

12 (8) Nothing in this part shall prohibit a private
13 organization or individual from printing blank voter
14 registration applications or shall prohibit the use of such
15 applications by any other individual, provided that the form,
16 content and paper quality of such voter registration
17 application complies with department regulations for the
18 forms or has received prior approval from the secretary.

19 (b) Registration declaration.--

20 (1) The official voter registration application or
21 electronic record shall contain a registration declaration.
22 On the declaration, the applicant shall state all of the
23 following:

24 (i) The applicant has been a citizen of the United
25 States for at least one month prior to the next election.

26 (ii) On the day of the next ensuing election, the
27 applicant shall be at least 18 years of age.

28 (iii) On the day of the next ensuing election, the
29 applicant shall have resided in this Commonwealth and in
30 the election district for at least 30 days.

1 (iv) The applicant has not been confined in a penal
2 institution for a conviction of a felony within the last
3 five years.

4 (v) The applicant is legally qualified to vote.

5 (2) The applicant shall affirm all of the following:

6 (i) The information provided in the registration
7 declaration is true.

8 (ii) The applicant understands that:

9 (A) the registration declaration will be
10 accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an
11 affidavit; and

12 (B) if the registration contains a material
13 false statement, the applicant shall be subject to
14 penalties [for perjury] under 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904
15 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

16 (3) The registration declaration shall contain the
17 printed name and signature or electronic signature under
18 section 1325.1 of the applicant and the date of signing. An
19 applicant unable to sign the voter registration application
20 shall make a mark before a person of the applicant's choice
21 other than the applicant's employer or an agent of the
22 applicant's union. The person shall insert the person's name,
23 address and telephone number. If the person is an employee or
24 agent of the Department of Transportation or another agency
25 as provided under section 1325 and is assisting the applicant
26 in an official capacity, the employee or agent shall insert
27 the initials and identification number of the employee or
28 agent. In the case of applicants registering under section
29 1323 [or], 1325 or 1325.1, the person providing assistance
30 shall insert initials or employee or agent identification

1 number on a separate or detachable portion of the application
2 [or], the computer data file or the electronic record.

3 (4) The official registration application and electronic
4 record shall contain a notice entitled "PENALTY FOR
5 FALSIFYING DECLARATION." The notice shall advise the
6 applicant that if a person signs an official registration
7 application or provides an electronic signature in an
8 electronic record knowing a statement declared in the
9 application or electronic record to be false, the person
10 commits perjury. The notice shall specify the penalty for
11 perjury.

12 * * *

13 § 1328. Approval of registration applications and electronic
14 records.

15 (a) Examination.--Upon receiving a voter registration
16 application or an electronic record, a commissioner, clerk or
17 registrar of a commission shall do all of the following:

18 (1) Initial and date the receipt of the application or
19 electronic record.

20 (2) Examine the application or electronic record to
21 determine all of the following:

22 (i) Whether the application or electronic record is
23 complete.

24 (ii) Whether the applicant is a qualified elector.

25 (iii) Whether the applicant has an existing
26 registration record. After the commission is connected to
27 the SURE system, the commissioner, clerk or registrar
28 shall search the SURE system on a Statewide basis to
29 determine if the applicant has an existing registration
30 record.

1 (iv) Whether the applicant is entitled or qualified
2 to receive the requested transfer or change, if
3 applicable.

4 (b) Decision.--A commission shall do one of the following:

5 (1) Record and forward a voter registration application
6 or an electronic record to the proper commission if the
7 commission finds during its examination under subsection (a)
8 that the applicant does not reside within the commission's
9 county but resides elsewhere in this Commonwealth.

10 (2) Reject a voter registration application or an
11 electronic record transferred to the department under section
12 1325.1 (relating to automatic voter registration), indicate
13 the rejection and the reasons for the rejection on the
14 application or electronic record and notify the applicant by
15 first class nonforwardable mail, return postage guaranteed of
16 the rejection and the reason if the commission finds during
17 its examination under subsection (a) any of the following:

18 (i) The application or electronic record was not
19 properly completed and, after reasonable efforts by the
20 commission to ascertain the necessary information, the
21 application or electronic record remains incomplete or
22 inconsistent.

23 (ii) The applicant is not a qualified elector.

24 (iii) The applicant is not entitled to a transfer of
25 registration or a change of address.

26 (iv) The applicant is not legally qualified for a
27 change of name.

28 A rejection shall be made no later than ten days before the
29 election succeeding the filing of the application or
30 transmittal of the electronic record.

1 (3) Process a voter registration application or an
2 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) if the
3 commission finds during its examination under subsection (a)
4 all of the following:

5 (i) The application or electronic record requests
6 registration as a registered elector.

7 (ii) The application or electronic record contains
8 the required information indicating that the applicant is
9 a qualified elector of the county.

10 (4) Process a voter registration application or
11 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) and
12 update its registration records if the commission finds
13 during its examination under subsection (a) all of the
14 following:

15 (i) The application or electronic record requests
16 registration as a registered elector.

17 (ii) The application or electronic record contains
18 the required information indicating that the applicant is
19 a qualified elector of the county.

20 (iii) The applicant is currently a registered
21 elector of the county.

22 (5) Process a voter registration application or
23 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) and
24 request transfer of registration records, including
25 electronic records, in accordance with subsection (d) if the
26 commission finds during its examination under subsection (a)
27 all of the following:

28 (i) The application or electronic record requests
29 registration as a registered elector.

30 (ii) The application or electronic record contains

1 the required information indicating that the applicant is
2 a qualified elector of the county.

3 (iii) The applicant is currently a registered
4 elector of another county.

5 (6) Process a voter registration application or
6 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) and
7 request transfer of registration records, including
8 electronic records, in accordance with subsection (d) if the
9 commission finds during its examination under subsection (a)
10 all of the following:

11 (i) The application or electronic record requests a
12 transfer of registration.

13 (ii) The application or electronic record contains
14 the required information indicating that the applicant is
15 a qualified elector of the county.

16 (iii) The applicant is currently a registered
17 elector of another county.

18 (7) Process a voter registration application or an
19 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) and
20 update its registration if the commission finds during its
21 examination under subsection (a) all of the following:

22 (i) The application or electronic record requests a
23 change of address.

24 (ii) The application or electronic record contains
25 the required information indicating that the applicant is
26 a qualified elector of the county.

27 (iii) The applicant is currently a registered
28 elector of the county.

29 (8) Process a voter registration application or
30 electronic record in accordance with subsection (c) and

1 update its registration records, including electronic
2 records, if the commission finds during its examination under
3 subsection (a) all of the following:

4 (i) The application or electronic record requests a
5 change of name.

6 (ii) The applicant is legally qualified to a change
7 of name.

8 (iii) The application or electronic record contains
9 the required information indicating that the applicant is
10 a qualified elector of the county.

11 (iv) The applicant is currently a registered elector
12 of the county.

13 (c) Processing of voter registration.--

14 (1) When a commission has accepted a voter registration
15 application or electronic record under subsection (b)(3), the
16 commission shall assign each applicant a unique
17 identification number in the SURE system. The commission
18 shall mail a wallet-sized voter's [identification]
19 registration card to the individual by first class
20 nonforwardable mail, return postage guaranteed, which shall
21 serve as notice of the acceptance of the application or
22 electronic record. The registration card shall contain all of
23 the following:

24 (i) Name and address of the individual.

25 (ii) Name of municipality of residence.

26 (iii) Identification of the individual's ward and
27 district.

28 (iv) The effective date of registration.

29 (v) Designation of party enrollment and date of
30 enrollment.

1 (vi) A space for the individual's signature or mark.

2 (vii) The unique identification number of the
3 individual.

4 (viii) A statement that the individual must notify
5 the commission within ten days from the date it was
6 mailed if any information on the registration card is
7 incorrect; otherwise, the information shall be deemed
8 correct for voter registration purposes.

9 * * *

10 Section 5. This act shall take effect in 60 days.