

SENATE BILL 1631

By Tate

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2,
relative to voter registration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-201, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(a) In addition to any other voter registration procedure provided for by law, the department of safety and each county election commission shall provide for voter registration procedures as follows:

(1) The department of safety shall include a voter registration application as part of any motor vehicle driver license application or photo identification license used in Tennessee. An individual who is otherwise eligible shall be registered to vote in accordance with the information supplied by the individual;

(2) The voter registration section of the application:

(A) May require a second signature or other information that duplicates, or is in addition to, information in the license section of the application only if the duplicate or additional information is necessary for prevention of multiple registration of the same individual, for determination of eligibility to vote, or for administration of voter registration or other aspects of the election process;

(B) Shall include a statement that specifies each eligibility requirement for voting, contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement, including citizenship, and requires the signature of the applicant, under penalty of perjury;

(C) Shall be made available by the department to the appropriate county election commission office; and

(D) Shall be processed as an in-person voter registration;

(3) Any motor vehicle driver license or photo identification license form used for change of address of residence shall also serve as a notification of change of address of residence for voter registration;

(4) The motor vehicle driver license or photo identification license application and change of address forms used in this state shall be subject to approval by the secretary of state for purposes of voter registration under this section; and

(5) A completed voter registration or change of address of voter registration accepted at a motor vehicle office shall be transmitted to the appropriate county election commission office not later than ten (10) days after the date of acceptance; provided, that if the document is accepted within five (5) days before the last day for registration to vote in an election, the application shall be transmitted to the appropriate county election commission office not later than five (5) days after the date of acceptance.

(b) Upon receiving a completed voter registration under this section, the county election commission office shall notify the person that if the person wishes to decline to register to vote, the person shall notify the county election commission office within twenty-one (21) calendar days.

(c) A person shall be registered to vote if the person:

(1) Has not notified the county election commission office within the time period in subsection (b);

(2) Is otherwise qualified to vote under the laws of this state; and

(3) Is not already registered to vote.

SECTION 2. The secretary of state is authorized to promulgate rules to effectuate the purposes of this act. The rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.