SENATE BILL 1853

By Gilmore

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

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-106(b), is amended by redesignating the subsection as subdivision (b)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2):

(2) In addition to the address verification program implemented under subdivision (b)(1), it is the responsibility of the county election commission to verify with the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC) that a person is no longer qualified to vote prior to purging the person's registration in accordance with this section. The county election commission shall complete the verification process at least on a biennial basis, but may do so annually. The county election commission shall complete such process no later than ninety (90) days before a federal election.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109(a), is amended by deleting the language "applications for registration shall not be processed for twenty-nine (29) days before an election, except as provided in subsection (b)" and substituting instead the language "applications for registration must not be processed for twenty-nine (29) days before an election, except as provided in subsections (b) and (d)".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-2-109, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(d) A qualified voter may register or have the voter's registration updated and vote beginning on the first day of a period of early voting through the day of the election,

at the appropriate polling place for the voter's residence or at a convenient voting center, if available.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.

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