

1 S.124

2 Introduced by Senator White

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Election; voter registration

6 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to allow voters to register to vote on
7 the day of an election.

8 An act relating to election day registration

9 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

10 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2144 is amended to read:

11 § 2144. DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS

12 * * *

13 (b) ~~If a person is not eligible to register prior to the voter registration~~
14 ~~deadline, but expects to be eligible on or before election day, he or she may file~~
15 ~~with the town clerk a written notice of intention to apply for addition of his or~~
16 ~~her name to the checklist. The notice shall be filed prior to the voter~~
17 ~~registration deadline, and the town clerk shall then accept the person's~~
18 ~~application at any time before the close of the polls on election day, and act~~
19 ~~upon the application forthwith~~ If a person eligible to register fails to register

1 prior to 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding the day of the election, he or
2 she may register and vote on election day.

3 (c) If a person is not eligible to register prior to the voter registration
4 deadline, ~~and has submitted~~ he or she may file a written notice of intent to
5 ~~apply in accord with subsection (b) of this section, the~~ for the addition of his or
6 her name to the checklist. The clerk shall, upon application, allow the
7 applicant to vote absentee. If the application is approved and the name added
8 to the checklist prior to the close of the polls on election day, the early or
9 absentee ballots cast by that voter shall be treated as other valid early or
10 absentee ballots.

11 * * *

12 (e) On election day, the town clerk and presiding officers shall accept
13 applications for persons' names to be placed on the checklist until the
14 7:00 p.m. closing of the polls.

15 Sec. 3. 17 V.S.A. § 2144a is amended to read:

16 § 2144a. REGISTRATION

17 A person who desires to register to vote may apply in any of the following
18 ways:

19 * * *

20 (4) By completing a voter registration application and delivering it to the
21 polling place before the close of the polls on election day. In order to be

1 eligible to register and vote on election day, a voter, on election day, shall
2 submit a voter registration application that meets the requirements of section
3 2145 of this title; complete a sworn statement prepared by the secretary of
4 state; and present any one of the following to the elections official: a valid
5 photo identification; a copy of a current utility bill; a copy of a current bank
6 statement; or a copy of a paycheck, a government check, or any other
7 government document that shows the current name and address of the voter. If
8 the person is unable to produce the required information, the person shall be
9 afforded the opportunity to cast a provisional ballot, as provided in subchapter
10 6A of chapter 51 of this title. The elections official shall note upon the
11 checklist that the voter registered on election day and the type of identification
12 produced by the voter.