

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 702

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE WOODS.

1488H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 115, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to automatic voter registration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 115, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 115.972, to read as follows:

**115.972. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the secretary of state
2 shall establish a process to conduct automatic voter registration and shall provide
3 recommendations to local election authorities for the automatic registration of eligible
4 voters.**

**5 2. The following actions shall result in an individual's automatic voter
6 registration or an update to the information of an already registered voter if the
7 individual otherwise meets the requirements to register to vote:**

**8 (1) Completing an application for a new or renewed driver's license, nondriver
9 identification card, driver's permit, or certification of supervised driving that is not a
10 request for duplication of a lost or stolen card with the department of revenue or
11 notifying the department in writing of a change in his or her name or mailing address;**

**12 (2) Completing an application for services or renewal of services or change of
13 address relating to services from the department of social services;**

**14 (3) Completing an application for services or renewal of services or change of
15 address relating to services from a local housing authority;**

16 (4) Registering for classes at an institution of the University of Missouri system;

17 (5) Completing an application for unemployment benefits; or

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **(6) Submitting a form by the department of corrections to the secretary of state**
19 **that confirms an individual has been discharged from probation, parole, or**
20 **incarceration; the discharge is nonconditional; and the individual's place of residence**
21 **upon release.**

22 **3. The agencies and state departments who receive the information in subsection**
23 **2 of this section shall, periodically as required by rule or policy, provide the secretary of**
24 **state with such information as the secretary of state specifies is necessary to conduct**
25 **recommendations for automatic voter registration.**

26 **4. The secretary of state shall provide lists of nonbinding recommendations for**
27 **inclusion on voter registration lists to local election authorities and such authorities shall**
28 **include such recommendations on voter registration lists, subject to existing verification**
29 **procedures for determining whether an individual is eligible to register to vote and**
30 **eligible to vote. Local election authorities shall retain full jurisdiction and power to**
31 **decline to register individuals not verified to be eligible to vote and to remove the names**
32 **of individuals who are no longer eligible to vote from voter registration lists.**

33 **5. Within two months of receipt of a proposed voter registration list, but prior to**
34 **including a recommended individual on a voter registration list, the local election**
35 **authority shall send notice of potential automatic registration which shall include a**
36 **postage-paid postcard for purposes of declining registration. If, after a period of one**
37 **month, the postcard is not returned to the local election authority, the individual's name**
38 **shall be added to the voter registration list, except that any time a postcard is received,**
39 **the individual's name shall be removed from the voter registration list. This subsection**
40 **shall not be construed to prevent removal from voter registration lists by any other**
41 **method allowed under this chapter.**

42 **6. The provisions of this section allow for automatic voter registration in**
43 **addition to any other method of registration allowed under this chapter and shall not be**
44 **interpreted to invalidate any other method for voter registration.**

45 **7. The provisions of this section with regard to the secretary of state, state**
46 **departments and agencies, and local election authorities shall be subject to the**
47 **appropriation and payment of funds necessary to conduct automatic voter registration**
48 **and verification procedures.**

49 **8. The secretary of state may promulgate all necessary rules for the**
50 **administration of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined**
51 **in section 536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall**
52 **become effective only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter**
53 **536 and, if applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable**
54 **and if any of the powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to**

55 review, to delay the effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently
56 held unconstitutional, then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or
57 adopted after August 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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