HB 702 -- AUTOMATIC VOTER REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Woods

This bill requires the Secretary of State to establish a system for conducting automatic voter registration.

The following actions will result in an individual being automatically registered:

(1) Completing an application for a driver's license, nondriver identification card, driver's permit, or certification of supervised driving with the Department of Revenue;

(2) Completing an application for services, renewal of services, or change of address relating to services from the Department of Social Services or the local housing authority;

(3) Registering for classes at the University of Missouri System;

(4) Completing an application for unemployment benefits; and

(5) Submitting a form by the Department of Corrections to the Secretary of State confirming an individual has been discharged from probation, parole, or incarceration; the discharge is nonconditional; and the place of residence upon release.

These agencies and state departments must periodically provide information to the Secretary of State that is relevant to conduct recommendations for automatic voter registration.

The Secretary of State will periodically provide local election authorities with lists of recommendations for their voter registration lists. If a recommendation otherwise meets the criteria for voter registration, the local election authority must send notice of potential automatic registration to a prospective registrant. The notice must include a postage-paid postcard for the purposes of declining registration. If, after a period of one month, the postcard is not returned, the local election authority must register the voter.

This bill is similar to HB 2242 (2024) and HB 741 (2023).