

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 543 Session of  
1991

INTRODUCED BY LEVDANSKY, KUKOVICH, VEON, ROBINSON, PESCI,  
JOSEPHS, FREEMAN, FEE, GEORGE, VAN HORNE, STURLA, ROEBUCK,  
STABACK, FAJT, KAISER, ARGALL, HERMAN, STISH, SALOOM,  
BATTISTO, COHEN, ADOLPH, COY, DALEY, WOZNIAK, DERMODY,  
DeLUCA, CARN, HARPER, M. N. WRIGHT, McNALLY, BELARDI,  
JOHNSON, GIGLIOTTI, MAIALE, SURRA, MELIO, ITKIN, LAUGHLIN,  
TRELLO, BISHOP, TRICH, PISTELLA, THOMAS, BILLOW AND EVANS,  
MARCH 12, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 12, 1991

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 29, 1937 (P.L.487, No.115), entitled,  
2 as reenacted and amended, "An act to provide for the  
3 permanent personal registration of electors in cities of the  
4 second class, cities of the second class A, cities of the  
5 third class, boroughs, towns, and townships as a condition of  
6 their right to vote at elections and primaries, and their  
7 enrollment as members of political parties as a further  
8 condition of their right to vote at primaries; prescribing  
9 certain procedure for the conduct of elections and primaries  
10 and the challenge and proof of qualifications of electors;  
11 requiring the county commissioners of the various counties to  
12 act as a registration commission therefor; and prescribing  
13 the powers and duties of citizens, parties, political bodies,  
14 registration commissions, commissioners, registrars,  
15 inspectors of registration and other appointees of  
16 registration commissions, county election boards, election  
17 officers, municipal officers, departments and bureaus, police  
18 officers, courts, judges, prothonotaries, sheriffs, county  
19 commissioners, peace officers, county treasurers, county  
20 controllers, registrars of vital statistics, certain public  
21 utility corporations, real estate brokers, rental agents, and  
22 boards of school directors; and imposing penalties,"  
23 providing for voter registration in conjunction with motor  
24 vehicle driver's license registration.

25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
26 hereby enacts as follows:

1 Section 1. The act of April 29, 1937 (P.L.487, No.115),  
2 known as The Permanent Registration Act for Cities of the Second  
3 Class, Cities of the Second Class A, Cities of the Third Class,  
4 Boroughs, Towns, and Townships, reenacted and amended May 31,  
5 1955 (P.L.62, No.32), is amended by adding a section to read:

6 Section 19.1. Motor Vehicle Driver's License Voter  
7 Registration Application.--(a) (1) In addition to any other  
8 method provided under law, each application for a driver's  
9 license, as defined in 75 Pa.C.S. § 102 (relating to  
10 definitions), and any renewal application, shall serve as an  
11 application to register to vote.

12 (2) An application for voter registration submitted to the  
13 Department of Transportation under this section shall be  
14 considered as updating any previous voter registration  
15 information by the applicant.

16 (3) Each driver's license application shall include a box or  
17 other device to permit an applicant to decline to register to  
18 vote. Use of this information for any other purpose is  
19 prohibited.

20 (b) (1) The Department of Transportation shall include a  
21 voter registration application form as part of an application  
22 for a driver's license.

23 (2) The content of the driver's license/voter registration  
24 application shall be determined and prescribed by the Secretary  
25 of the Commonwealth and the Secretary of Transportation through  
26 regulation.

27 (3) The voter registration application portion of an  
28 application for a State motor vehicle driver's license: (i) may  
29 not require any information which duplicates information  
30 required in the driver's license portion of the form, other than

a second signature or other information as necessary; (ii) shall include a means by which an applicant may decline to register to vote; (iii) may require only the minimum amount of information necessary to prevent duplicate voter registration, to enable the commission to assess the eligibility of the applicant and to administer voter registration and other parts of the election process; (iv) shall include a declaration of eligibility; (v) shall require the signature of the applicant, under penalty of perjury; and (vi) shall be made available to the appropriate registration commission.

(c) Any change of address form submitted in accordance with State law for purposes of State motor vehicle driver's license shall serve as notification of change of address for voter registration with respect to elections for State office for the applicant involved if the applicant states on the form that the change of address is for voter registration purposes as well as for purposes of the license to operate a motor vehicle.

(d) (1) The Department of Transportation shall forward the completed voter registration information to the Department of State or the appropriate commission as determined by regulation.

(2) Upon receipt of the completed voter registration information from the Department of Transportation or the Department of State, the commission shall make an entry of the date received on each application and process the application. No applicant shall be deemed eligible to vote until the commission has received and processed the application.

(e) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall have the primary responsibility for implementing and enforcing the driver's license voter registration system created under this section. The Secretary of the Commonwealth, in conjunction with the

1 Secretary of the Department of Transportation, shall promulgate  
2 rules and regulations for implementing and enforcing this  
3 section.

4       Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 1993.