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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1602 Session of  
2001

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INTRODUCED BY LEVDANSKY, PRESTON, NICKOL, RUBLEY, FREEMAN,  
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TRELLO, COSTA, TRICH, HALUSKA, WALKO, HARHAI, SOLOBAY,  
READSHAW AND MELIO, MAY 17, 2001

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 17, 2001

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AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 30, 1995 (P.L.170, No.25), entitled "An  
2 act providing for voter registration, for registration  
3 commissions, for remedies and for absentee ballots; imposing  
4 penalties; making appropriations; and making repeals,"  
5 providing for a Statewide integrated voter registry.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Sections 102, 301, 527(a)(5) and (b), 528(b) and  
9 (c), 701, 702, 703, 704 and 1901(b) and (c) of the act of June  
10 30, 1995 (P.L.170, No.25), known as the Pennsylvania Voter  
11 Registration Act, are amended to read:

12 Section 102. Definitions.

13 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
14 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
15 context clearly indicates otherwise:

16 "Calendar year." The period commencing January 1 and ending  
17 December 31 next following.

1 "Commission." A registration commission established under  
2 section 303.

3 "Commissioner." A member of a registration commission.

4 "County." Any county of this Commonwealth. The term includes  
5 a county within which is located a city of the first class or  
6 with which a city of the first class is coextensive.

7 "County election board." The board of elections of a county.

8 "Department." The Department of State of the Commonwealth.

9 "District." An election district or precinct of a  
10 municipality.

11 "District register." The [registration cards or] digitized  
12 signature list containing the list of qualified electors:

13 (1) arranged, by election district, alphabetically by  
14 last name of the registrant; and

15 (2) prepared by the commission under section 702.

16 "Election." A general, special, municipal or primary  
17 election.

18 "General election." The election which the Constitution of  
19 Pennsylvania requires to be held in even-numbered years.

20 "In military service." Serving in the uniformed services as  
21 defined in section 102 of the Career Compensation Act of 1949  
22 (Public Law 81-350, 63 Stat. 801) or serving in the Pennsylvania  
23 National Guard.

24 "Members of the merchant marine of the United States." Any  
25 of the following:

26 (1) Individuals employed as officers or members of crews  
27 of vessels documented under the law of the United States or  
28 of vessels owned by the United States or of vessels of  
29 foreign-flag registry under charter to or control of the  
30 United States. This paragraph does not include individuals in

1 military service.

2 (2) Individuals enrolled with the United States for  
3 employment or for training for employment or maintained by  
4 the United States for emergency relief service as officers or  
5 members of crews of vessels referred to in paragraph (1). The  
6 term does not include individuals in military service or  
7 individuals employed or enrolled for employment or for  
8 training for employment or maintained for emergency relief on  
9 the Great Lakes or the inland waterways.

10 "Military elector." Any of the following:

11 (1) An individual in military service and the  
12 individual's spouse and dependents.

13 (2) An individual in the merchant marine and the  
14 individual's spouse and dependents.

15 (3) An individual in a religious or welfare group  
16 officially attached to and serving with the armed forces of  
17 the United States and the individual's spouse and dependents.

18 (4) An individual who is a civilian employee of the  
19 United States outside the territorial limits of the United  
20 States, whether or not the individual is subject to the civil  
21 service laws and the Classification Act of 1949 (Public Law  
22 81-429, 63 Stat. 954) and whether or not the individual is  
23 paid from funds appropriated by Congress, and the  
24 individual's spouse and dependents.

25 "Municipal election." The election which the Constitution of  
26 Pennsylvania requires to be held in odd-numbered years.

27 "Municipality." A city, borough, town or township.

28 "November election." Either the general or the municipal  
29 election, or both, according to the context.

30 "Overseas citizen." An individual who resides outside the

1 territorial limits of the United States and who, but for such  
2 residence, would be a qualified elector. The term does not  
3 include a military elector.

4 "Party." Any of the following:

5 (1) A party or political body, one of whose candidates  
6 at the general election immediately preceding the primary:

7 (i) polled, in each of at least ten counties, at  
8 least 2% of the largest entire vote cast in the county  
9 for any elected candidate; and

10 (ii) polled a total vote in this Commonwealth equal  
11 to at least 2% of the largest entire vote cast in this  
12 Commonwealth for any elected candidate.

13 (2) A party or political body, one of whose candidates  
14 at either the general or municipal election preceding the  
15 primary polled at least 5% of the largest entire vote cast  
16 for any elected candidate in any county.

17 "Person authorized to administer oaths." The term includes  
18 an individual who is a commissioned officer in military service  
19 or a member of the merchant marine of the United States  
20 designated for this purpose by the United States Secretary of  
21 Commerce.

22 "Person in military service." The term shall mean a  
23 qualified elector who is by enlistment, enrollment or draft in  
24 actual military service.

25 "Political body." A political body not recognized as a  
26 political party which has filed proper nomination papers as  
27 required by law.

28 "Primary election." An election for the nomination of  
29 candidates.

30 "Public office." Any Federal, State or political

1 subdivision, office or position of employment requiring the  
2 individual elected or appointed to render public service for a  
3 fixed fee or compensation. The term does not include the office  
4 of notary public or commissioner of deeds.

5 "Qualified elector." An individual who possesses all of the  
6 qualifications for voting prescribed by the Constitution of  
7 Pennsylvania and the laws of this Commonwealth or who, being  
8 otherwise qualified by continued residence in the election  
9 district, obtains such qualifications before the next ensuing  
10 election. The term does not include a military elector.

11 "Registration card." A registration record containing all  
12 information required on the registration application, including  
13 the elector's signature or digitized signature, and suitable  
14 space for the insertion by the appropriate official of the  
15 following information:

16 (1) The ward and election district of residence.

17 (2) The registrant's street address.

18 (3) Data required to be given upon removal from the  
19 registrant's residence.

20 (4) The date of each election at which the registrant  
21 votes.

22 (5) The number and letter of the stub of the ballot  
23 issued to the registrant or the registrant's number in the  
24 order of admission to the voting machines for each election  
25 at which the registrant has voted.

26 (6) The initials of the election officer who [enters]  
27 entered the record of voting in the district register.

28 (7) Whether the registrant needs assistance to vote and,  
29 if so, the nature of the disability.

30 "Registry." The integrated voter registration data base of

1 registered qualified electors established under section 301.

2 "Secretary." The Secretary of the Commonwealth.

3 Section 301. [Regulations.] Statewide integrated voter  
4 registry.

5 (a) Establishment.--The secretary shall develop and  
6 implement a Statewide integrated voter registration system to  
7 facilitate voter registration and to provide a central data base  
8 containing the names of all registered electors in this  
9 Commonwealth along with the corresponding data elements required  
10 to be on a voter registration application specified in section  
11 527, the digitized signature of the elector and all other  
12 information required to be on a registration card. The data base  
13 shall be contained on a central computer in a location to be  
14 designated by the secretary. All county voter registration  
15 commissions shall be linked electronically to the system and be  
16 required to use the data base as their general registry of  
17 registered voters. The data base shall contain a uniform format  
18 to be used by all counties, shall be developed in consultation  
19 with the county commissions and shall as far as practicable be  
20 compatible with current software programs utilized by the  
21 counties that are necessary for voter registration and election  
22 administration which are dependent upon and operate from any  
23 voter registration data base utilized by the county, provided  
24 however, that the secretary shall have the authority to  
25 prescribe record format for the integrated voter registration  
26 data base and system. The timetable for implementation of the  
27 system shall be established by the secretary no later than three  
28 years after this subsection takes effect unless otherwise  
29 approved by the General Assembly. The secretary may phase in the  
30 use of the system on a county-by-county basis, provided however

1 that no county shall use the registry for any purpose authorized  
2 by this act until the secretary shall certify that all proper  
3 tests have been conducted insuring that the system as  
4 established in the county is capable of performing according to  
5 all requirements of this act.

6 (b) Functions.--The integrated voter registration system  
7 shall include, but not be limited to, provisions which do all of  
8 the following:

9 (1) Phase in or convert existing voter registration  
10 records to the registry in consultation with the county  
11 commissions and the county advisory panel created in  
12 subsection (c).

13 (2) Provide for entering information into the registry  
14 and provide for easy access by each commission of its  
15 electors' records and shall be organized in such a way as to  
16 promote quick review of all files.

17 (3) Allow the commissions to add, modify and delete  
18 information from the registry regarding registered qualified  
19 electors to provide for accurate and up-to-date records.

20 (4) Permit the uploading of information obtained from  
21 approved voter registration mail applications received in the  
22 office of the commission to the registry.

23 (5) Allow the electronic transfer of completed voter  
24 registration applications from the Department of  
25 Transportation, the Department of Public Welfare, armed  
26 forces recruitment centers, offices of the clerk of orphans'  
27 court and all other offices under this act to the appropriate  
28 commission.

29 (6) Provide for the distribution of all changes of  
30 address filed with the Department of Transportation pursuant

1 to section 523(c)(4)(i) to the proper county commission.

2 (7) Allow the commissions and the secretary to have  
3 access to the registry for review and search capabilities to  
4 permit viewing by the secretary and commissions of all  
5 registration records of all commissions in order to ensure  
6 the accuracy of each commission's files, except that no  
7 county shall be able to make any transaction permitted by  
8 this act to alter any voter registration except for those  
9 registrants resident in their county.

10 (8) Allow the secretary to access the computerized  
11 driver's license records of the Department of Transportation  
12 and the computerized records of the agencies specified in  
13 section 525 for voter registration purposes only.

14 (9) Provide security and protection of all information  
15 in the registry and ensure against unauthorized entry.

16 (10) Provide for the Department of Health to distribute  
17 notices required by section 905 directly to all commissions.

18 (11) Provide the ability for each commission to download  
19 its general registry in an efficient and expedient fashion.

20 (12) Provide for communications to be sent from the  
21 secretary to all counties, between the counties and from the  
22 counties to the secretary.

23 (13) Permit the transfer of voter registration records  
24 from county to county in compliance with this act.

25 (14) Enable the secretary to implement section  
26 1901(b)(1)(i) regarding the national change of address.

27 (15) Provide a system for each county to identify the  
28 precinct to which a voter registration applicant and  
29 registered voter should be assigned for voting purposes.

30 (c) Advisory panel.--The secretary shall appoint an advisory



1 panel to assist the department in implementation of the  
2 integrated voter registration system composed of one  
3 representative of the County Commissioners Association of  
4 Pennsylvania and one representative of each class county of this  
5 Commonwealth, to be designated by the commission of that county  
6 upon request of the secretary.

7 (d) Powers and duties of secretary.--The Secretary of the  
8 Commonwealth shall have all powers granted by this act and shall  
9 perform all the duties imposed by this act which shall include  
10 the following:

11 (1) To establish and maintain the integrated voter  
12 registration system and to purchase and maintain all  
13 equipment necessary for its function at both State and county  
14 levels subject to section 702(b)(3).

15 (2) To provide procedures for entering data into the  
16 registry and to issue regulations to administer section 301.

17 (3) To provide a backup system offsite to enable  
18 counties to access the integrated voter registration system  
19 should the system become inoperative.

20 (4) To submit to the General Assembly a semiannual  
21 report describing the status of project implementation,  
22 listing the counties that have been brought into the system  
23 and that are planned to be brought into the system and the  
24 incurred costs of the project.

25 (5) To conduct annual training of all State and county  
26 officials responsible for using the integrated voter  
27 registration data base and administering the voter  
28 registration laws, and to provide a training manual and  
29 updates as necessary.

30 (6) To transmit to each commission all records

1 appropriate to their county in sufficient time for the  
2 commission to prepare district registers, street lists and  
3 other documents necessary for the conduct of each election,  
4 but in no event later than 15 days before the election.

5 (e) Regulations.--The secretary shall promulgate regulations  
6 necessary to administer this act. The regulations shall include,  
7 but not be limited to, provisions which do all of the following:

8 (1) Provide for applicants to submit their voter  
9 registration application to the commission, the Department of  
10 Transportation and other agencies designated in section 525.

11 (2) Prescribe a procedure for the return of completed  
12 voter registration applications from the Department of  
13 Transportation, the Department of Public Welfare, armed  
14 forces recruitment centers, Offices of the Clerk of Orphan's  
15 Court and all other offices under this act to the secretary  
16 or the appropriate commission.

17 [(3) Prescribe a procedure to conduct a study of the  
18 technological needs and other aspects of the development and  
19 implementation of a Statewide central registry of registered  
20 qualified voters, and the study shall be completed by July 1,  
21 1996.]

22 (f) Notice requirement.--Any commission who changes the  
23 location of the voter registration and/or elections office must  
24 provide the secretary with 90 days' notice prior to making such  
25 a relocation in order that all necessary changes to the  
26 integrated voter registration data base can be accomplished.

27 Section 527. Preparation and distribution of applications.

28 (a) Form.--

29 \* \* \*

30 (5) The official voter registration application [may]

1     shall be designed in a manner [to be inserted in the district  
2     register or for transfer to a registration card to be placed  
3     in the district register] such that information contained  
4     thereon may be transferred to the registry.

5             \* \* \*

6     (b) Registration declaration.--

7             (1) The official voter registration application shall  
8     contain a registration declaration. On the declaration, the  
9     applicant shall state all of the following:

10            (i) The applicant has been a citizen of the United  
11     States for at least one month prior to the next election.

12            (ii) On the day of the next ensuing election, the  
13     applicant shall be at least 18 years of age.

14            (iii) On the day of the next ensuing election, the  
15     applicant shall have resided in this Commonwealth and in  
16     the election district for at least 30 days.

17            (iv) [The applicant has not been confined in a penal  
18     institution for a conviction of a felony within the last  
19     five years.

20            (v)] The applicant is legally qualified to vote.

21     (2) The applicant shall affirm all of the following:

22            (i) The information provided in the registration  
23     declaration is true.

24            (ii) The applicant understands that:

25                (A) the registration declaration will be  
26     accepted for all purposes as the equivalent of an  
27     affidavit; and

28                (B) if the registration contains a material  
29     false statement, the applicant shall be subject to  
30     penalties for perjury.

1           (3) The registration declaration shall contain the  
2           printed name and signature of the applicant and the date of  
3           signing. An applicant unable to sign the voter registration  
4           application shall make a mark before a person of the  
5           applicant's choice other than the applicant's employer or an  
6           agent of the applicant's union. Such person shall insert the  
7           person's name, address and telephone number. If such person  
8           is an employee or agent of the Department of Transportation  
9           or another agency, as provided under section 525, and is  
10          assisting the applicant in an official capacity, such  
11          employee or agent shall insert the initials and  
12          identification number of the employee or agent. In the case  
13          of applicants registering under section 523 or 525, the  
14          person providing assistance shall insert initials or employee  
15          or agent identification number on a separate or detachable  
16          portion of the application or computer data file.

17          (4) The official registration application shall contain  
18          a notice entitled "PENALTY FOR FALSIFYING DECLARATION." The  
19          notice shall advise the applicant that, if a person signs an  
20          official registration application knowing a statement  
21          declared in the application to be false, the person commits  
22          perjury. The notice shall specify the penalty for perjury.

23          \* \* \*

24   Section 528. Approval of registration applications.

25          \* \* \*

26          (b) Decision.--

27          (1) If the commission finds the official registration  
28          application not properly completed, the application shall be  
29          rejected. The commission should make reasonable efforts to  
30          complete the registration before rejecting it for omissions

1 and inconsistencies. If the commission rejects an application  
2 under this paragraph, it shall indicate "REJECTED" on the  
3 application and state there the reason for rejection and  
4 notify the applicant by first class nonforwardable mail,  
5 return postage guaranteed. Rejected registration applications  
6 filed electronically shall be preserved on the integrated  
7 voter registration system. Rejected registration applications  
8 originating on paper shall be retained in accordance with the  
9 provisions of this act.

10 (2) If the official registration application contains  
11 the required information indicating that the applicant is  
12 legally qualified to register as stated in the application,  
13 the commission shall mail to the applicant a voter's  
14 identification card in accordance with subsection (d)(1).

15 (3) For an application for a transfer of registration or  
16 a change in address or name, if the application contains the  
17 required information and the applicant is legally qualified  
18 to transfer registration or change name or address as stated  
19 in the application, the commission shall make the transfer or  
20 change. If the commission suspects that the applicant is not  
21 entitled to transfer registration or to change name or  
22 address, the commission may investigate. If the commission  
23 finds that the applicant is not entitled to the transfer or  
24 change, the application shall be rejected. The applicant  
25 shall be notified of the rejection and the reason for it.  
26 Rejection shall be made no later than ten days before the  
27 election succeeding the filing of the application.

28 (c) Result.--[If an] Until such time as the commission is  
29 able to use the registry for the administration of voter  
30 registration pursuant to this act, if a voter registration

1 application is designed to serve as a registration card, the  
2 accepted application of an elector may serve as the elector's  
3 official registration card, if it was so designed, and shall be  
4 filed in the office of the commission in accordance with Chapter  
5 7. If the application is not designed to serve as a registration  
6 card, the information contained on the application, including  
7 the elector's signature, shall be transferred to the  
8 registration card. If a commission utilizes a signature  
9 digitization list, it shall transfer all information contained  
10 on the application, including the signature, to the registry or,  
11 until the registry is established, to a computer file. Once the  
12 commission is connected to the integrated voter registration  
13 system, the information contained on an approved voter  
14 registration application including the elector's signature shall  
15 be transferred to the registry. If the approved application has  
16 been submitted electronically, the commission shall make it a  
17 permanent record of the registry and print a paper copy and  
18 process it according to section 702(b)(1). Applicants for  
19 registration shall be challenged under section 529.

20 \* \* \*

21 Section 701. General register.

22 [(a) Original registration cards.--If a commission uses the  
23 original registration cards for registered electors in the  
24 county as the district register, the duplicate registration  
25 cards or photocopies of the original registration cards shall be  
26 placed in exact alphabetical order by last name of the  
27 registrant, shall be indexed and shall be kept at the office of  
28 the registration commission in a manner as to be properly  
29 safeguarded. These cards constitute the general register of the  
30 county. They may not be removed from the office of the

1 commission except upon order of a court of record. Nothing in  
2 this act shall preclude the use of duplicate registration cards  
3 from applications provided under the act of March 30, 1937  
4 (P.L.115, No.40), known as The First Class City Permanent  
5 Registration Act, or the act of April 29, 1937 (P.L.487,  
6 No.115), known as The Permanent Registration Act for Cities of  
7 the Second Class, Cities of the Second Class A, Cities of the  
8 Third Class, Boroughs, Towns, and Townships.

9 (b) Digitized signature lists.--If a commission uses  
10 digitized signature lists as the district register, the original  
11 registration cards shall be placed in exact alphabetical order  
12 by last name of the registrant, indexed and kept at the office  
13 of the commission in a manner as to be properly safeguarded.  
14 These original cards constitute the general register of the  
15 county. They may not be removed from the office of the  
16 commission except upon order of a court of record. The  
17 commission shall safely retain all registration cards used in  
18 the registration of electors or in conducting an election. If a  
19 commission has the capability to accept an electronic  
20 application, the secretary may require the commission to produce  
21 a computer-generated card to file in the general register. If  
22 the commission finds a record for a registrant on the computer  
23 data base which is not contained in the general register, it  
24 shall replace the original card with a computer-generated  
25 duplicate card upon written permission from the registrant or  
26 upon order of a court of record.

27 (c) Duplicate files.--If the commission deems a duplicate  
28 file of registration cards necessary for administrative  
29 purposes, the commission may prepare a reproduction in  
30 compliance with the following:

1 (1) The registration form shall be photographed,  
2 microphotographed or reproduced in a manner approved for  
3 permanent records by the secretary.

4 (2) The device used to reproduce the card is one which  
5 accurately reproduces the original in all details.

6 (3) The photographs, microphotographs or other  
7 reproductions are open to public inspection and provision is  
8 made for preserving, examining and using them.]

9 The registration records of those registrants in the county  
10 contained on the registry shall be the general registry of each  
11 county and shall be used by the commission for preparation of  
12 the district register.

13 Section 702. District registers and original records.

14 (a) [Registration card file.--

15 (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) and in section  
16 701(b), the original registration cards shall be filed by  
17 election districts in exact alphabetical order by last name  
18 of the registrant and shall be indexed.

19 (2) The cards constitute the district register.

20 (3) The commission shall provide binders, which are  
21 capable of being locked, for filing and indexing the  
22 registration cards. The keys to the binders shall at all  
23 times be retained by the commission.

24 (4) The district register shall be kept at the office of  
25 the commission, except as provided in subsection (b), and  
26 shall be open to public inspection, subject to reasonable  
27 safeguards and regulations.

28 (b) Computer lists.--

29 (1) Instead of using registration cards as the district  
30 register as provided in subsection (a), a] District



1 register.--Each commission [may] shall use a computer list or  
2 computer-generated cards containing the names of registered  
3 electors arranged by election district, alphabetically by  
4 last name of the registrant[.], which shall constitute the  
5 district register. Each page of the list shall contain the  
6 name of the county, the ward and election district, the date  
7 of the election and date and time the list was prepared.

8 [(2)] The computer list or computer-generated cards must  
9 be in a form prescribed by the secretary and must contain  
10 necessary information that would otherwise be available on  
11 the registration cards, including a legible digitized  
12 signature of the registrant copied from the signature  
13 appearing on the registration card[. The district election  
14 officials shall have computer printouts at the polling places  
15 containing the necessary information needed to verify the  
16 identity of the elector. The digitized signature list], the  
17 street address and political party of each elector, and  
18 suitable space for insertion by the proper election official  
19 of the number and letter of the stub of the ballot issued to  
20 the registrant or the registrant's number in the order of  
21 admission to the voting machines and the initials of the  
22 election officer who enters the record of voting in the  
23 district register and whether the registrant needs assistance  
24 to vote and, if so, the nature of the disability. The  
25 district register shall be open to public inspection, subject  
26 to reasonable safeguards, rules and regulations.

27 [(3)] A commission may, during systems conversion periods  
28 or emergency conditions, provide for a district register  
29 containing the original registration cards. The following  
30 apply:

1 (i) The original registration cards shall be filed  
2 by election district, in one of the following orders, as  
3 determined by the commission:

4 (A) Exact alphabetical order by last name of  
5 registrant.

6 (B) Order in which registrants' residences  
7 appear upon the streets of the election district, in  
8 exact alphabetical order by last name of registrant  
9 for each residence.

10 (ii) The district register containing registration  
11 cards shall be kept at the office of the commission and  
12 shall be open for public inspection, subject to  
13 reasonable safeguards and regulations and to the  
14 provisions of this act.]

15 (b) Original and existing records.--

16 (1) Registration cards and applications utilized under  
17 this act, under prior versions of this act, under the former  
18 act of March 30, 1937 (P.L.115, No.40), known as The First  
19 Class City Permanent Registration Act, or under the former  
20 act of April 29, 1937 (P.L.487, No.115), known as The  
21 Permanent Registration Act for Cities of the Second Class,  
22 Cities of the Second Class A, Cities of the Third Class,  
23 Boroughs, Towns, and Townships, shall be placed in  
24 alphabetical order by last name of the registrant, indexed  
25 and kept at the office of the commission in a manner as to be  
26 properly safeguarded. They may not be removed from the office  
27 of the commission except upon order of a court of record. The  
28 commission shall safely retain all registration cards used in  
29 the registration of electors or in conducting an election. If  
30 the commission finds a record for a registrant on the

1 computer data base which is not contained in the general  
2 register, it shall create a computer-generated paper copy  
3 upon written permission from the registrant or upon order of  
4 a court of record.

5 (2) If the commission deems a duplicate file of  
6 registration applications or records necessary for  
7 administrative or emergency purposes, the commission may  
8 prepare a reproduction in compliance with the following:

9 (i) The registration form shall be photographed,  
10 microphotographed or reproduced in a manner approved for  
11 permanent records by the secretary.

12 (ii) The device used to reproduce the form is one  
13 which accurately reproduces the original in all details.

14 (iii) The photographs, microphotographs or other  
15 reproductions are open to public inspection and provision  
16 is made for preserving, examining and using them.

17 (3) Commissions shall be provided the option of  
18 maintaining an electronic copy of all records of registered  
19 electors in their county residing on the registry, except  
20 that all equipment and maintenance costs associated thereto  
21 are the sole responsibility of the respective county using  
22 this option.

23 (c) Currency.--It is the duty of the commission to compare  
24 and correct the general register and district registers to  
25 ensure their accuracy. By noon of the third day preceding an  
26 election, the commission shall have the district register for  
27 each election district and the registry accurately corrected to  
28 date.

29 (d) Delivery.--The commission shall deliver, in the manner  
30 required by law for delivery of election materials, the district

1 register to the election officers for use on election day.

2 (e) Form.--District registers shall be enclosed within a  
3 case or container and shall be locked and sealed by the  
4 commission before delivery. The district register shall have  
5 printed or written thereon the words "District Register of  
6 Voters" and the district and ward, if any.

7 (f) Examination.--Immediately following each election, the  
8 commission shall cause each district register to be examined.  
9 The commission specifically shall compare the signature of each  
10 elector on each voter's certificate with his signature in the  
11 district register and shall report in writing to the district  
12 attorney any evidence or indication of probable fraud,  
13 impersonation or forgery which may appear to the commission by  
14 reason of the comparison. In the case of any elector whom the  
15 election officers shall have recorded as removed, deceased, or  
16 challenged and prevented from voting, the commission shall  
17 ascertain the facts and shall correct the general and district  
18 registers in accordance with Chapter 9.

19 Section 703. Street lists.

20 (a) Preparation.--Commencing not later than the 15th day  
21 prior to each election, the registration commission shall  
22 prepare for each election district a list of the names and  
23 addresses of all registered electors as of that date resident in  
24 the district. The list may not include the digitized signature  
25 of a registered voter. The list shall clearly indicate which  
26 registered electors are inactive in accordance with section  
27 1901(c) and shall contain a notice on the list indicating that  
28 such electors have failed to respond to an address verification  
29 mailing from the commission. The list shall be arranged in one  
30 of the following manners:

1           (1) By streets and house numbers.

2           (2) Alphabetically by last name of registrant.

3           (3) In a manner whereby the location of the elector's  
4 residence can be identified.

5       (b) Copies.--The commission shall retain two copies of the  
6 list under subsection (a) on file at its office. These copies  
7 shall be available for public inspection during business hours,  
8 subject to reasonable safeguards and regulations.

9       (c) Distribution.--The commission shall distribute the list  
10 under subsection (a) upon request as follows:

11           (1) To officials concerned with the conduct of  
12 elections.

13           (2) To political parties and political bodies.

14           (3) To candidates.

15       (d) Organizations.--The commission may, for a reasonable fee  
16 approved by the secretary, distribute the list under subsection  
17 (a), to organized bodies of citizens.

18 Section 704. Public information lists.

19       (a) Establishment.--

20           (1) The registration commission and secretary shall  
21 provide for computer inquiries concerning individual  
22 registered voters. With respect to each voter who is the  
23 subject of an inquiry, the information provided shall contain  
24 the name, address, date of birth and voting history. Upon  
25 request, the commission shall supply a printed record for  
26 each such voter subject to the provisions of this act. In  
27 addition, the commission may make available for inspection a  
28 printed or computerized public information list containing  
29 the name, address, date of birth and voting history of each  
30 registered voter in the county.

1           (2) The list may also include information on voting  
2 districts.

3           (3) The list may not contain the digitized signature of  
4 the elector.

5       (b) Access.--

6           (1) The secretary may promulgate reasonable regulations  
7 governing access to the list.

8           (2) No individual inspecting the list may tamper with or  
9 alter it.

10          (3) No individual who inspects the list or who acquires  
11 names of registered voters from the list may use information  
12 contained in the list for purposes unrelated to elections,  
13 political activities or law enforcement. Before inspecting  
14 the list or obtaining names of voters or other information  
15 from the list, the individual must provide identification to  
16 the public official having custody of the public information  
17 list and must state in writing that any information obtained  
18 from the list will not be used for purposes unrelated to  
19 elections, political activities or law enforcement.

20       (c) Copies.--

21          (1) The commission and secretary shall provide paper  
22 copies of the public information lists and may provide copies  
23 in [some other] electronic form to any voter registered in  
24 this Commonwealth within ten days of receiving a written  
25 request accompanied by payment of the cost of reproduction  
26 and postage. The cost of the copies shall be determined by  
27 the office providing copies.

28          (2) An individual who inspects or acquires a copy of a  
29 public information list may not use any information contained  
30 in it for purposes unrelated to elections, political

activities or law enforcement.

Section 1901. Removal of voters.

\* \* \*

(b) Voter removal program.--

(1) The [commission] secretary shall establish [a] the following program to identify electors whose address may have changed by establishing one of the following programs:

(i) National change of address. The secretary shall establish by regulation a program whereby information supplied by the United States Postal Service through its licensees is used on a periodic basis, but not less than once every calendar year, to identify electors who may have changed addresses. [The information shall be incorporated in the administration of the Statewide central registry and shall be forwarded to the commissions in a manner determined by the secretary by regulation.] The secretary shall purchase the information from a licensee in accordance with contracting procedures. The secretary shall conduct the comparative search of names on the list against registered electors not marked inactive in accordance with subsection (c) and the registry at least once every year and notify each county via the integrated voter registration system of those electors who should receive a notice specified in clause (A). The secretary shall be responsible for covering all costs associated with the national change of address program.

(A) If it appears from the information provided through the United States Postal Service that an elector has moved to a different residence address

1 within the same county as the elector is currently  
2 registered, the commission shall change the  
3 registration records to show the new address and  
4 shall send the elector, to the address recorded on  
5 the elector's registration, a notice of the change of  
6 address by forwardable mail and a postage prepaid,  
7 preaddressed return form by which the elector may  
8 verify or correct the address information.

9 (B) If it appears from the information provided  
10 through the United States Postal Service that an  
11 elector has moved to a different residence address  
12 outside the county, the commission shall use the  
13 notice procedure described in clause (A).

14 (ii) Confirmation mailing:

15 (A) [A] In addition to using the programs  
16 specified in subparagraph (i), a commission may  
17 establish a program by sending a direct,  
18 nonforwardable first class "return if undeliverable -  
19 address correction requested" mailing to all  
20 registered electors in the county not marked as  
21 inactive in accordance with subsection (c) at least  
22 once every five years.

23 (B) If this program is established, the  
24 commission shall use the notice procedure described  
25 in subparagraph (i)(A) for any elector whose mailing  
26 is returned undeliverable.

27 (2) In conjunction with and not as an alternative to a  
28 program established under paragraph (1), a canvass may be  
29 used as follows:

30 (i) The registration commission may, by



1 commissioners or by inspectors of registration, verify  
2 the registration in an election district by visiting the  
3 building from which an elector is registered and other  
4 buildings as the commission deems necessary.

5 (ii) The commission shall make a record of the name  
6 and address of each registered elector who is found not  
7 to reside at the registered address or who for any other  
8 reason appears to be not qualified to vote in the  
9 registered election district.

10 (iii) The commission shall leave at the address of  
11 each person referred to in subparagraph (ii) a notice  
12 requiring him to communicate with the commission on or  
13 before a date which the commission shall designate, and  
14 which shall be not less than seven days and not more than  
15 15 days from the date of the notice and in any case not  
16 later than the 15th day preceding the election next  
17 ensuing, and satisfy the commission of his qualifications  
18 as an elector. The commission shall cause a confirmation  
19 of each such notice to be sent by mail promptly to such  
20 person at the address from which he is registered. The  
21 envelope containing such information is to be plainly  
22 marked that it is not to be forwarded. At the expiration  
23 of the time specified in the notice, the commission shall  
24 cancel the registration of such person who has not  
25 communicated with the commission and proved his  
26 qualifications as an elector.

27 (iv) To facilitate the canvass under this section,  
28 the commission may, when necessary, appoint special  
29 inspectors of registration, in number not exceeding  
30 double the number of election districts being canvassed.

1 (v) Special inspectors must be qualified electors of  
2 the county. They shall be appointed without reference to  
3 residence in election districts or to political  
4 affiliations or beliefs. The commission shall instruct  
5 special inspectors in their duties. Special inspectors  
6 have the powers conferred by this act upon inspectors of  
7 registration.

8 (3) In conjunction with and not as an alternative to a  
9 program established under paragraph (1), the commission shall  
10 send a notice pursuant to subsection (d) to any elector who  
11 has not voted nor appeared to vote during the period  
12 beginning five years before the date of the notice and ending  
13 on the date of the notice and for whom the board of elections  
14 did not during that period in any other way receive any  
15 information that the voter still resides in the registered  
16 election district.

17 (4) [Commissions] The secretary and commissions shall  
18 complete, not later than 90 days before each primary[, at  
19 least once per year] or election, the voter removal programs  
20 under this section. This paragraph shall not be construed to  
21 preclude any of the following:

22 (i) Cancellation of an elector's registration as  
23 provided for under subsection (a)(1) or (2).

24 (ii) Correction of registration records in  
25 accordance with this act.

26 (c) Identification of inactive voters.--A commission shall  
27 mark an "I" or "inactive" on the registration card of each  
28 elector who has been mailed a form under subsection (b)(1) or  
29 (3) and has failed to respond[, which]. The registration record  
30 of each registered elector classified as inactive shall be

1 included with all other registration cards for that polling site  
2 and located at the individual's polling site on the day of the  
3 election but may be contained on a list separate from electors  
4 not marked inactive.

5 \* \* \*

6 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:  
7 Section 5105.1. Conflict of law.

8 To the extent that this act conflicts with the act of June 3,  
9 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election  
10 Code, or any other act, this act shall prevail to the extent of  
11 the conflict.

12 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.