

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

HOUSE BILL

No. 193 Session of  
2017

---

INTRODUCED BY GAINNEY, DEAN, ROZZI, DRISCOLL, McNEILL, GERGELY,  
BULLOCK, KINSEY, V. BROWN, SIMS, SCHLOSSBERG, McCARTER, KIM,  
STURLA, McCLINTON, THOMAS, SCHWEYER, PASHINSKI, D. COSTA,  
WHEATLEY AND DeLUCA, JANUARY 24, 2017

---

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 24, 2017

---

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in voter registration, further providing for  
3 methods of voter registration, providing for automatic  
4 registration of qualified electors and further providing for  
5 time and for approval of registration applications.

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

8 Section 1. Section 1321 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania  
9 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

10 § 1321. Methods of voter registration.

11 (a) General rule.--An individual qualified to register to  
12 vote under section 1301(a) (relating to qualifications to  
13 register) may apply to register as follows:

14 (1) Under section 1322 (relating to in-person voter  
15 registration).

16 (2) Under section 1323 (relating to application with  
17 driver's license application).

18 (3) Under section 1324 (relating to application by

1 mail).

2 (4) Under section 1325 (relating to government  
3 agencies).

4 (b) Automatic registration.--An individual qualified to  
5 register to vote under section 1301(a) shall be registered as  
6 provided in section 1325.1 (relating to automatic registration  
7 of qualified electors).

8 Section 2. Title 25 is amended by adding a section to read:  
9 § 1325.1. Automatic registration of qualified electors.

10 (a) Collection of information.--The secretary shall by rule  
11 establish a schedule by which the Department of Transportation,  
12 Department of Human Services and the Department of Military and  
13 Veterans Affairs shall provide to the department the legal name,  
14 age, residence, citizenship information and signature for each  
15 individual who is qualified to register to vote under section  
16 1301(a) (relating to qualifications to register).

17 (b) Registration application.--For the purposes of this  
18 section, the information identified in subsection (a) shall  
19 constitute a completed voter registration application.

20 (c) Notification of eligibility.--Upon receiving the  
21 information prescribed in subsection (a), the department shall  
22 provide the information to the commission in the county in which  
23 the qualified elector resides.

24 (d) Notice of registration to qualified electors.--Upon  
25 approval, the commission shall provide to the qualified elector  
26 a notice of pending registration and additional information as  
27 prescribed in section 1328(c)(2.1) (relating to approval of  
28 registration applications).

29 (e) Regulations.--The secretary shall promulgate regulations  
30 necessary to implement this section.

1 Section 3. Sections 1326(b) and 1328(a), (b) and (c) of  
2 Title 25 are amended by adding paragraphs to read:

3 § 1326. Time.

4 \* \* \*

5 (b) Deadlines.--In the administration of voter registration,  
6 each commission shall ensure that any applicant who is a  
7 qualified elector is registered to vote in an election when the  
8 applicant has met any of the following conditions:

9 \* \* \*

10 (5) In the case of automatic voter registration under  
11 section 1325.1 (relating to automatic registration of  
12 qualified electors), if a qualified elector provided notice  
13 under section 1325.1(c) does not decline to be registered as  
14 an elector using the method prescribed by the commission  
15 within 21 calendar days after the commission issues the  
16 notice, the qualified elector's information collected under  
17 subsection 1325.1(a) shall constitute a completed  
18 registration.

19 \* \* \*

20 § 1328. Approval of registration applications.

21 (a) Examination.--Upon receiving a voter registration  
22 application, a commissioner, clerk or registrar of a commission  
23 shall do all of the following:

24 \* \* \*

25 (3) Examine the information provided under section  
26 1325.1(a) (relating to automatic registration of qualified  
27 electors) to determine all of the following:

28 (i) Whether the application is complete.

29 (ii) Whether the applicant is a qualified elector.

30 (iii) Whether the applicant has an existing

1 registration record. After the commission is connected to  
2 the SURE system, the commissioner, clerk or registrar  
3 shall search the SURE system on a Statewide basis to  
4 determine if the applicant has an existing registration  
5 record.

6 (b) Decision.--A commission shall do one of the following:

7 \* \* \*

8 (9) In the case of automatic voter registration as  
9 provided in section 1325.1, process a voter registration  
10 application in accordance with subsection (c).

11 (10) In the case of automatic voter registration as  
12 provided in section 1325.1, reject a voter registration  
13 application, indicate the rejection and the reasons for the  
14 rejection and notify the department of the rejection and the  
15 reason, if the commission finds during its examination under  
16 subsection (a) any of the following:

17 (i) The application was not properly completed and,  
18 after reasonable efforts by the commission to ascertain  
19 the necessary information, the application remains  
20 incomplete or inconsistent.

21 (ii) The applicant is not a qualified elector.

22 A rejection shall be made no later than 21 days after the  
23 information is received pursuant to the provisions of section  
24 1325.1.

25 (c) Processing of voter registration.--

26 \* \* \*

27 (2.1) When a commission has accepted a voter  
28 registration application under subsection (b) (9), the  
29 commission shall mail to each qualified elector by first  
30 class nonforwardable mail, return postage guaranteed, a

1 notice of the process to:

2 (i) Decline registration as a qualified elector.

3 (ii) Enroll in a political party.

4 (2.2) If the commission does not receive a request to  
5 stop registration 21 days after the issuance of the notice,  
6 the commission shall assign the applicant a unique  
7 identification number in the SURE system and mail a wallet-  
8 sized voter's identification card to the individual by first  
9 class nonforwardable mail, return postage guaranteed, which  
10 shall serve as notice of the acceptance of the application.  
11 The card shall contain all of the following:

12 (i) A raised Great Seal of the Commonwealth.

13 (ii) Name and address of the individual.

14 (iii) Name of municipality of residence.

15 (iv) Identification of the individual's ward and  
16 district.

17 (v) The effective date of registration.

18 (vi) Designation of party enrollment and date of  
19 enrollment.

20 (vii) A space for the individual's signature or  
21 mark.

22 (viii) The unique identification number of the  
23 individual.

24 (ix) A statement that the individual shall notify  
25 the commission within ten days from the date it was  
26 mailed if any information on the card is incorrect;  
27 otherwise, the information shall be deemed correct for  
28 voter registration purposes.

29 \* \* \*

30 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 90 days.