

As Introduced

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session

2019-2020

S. B. No. 323

Senators Antonio, Williams

Cosponsors: Senators Craig, Fedor, Maharath, O'Brien, Sykes, Thomas, Yuko

A BILL

To amend sections 111.31, 3501.01, 3501.05, 1
3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 3503.15, 2
3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.23, 3503.28, 3
3505.181, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 4
3509.051, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 5
3511.09, 3511.11, 3513.05, 3513.18, 3513.19, 6
3513.191, 3517.012, 3517.013, 3599.11, and 7
3599.12; to enact sections 3319.077, 3503.231, 8
3509.031, 3509.032, 3509.041, 3509.042, and 9
3509.052; and to repeal sections 3503.29 and 10
3511.13 of the Revised Code to modify the law 11
governing absent voting and online voter 12
registration, to make other changes to the 13
Election Law, and to declare an emergency. 14

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 111.31, 3501.01, 3501.05, 15
3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 16
3503.20, 3503.23, 3503.28, 3505.181, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 17
3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.09, 18
3511.11, 3513.05, 3513.18, 3513.19, 3513.191, 3517.012, 19

3517.013, 3599.11, and 3599.12 be amended and sections 3319.077, 20
3503.231, 3509.031, 3509.032, 3509.041, 3509.042, and 3509.052 21
of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows: 22

Sec. 111.31. (A) There is hereby created in the state 23
treasury the absent ~~voter's ballot application mailing~~ voting 24
fund. The secretary of state shall use the fund to pay the ~~cost~~ 25
~~of printing and mailing unsolicited applications for absent~~ 26
~~voter's ballots in accordance with section 3501.05~~ costs 27
described in sections 3509.032 and 3509.042 of the Revised Code 28
~~if the general assembly has appropriated funds to the~~ 29
~~controlling board for such a mailing.~~ 30

(B) The fund shall consist of moneys transferred to it by 31
the controlling board upon the request of the secretary of 32
state. The controlling board shall transfer any unused moneys in 33
the fund to the proper appropriation item. 34

Sec. 3319.077. The board of education of a city, local, 35
exempted village, or joint vocational school district shall make 36
available the necessary space in the district's buildings for 37
use as polling places, as required under section 3501.29 of the 38
Revised Code. When a building in the district is used as a 39
polling place for a general election, the board shall require 40
the school or schools that meet in that building not to be open 41
for instruction with students present on that day. 42

Sec. 3501.01. As used in the sections of the Revised Code 43
relating to elections and political communications: 44

(A) "General election" means the election held on the 45
first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November. 46

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held 47
on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 48

odd-numbered year. 49

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on 50
the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each 51
even-numbered year. 52

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those 53
elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special 54
election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first 55
Monday in May, August, or November, or on the day authorized by 56
a particular municipal or county charter for the holding of a 57
primary election, except that in any year in which a 58
presidential primary election is held, no special election shall 59
be held in May, except as authorized by a municipal or county 60
charter, but may be held on the third Tuesday after the first 61
Monday in March. 62

(E) (1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election 63
held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of 64
political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose 65
of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of 66
political parties and as delegates and alternates to the 67
conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be 68
held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each 69
year except in years in which a presidential primary election is 70
held. 71

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary 72
election as defined by division (E) (1) of this section at which 73
an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and 74
alternates to the national conventions of the major political 75
parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless 76
otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included 77
in references to primary elections. In years in which a 78

presidential primary election is held, all primary elections 79
shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in 80
March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county 81
charter. 82

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting 83
the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised 84
Code for the formation and existence of a political party. 85

(1) "Major political party" means any political party 86
organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for 87
governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less 88
than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at 89
the most recent regular state election. 90

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party 91
organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the 92
following requirements: 93

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the 94
political party's candidate for governor or nominees for 95
presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not 96
less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office 97
at the most recent regular state election. A political party 98
that meets the requirements of this division remains a political 99
party for a period of four years after meeting those 100
requirements. 101

(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of 102
state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of 103
division (F) (2) (a) of this section, a petition that meets the 104
requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code. 105

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor 106
political party until the time of the first election for 107

governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months 108
subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election 109
the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the 110
office of governor or president. 111

(G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political 112
party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate 113
for election to the office of governor at the most recent 114
regular state election at which a governor was elected received 115
more votes than any other person received for election to that 116
office in such precinct at such election. 117

(H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in 118
accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement 119
on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special 120
election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who 121
claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to 122
being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a 123
primary, general, or special election to be held in this state. 124

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who ~~claims-~~ 125
~~is not to be~~ affiliated with a political party, and whose name 126
has been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or 127
special election through the filing of a statement of candidacy 128
and nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of 129
the Revised Code. 130

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name 131
is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to 132
be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates 133
for judicial office, for member of any board of education, for 134
municipal or township offices in which primary elections are not 135
held for nominating candidates by political parties, and for 136
offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide 137

for separate ballots for elections for these offices. 138

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who ~~claims to be~~ 139
~~a member of~~ is affiliated with a political party and who has 140
been certified to appear on the office-type ballot at a general 141
or special election as the nominee of a political party because 142
the candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's 143
party for the public office the candidate seeks, has been 144
nominated under section 3517.012, or is selected by party 145
committee in accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised 146
Code. 147

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not 148
limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling 149
committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a 150
district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a 151
precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political 152
party. 153

(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue 154
certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on 155
an official ballot at a general or special election to be held 156
in this state. 157

(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having 158
the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote. 159

(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election. 160

(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an 161
elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector 162
may vote. 163

(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county 164
established by the board of elections of such county within 165
which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein 166

may vote at the same polling place. 167

(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each 168
precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such 169
precinct may vote. 170

(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of 171
elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of 172
the Revised Code. 173

(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, 174
city, village, or school district. 175

(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of 176
the following: 177

(1) Secretary of state; 178

(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the 179
division of elections in the capacity of attorney, 180
administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections 181
administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor; 182

(3) Director of a board of elections; 183

(4) Deputy director of a board of elections; 184

(5) Member of a board of elections; 185

(6) Employees of a board of elections; 186

(7) Precinct election officials; 187

(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a 188
temporary or part-time basis. 189

(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board 190
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, 191
informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who 192

wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status 193
of the application; the information necessary to complete or 194
update the application, if any; and if the application is 195
complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote. 196

(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board 197
of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to 198
a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current 199
address. 200

(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the 201
state that provides public assistance or that provides state- 202
funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to 203
persons with disabilities and that is required by the National 204
Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed 205
and administered by the secretary of state for registering 206
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that 207
implements a program designed and administered by the secretary 208
of state for registering voters, including the department of job 209
and family services, the program administered under section 210
3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the 211
department of mental health and addiction services, the 212
department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for 213
Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the 214
secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not 215
include public high schools and vocational schools, public 216
libraries, or the office of a county treasurer. 217

(Y) "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" means the 218
"National Voter Registration Act of 1993," 107 Stat. 77, 42 219
U.S.C.A. 1973gg. 220

(Z) "Voting Rights Act of 1965" means the "Voting Rights 221
Act of 1965," 79 Stat. 437, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973, as amended. 222

(AA) "Photo identification" means a document that meets 223
each of the following requirements: 224

(1) It shows the name of the individual to whom it was 225
issued, which shall conform to the name in the poll list or 226
signature pollbook. 227

(2) It shows the current address of the individual to whom 228
it was issued, which shall conform to the address in the poll 229
list or signature pollbook, except for a driver's license or a 230
state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the 231
Revised Code, which may show either the current or former 232
address of the individual to whom it was issued, regardless of 233
whether that address conforms to the address in the poll list or 234
signature pollbook. 235

(3) It shows a photograph of the individual to whom it was 236
issued. 237

(4) It includes an expiration date that has not passed. 238

(5) It was issued by the government of the United States 239
or this state. 240

Sec. 3501.05. The secretary of state shall do all of the 241
following: 242

(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections; 243

(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in 244
accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members 245
of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections. 246

(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of 247
elections; 248

(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a 249

sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in 250
force; 251

(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws 252
or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters; 253

(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and 254
records; 255

(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the 256
forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally 257
sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required 258
by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards; 259

(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on 260
the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution 261
to be submitted to the voters of the state; 262

(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the 263
Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots 264
and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and 265
wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall 266
appear on the ballot; 267

(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I) (2) (b) of 268
section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to 269
ballot language for any local question or issue approved and 270
transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the 271
Revised Code; 272

(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on 273
state questions and issues and determine and certify to the 274
sufficiency of those petitions; 275

(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are 276
provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers 277

necessary; 278

(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the 279
several counties of the requirements of the election laws; 280

(N) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N) (2) of 281
this section, investigate the administration of election laws, 282
frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and 283
report violations of election laws to the attorney general or 284
prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution; 285

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to 286
comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 287
3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised 288
Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have 289
knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a 290
provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with 291
the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the 292
Revised Code. 293

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the 294
results of elections, the cost of elections in the various 295
counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political 296
subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative 297
to elections the secretary of state considers desirable; 298

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list 299
of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition 300
successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 301
to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code; 302

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised 303
Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters 304
from the statewide voter registration database and, if 305
applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in 306

each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the 307
following: 308

(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed 309
residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in 310
compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National 311
Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses 312
the national change of address service provided by the United 313
States postal system through its licensees; 314

(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under 315
section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 316

(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a 317
voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter 318
registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or 319
signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason 320
for that mark or removal. 321

(R) Prescribe a general program for registering voters or 322
updating voter registration information, such as name and 323
residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies, 324
offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high 325
schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of 326
county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section 327
3503.09 of the Revised Code; 328

(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter 329
registration forms through boards of elections, designated 330
agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of 331
motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, 332
public libraries, and offices of county treasurers; 333

(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and 334
upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in 335

this state; 336

(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised 337
Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering 338
voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the 339
offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles 340
consistent with this chapter; 341

(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with 342
Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary 343
of state to do all of the following: 344

(1) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there 345
is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities; 346

(2) Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each 347
voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the 348
same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy 349
and independence, as for other voters; 350

(3) Advise the secretary of state in the development of 351
standards for the certification of voting machines, marking 352
devices, and automatic tabulating equipment. 353

(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide 354
database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15 355
of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the 356
"Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 357
1666, and provide training in the operation of that system; 358

(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other 359
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result 360
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of 361
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for 362
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections, 363
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or 364

other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted 365
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as 366
is practicable after the completion of the conference or 367
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on 368
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes 369
place. 370

(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the 371
secretary of state not later than one month after the completion 372
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and 373
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent 374
voter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were 375
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the 376
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election. 377
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web 378
site in an archive format for each subsequent election. 379

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter 380
identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and 381
other voting requirements; 382

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector 383
may make available to a board of elections a more recent 384
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook 385
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the 386
elector resides; 387

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or 388
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of 389
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other 390
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot 391
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised 392
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible 393
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law, 394

or referendum; 395

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the 396
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee 397
Voting Act," Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 398
1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of 399
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities 400
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities 401
arising from amendments to that act made by the "Military and 402
Overseas Voter Empowerment Act," Subtitle H of the "National 403
Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010," Pub. L. No. 404
111-84, 123 Stat. 3190. 405

(DD) Adopt rules, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 406
to establish procedures and standards for determining when a 407
board of elections shall be placed under the official oversight 408
of the secretary of state, placing a board of elections under 409
the official oversight of the secretary of state, a board that 410
is under official oversight to transition out of official 411
oversight, and the secretary of state to supervise a board of 412
elections that is under official oversight of the secretary of 413
state. 414

(EE) Perform other duties required by law. 415

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32 416
of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section 417
3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of 418
representative to congress, the secretary of state shall 419
establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline 420
required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the 421
following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy 422
and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating 423
petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of 424

protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 425
declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of a 426
declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of 427
campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of 428
corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists; 429
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or 430
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the 431
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of 432
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to 433
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a 434
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to 435
instruct or reinstruct election officers. 436

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as 437
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may 438
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the 439
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and 440
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the 441
administration and enforcement of the election laws. 442

In any controversy involving or arising out of the 443
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for 444
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney 445
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court 446
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or 447
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question. 448

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the 449
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in 450
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect 451
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of 452
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of 453
state's motion, be made a party. 454

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is 455
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a 456
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue 457
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common 458
pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if 459
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that 460
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of 461
Franklin county. 462

Public high schools and vocational schools, public 463
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement 464
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of 465
state pursuant to this section. 466

~~The secretary of state may mail unsolicited applications 467
for absent voter's ballots to individuals only for a general 468
election and only if the general assembly has made an 469
appropriation for that particular mailing. Under no other 470
circumstance shall a public office, or a public official or 471
employee who is acting in an official capacity, mail unsolicited 472
applications for absent voter's ballots to any individuals. 473~~

Sec. 3501.29. (A) (1) The board of elections shall provide 474
for each precinct a polling place and provide adequate 475
facilities at each polling place for conducting the election. 476
The board shall provide a sufficient number of screened or 477
curtained voting compartments to which electors may retire and 478
conveniently mark their ballots, protected from the observation 479
of others. Each voting compartment shall be provided at all 480
times with writing implements, instructions how to vote, and 481
other necessary conveniences for marking the ballot. The voting 482
location manager shall ensure that the voting compartments at 483
all times are adequately lighted and contain the necessary 484

supplies. ~~The~~

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(2) (a) The board of elections shall utilize, in so far as
practicable, rooms in public schools and other public buildings
for polling places. Upon application of the board of elections,
the authority which has the control of any building or grounds
supported by taxation under the laws of this state, shall make
available the necessary space therein for the purpose of holding
elections and adequate space for the storage of voting machines,
without charge for the use thereof. A reasonable sum may be paid
for necessary janitorial service. ~~When~~

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(b) If the board of elections plans to use space in a
building operated by a school district as a polling place for a
general election, the board of elections shall notify the board
of education of the school district of that fact as soon as
practicable after making that decision.

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(3) When polling places are established in private
buildings, the board of elections may pay a reasonable rental
therefor, and also the cost of liability insurance covering the
premises when used for election purposes, or the board may
purchase a single liability policy covering the board and the
owners of the premises when used for election purposes. ~~When~~

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(4) When removable buildings are supplied by the board of
elections, they shall be constructed under the contract let to
the lowest and best bidder, and the board shall observe all
ordinances and regulations then in force as to safety. The board
shall remove all such buildings from streets and other public
places within thirty days after an election, unless another
election is to be held within ninety days.

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(B) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the

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board of elections shall ensure all of the following: 514

(a) That polling places are free of barriers that would 515
impede ingress and egress of handicapped persons; 516

(b) That the minimum number of special parking locations, 517
also known as handicapped parking spaces or disability parking 518
spaces, for handicapped persons are designated at each polling 519
place in accordance with 28 C.F.R. Part 36, Appendix A, and in 520
compliance with division (E) of section 4511.69 of the Revised 521
Code; 522

(c) That the entrances of polling places are level or are 523
provided with a nonskid ramp that meets the requirements of the 524
"Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990," 104 Stat. 327, 42 525
U.S.C. 12101; 526

(d) That doors are a minimum of thirty-two inches wide. 527

(2) Notwithstanding division (B)(1)(a), (c), or (d) of 528
this section, certain polling places may be specifically 529
exempted by the secretary of state upon certification by a board 530
of elections that a good faith, but unsuccessful, effort has 531
been made to modify, or change the location of, such polling 532
places. 533

(C) At any polling place that is exempted from compliance 534
by the secretary of state, the board of elections shall permit 535
any handicapped elector who travels to that elector's polling 536
place, but who is unable to enter the polling place, to vote, 537
with the assistance of two polling place officials of major 538
political parties, in the vehicle that conveyed that elector to 539
the polling place, or to receive and cast that elector's ballot 540
at the door of the polling place. 541

(D) The secretary of state shall: 542

(1) Work with other state agencies to facilitate the 543
distribution of information and technical assistance to boards 544
of elections to meet the requirements of division (B) of this 545
section; 546

(2) Work with organizations that represent or provide 547
services to handicapped, disabled, or elderly citizens to effect 548
a wide dissemination of information about the availability of 549
absentee voting, voting in the voter's vehicle or at the door of 550
the polling place, or other election services to handicapped, 551
disabled, or elderly citizens. 552

(E) Before the day of an election, the director of the 553
board of elections of each county shall sign a statement 554
verifying that each polling place that will be used in that 555
county at that election meets the requirements of division (B) 556
(1) (b) of this section. The signed statement shall be sent to 557
the secretary of state by certified mail or electronically. 558

(F) As used in this section, "handicapped" means having 559
lost the use of one or both legs, one or both arms, or any 560
combination thereof, or being blind or so severely disabled as 561
to be unable to move about without the aid of crutches or a 562
wheelchair. 563

Sec. 3503.09. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall adopt 564
rules for the electronic transmission by boards of elections, 565
designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor 566
vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public 567
libraries, and offices of county treasurers, where applicable, 568
of name ~~and, residence, and political party affiliation~~ changes 569
for voter registration records in the statewide voter 570
registration database. 571

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the 572
purpose of improving the speed of processing new voter 573
registrations that permit information from a voter registration 574
application received by a designated agency or an office of 575
deputy registrar of motor vehicles to be made available 576
electronically, in addition to requiring the original voter 577
registration application to be transmitted to the applicable 578
board of elections under division (E)(2) of section 3503.10 or 579
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code. 580

(B) Rules adopted under division (A) of this section shall 581
do all of the following: 582

(1) Prohibit any direct electronic connection between a 583
designated agency, office of deputy registrar of motor vehicles, 584
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 585
office of a county treasurer and the statewide voter 586
registration database; 587

(2) Require any updated voter registration information to 588
be verified by the secretary of state or a board of elections 589
before the information is added to the statewide voter 590
registration database for the purpose of modifying an existing 591
voter registration; 592

(3) Require each designated agency or office of deputy 593
registrar of motor vehicles that transmits voter registration 594
information electronically to transmit an identifier for data 595
relating to each new voter registration that shall be used by 596
the secretary of state or a board of elections to match the 597
electronic data to the original voter registration application. 598

Sec. 3503.10. (A) Each designated agency shall designate 599
one person within that agency to serve as coordinator for the 600

voter registration program within the agency and its 601
departments, divisions, and programs. The designated person 602
shall be trained under a program designed by the secretary of 603
state and shall be responsible for administering all aspects of 604
the voter registration program for that agency as prescribed by 605
the secretary of state. The designated person shall receive no 606
additional compensation for performing such duties. 607

(B) Every designated agency, public high school and 608
vocational school, public library, and office of a county 609
treasurer shall provide in each of its offices or locations 610
voter registration applications and assistance in the 611
registration of persons qualified to register to vote, in 612
accordance with this chapter. 613

(C) Every designated agency shall distribute to its 614
applicants, prior to or in conjunction with distributing a voter 615
registration application, a form prescribed by the secretary of 616
state that includes all of the following: 617

(1) The question, "Do you want to register to vote or 618
update your current voter registration?"--followed by boxes for 619
the applicant to indicate whether the applicant would like to 620
register or decline to register to vote, and the statement, 621
highlighted in bold print, "If you do not check either box, you 622
will be considered to have decided not to register to vote at 623
this time."; 624

(2) If the agency provides public assistance, the 625
statement, "Applying to register or declining to register to 626
vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be 627
provided by this agency."; 628

(3) The statement, "If you would like help in filling out 629

the voter registration application form, we will help you. The 630
decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill 631
out the application form in private."; 632

(4) The statement, "If you believe that someone has 633
interfered with your right to register or to decline to register 634
to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register 635
or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your 636
own political party or other political preference, you may file 637
a complaint with the prosecuting attorney of your county or with 638
the secretary of state," with the address and telephone number 639
for each such official's office. 640

(D) Each designated agency shall distribute a voter 641
registration form prescribed by the secretary of state to each 642
applicant with each application for service or assistance, and 643
with each written application or form for recertification, 644
renewal, or change of address. 645

(E) Each designated agency shall do all of the following: 646

(1) Have employees trained to administer the voter 647
registration program in order to provide to each applicant who 648
wishes to register to vote and who accepts assistance, the same 649
degree of assistance with regard to completion of the voter 650
registration application as is provided by the agency with 651
regard to the completion of its own form; 652

(2) Accept completed voter registration applications 7 and 653
voter registration change of residence, change of name, and 654
change of political party affiliation forms, ~~and voter~~ 655
~~registration change of name forms,~~ regardless of whether the 656
application or form was distributed by the designated agency, 657
for transmittal to the office of the board of elections in the 658

county in which the agency is located. Each designated agency 659
and the appropriate board of elections shall establish a method 660
by which the voter registration applications and other voter 661
registration forms are transmitted to that board of elections 662
within five days after being accepted by the agency. 663

(3) If the designated agency is one that is primarily 664
engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities under 665
a state-funded program, and that agency provides services to a 666
person with disabilities at a person's home, provide the 667
services described in divisions (E) (1) and (2) of this section 668
at the person's home; 669

(4) Keep as confidential, except as required by the 670
secretary of state for record-keeping purposes, the identity of 671
an agency through which a person registered to vote or updated 672
the person's voter registration records, and information 673
relating to a declination to register to vote made in connection 674
with a voter registration application issued by a designated 675
agency. 676

(F) The secretary of state shall prepare and transmit 677
written instructions on the implementation of the voter 678
registration program within each designated agency, public high 679
school and vocational school, public library, and office of a 680
county treasurer. The instructions shall include directions as 681
follows: 682

(1) That each person designated to assist with voter 683
registration maintain strict neutrality with respect to a 684
person's political philosophies, a person's right to register or 685
decline to register, and any other matter that may influence a 686
person's decision to register or not register to vote; 687

(2) That each person designated to assist with voter 688
registration not seek to influence a person's decision to 689
register or not register to vote, not display or demonstrate any 690
political preference or party allegiance, and not make any 691
statement to a person or take any action the purpose or effect 692
of which is to lead a person to believe that a decision to 693
register or not register has any bearing on the availability of 694
services or benefits offered, on the grade in a particular class 695
in school, or on credit for a particular class in school; 696

(3) Regarding when and how to assist a person in 697
completing the voter registration application, what to do with 698
the completed voter registration application or voter 699
registration update form, and when the application must be 700
transmitted to the appropriate board of elections; 701

(4) Regarding what records must be kept by the agency and 702
where and when those records should be transmitted to satisfy 703
reporting requirements imposed on the secretary of state under 704
the National Voter Registration Act of 1993; 705

(5) Regarding whom to contact to obtain answers to 706
questions about voter registration forms and procedures. 707

(G) If the voter registration activity is part of an in- 708
class voter registration program in a public high school or 709
vocational school, whether prescribed by the secretary of state 710
or independent of the secretary of state, the board of education 711
shall do all of the following: 712

(1) Establish a schedule of school days and hours during 713
these days when the person designated to assist with voter 714
registration shall provide voter registration assistance; 715

(2) Designate a person to assist with voter registration 716

from the public high school's or vocational school's staff; 717

(3) Make voter registration applications and materials 718
available, as outlined in the voter registration program 719
established by the secretary of state pursuant to section 720
3501.05 of the Revised Code; 721

(4) Distribute the statement, "applying to register or 722
declining to register to vote, or registering as affiliated with 723
a particular political party or registering to vote and 724
remaining unaffiliated, will not affect or be a condition of 725
your receiving a particular grade in or credit for a school 726
course or class, participating in a curricular or 727
extracurricular activity, receiving a benefit or privilege, or 728
participating in a program or activity otherwise available to 729
pupils enrolled in this school district's schools."; 730

(5) Establish a method by which the voter registration 731
application and other voter registration forms are transmitted 732
to the board of elections within five days after being accepted 733
by the public high school or vocational school. 734

(H) Any person employed by the designated agency, public 735
high school or vocational school, public library, or office of a 736
county treasurer may be designated to assist with voter 737
registration pursuant to this section. The designated agency, 738
public high school or vocational school, public library, or 739
office of a county treasurer shall provide the designated 740
person, and make available such space as may be necessary, 741
without charge to the county or state. 742

(I) The secretary of state shall prepare and cause to be 743
displayed in a prominent location in each designated agency a 744
notice that identifies the person designated to assist with 745

voter registration, the nature of that person's duties, and 746
where and when that person is available for assisting in the 747
registration of voters. 748

A designated agency may furnish additional supplies and 749
services to disseminate information to increase public awareness 750
of the existence of a person designated to assist with voter 751
registration in every designated agency. 752

(J) This section does not limit any authority a board of 753
education, superintendent, or principal has to allow, sponsor, 754
or promote voluntary election registration programs within a 755
high school or vocational school, including programs in which 756
pupils serve as persons designated to assist with voter 757
registration, provided that no pupil is required to participate. 758

(K) Each public library and office of the county treasurer 759
shall establish a method by which voter registration forms are 760
transmitted to the board of elections within five days after 761
being accepted by the public library or office of the county 762
treasurer. 763

(L) The department of job and family services and its 764
departments, divisions, and programs shall limit administration 765
of the aspects of the voter registration program for the 766
department to the requirements prescribed by the secretary of 767
state and the requirements of this section and the National 768
Voter Registration Act of 1993. 769

Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe 770
the form and content of the registration, change of residence, 771
~~and change of name, and change of political party affiliation~~ 772
forms used in this state. The forms shall meet the requirements 773
of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and shall include 774

spaces for all of the following: 775

(1) The voter's name; 776

(2) The voter's address; 777

(3) The current date; 778

(4) The voter's date of birth; 779

(5) The voter to provide one or more of the following: 780

(a) The voter's driver's license number, if any; 781

(b) The last four digits of the voter's social security
number, if any; 782
783

(c) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a 784
copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current 785
utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or 786
other government document, other than a notice of voter 787
registration mailed by a board of elections under section 788
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the voter's name and 789
address. 790

(6) The voter's signature. 791

The registration form shall include a ~~space on which the~~ 792
~~person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and~~ 793
~~provide the person's address and a space on which the person~~ 794
~~registering an applicant shall name the employer who is~~ 795
~~employing that person to register the applicant~~ list of the 796
political parties that are recognized in this state at the time 797
the form is printed, accompanied by boxes for the applicant to 798
check to select a party with which the applicant wishes to be 799
affiliated. The form also shall include a space for the 800
applicant to write the name of a recognized political party that 801

is not listed on the form, if the applicant wishes to be 802
affiliated with that party, and a box for the applicant to check 803
to indicate that the applicant does not wish to be affiliated 804
with a political party. The form shall instruct the applicant to 805
select or write the name of only one recognized political party 806
and shall state that the applicant is not required to select a 807
political party. If the applicant indicates that the applicant 808
does not wish to be affiliated with a political party, the 809
applicant, upon registration, shall not be affiliated with any 810
political party. The applicant shall not be registered as 811
affiliated with any political party if the applicant is not 812
currently registered as affiliated with a political party, does 813
not select or write the name of a recognized political party, 814
and does not indicate that the applicant does not wish to be 815
affiliated with a political party. The applicant shall remain 816
registered as affiliated with the applicant's current political 817
party if the applicant currently is registered as affiliated 818
with a political party, does not select or write the name of a 819
recognized political party, and does not indicate that the 820
applicant does not wish to be affiliated with a political party. 821

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state 822
under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of 823
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that 824
have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric 825
character of the information provided by the voter so as to 826
accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's 827
information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of 828
that data to the statewide voter registration database 829
established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. 830

~~(B) None of the following persons who are registering an~~ 831
~~applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal~~ 832

~~duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's~~ 833
~~address, or name the employer who is employing the person to~~ 834
~~register an applicant on a form prepared under this section.~~ 835

~~(1) An election official,~~ 836

~~(2) A county treasurer,~~ 837

~~(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles,~~ 838

~~(4) An employee of a designated agency,~~ 839

~~(5) An employee of a public high school,~~ 840

~~(6) An employee of a public vocational school,~~ 841

~~(7) An employee of a public library,~~ 842

~~(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer,~~ 843

~~(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles,~~ 844

~~(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles,~~ 845

~~(11) An employee of an election official.~~ 846

~~(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised~~ 847
Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own 848
name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by 849
the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling 850
out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an 851
applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate 852
in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or 853
to change the applicant's name or, residence, or political 854
party affiliation. ~~The person registering the applicant shall~~ 855
~~sign the form and attest that the applicant indicated that the~~ 856
~~applicant desired to register to vote or to change the~~ 857
~~applicant's name or residence.~~ 858

~~(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or failed to name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant as required under division (A) of this section.~~

~~(E) (C) A voter registration application submitted online through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election and signature matching purposes.~~

~~(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.~~

Sec. 3503.15. (A) (1) The secretary of state shall establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database that shall be administered by the office of the secretary of state and made continuously available to each board of elections and to other agencies as authorized by law.

(2) (a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and family services, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state that is collected in the course of normal business and that is necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration database established pursuant to this section, except where

prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of 889
health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and 890
family services, the department of medicaid, and the department 891
of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information 892
and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day 893
of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any 894
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 895
confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data 896
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 897
state. No public office, and no public official or employee, 898
shall sell that information or data or use that information or 899
data for profit. 900

(b) Information provided under this division for 901
maintenance of the statewide voter registration database shall 902
not be used to update the name or address of a registered 903
elector. The name or address of a registered elector shall only 904
be updated as a result of the elector's actions in filing a 905
notice of change of name, change of address, or both. 906

(c) A board of elections shall contact a registered 907
elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D) (7) of 908
this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the 909
statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if 910
that information does not conform with information provided 911
under division (A) (2) (a) of this section and the discrepancy 912
would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot. 913

(3) (a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements 914
to share information or data that is in the possession of the 915
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the 916
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the 917
statewide voter registration database established pursuant to 918

this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A) (3) (b) 919
of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any 920
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is 921
confidential in the possession of the state providing the data 922
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of 923
state. 924

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise 925
confidential information or data to persons or organizations 926
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to 927
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database. 928
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 929
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or 930
organizations who may receive that information or data. The 931
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with 932
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The 933
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization 934
that receives confidential information or data under this 935
division keeps the information or data confidential in the 936
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering 937
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or 938
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under 939
this division shall include a requirement that the person or 940
organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the 941
event that the person or organization breaches the agreement. 942

(4) No person or entity that receives information or data 943
under division (A) (3) of this section shall sell the information 944
or data or use the information or data for profit. 945

(5) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the 946
boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and 947
federal law, the information and data the secretary of state 948

receives under divisions (A) (2) and (3) of this section that is 949
necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the 950
accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is 951
maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable 952
state and federal law: 953

(a) Require the boards of elections to maintain the 954
database in a manner that ensures that the name of each 955
registered elector appears in the database, that only 956
individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are 957
removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are 958
eliminated from the database; 959

(b) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable 960
effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from 961
the database; 962

(c) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors 963
are not removed in error from the database. 964

(B) The statewide voter registration database established 965
under this section shall be the official list of registered 966
voters for all elections conducted in this state. 967

(C) The statewide voter registration database established 968
under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the 969
following: 970

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of 971
elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and 972
with the offices of all other boards of elections; 973

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records 974
contained in the database with records maintained by each board 975
of elections; 976

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to 977
the records contained in the database by each board of elections 978
and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, 979
delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct 980
updates of the database; 981

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered 982
voters and their registration information by name, driver's 983
license number, birth date, social security number, or current 984
address; 985

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the 986
integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter 987
registration information is maintained; 988

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records 989
for not less than five years after they are canceled and to 990
record the reason for their cancellation. 991

(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to 992
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following: 993

(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter 994
registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be 995
converted to electronic files for inclusion in the statewide 996
voter registration database; 997

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter 998
registration records into the statewide voter registration 999
database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, 1000
if new registration information is received; 1001

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled 1002
voter registration records from the statewide voter registration 1003
database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code; 1004

(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, 1005
modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter 1006
registration database and to make updates of that database; 1007

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the 1008
information contained in the statewide voter registration 1009
database; 1010

(6) Establishing, by mutual agreement with the bureau of 1011
motor vehicles, the content and format of the information and 1012
data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide to the secretary 1013
of state under division (A)(2)(a) of this section and the 1014
frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information 1015
and data; 1016

(7) Establishing a uniform method for addressing instances 1017
in which records contained in the statewide voter registration 1018
database do not conform with records maintained by an agency, 1019
state, or group of states described in division (A)(2)(a) or (3) 1020
(a) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's 1021
voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that 1022
the information in the registration record does not conform to 1023
records maintained by such an agency. 1024

(E) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's 1025
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter 1026
registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by 1027
the secretary of state under division (D)(3) of this section 1028
after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 1029
3503.21 of the Revised Code. 1030

(F) The secretary of state shall provide training in the 1031
operation of the statewide voter registration database to each 1032
board of elections and to any persons authorized by the 1033

secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database 1034
records, and to conduct updates of the database. 1035

(G) (1) The statewide voter registration database 1036
established under this section shall be made available on a web 1037
site of the office of the secretary of state as follows: 1038

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) (1) (b) of 1039
this section, the following information from the statewide voter 1040
registration database regarding a registered voter shall be made 1041
available on the web site: 1042

(i) The voter's name; 1043

(ii) The voter's address; 1044

(iii) The voter's precinct number; 1045

(iv) The voter's political party affiliation, if any; 1046

(v) The voter's voting history. 1047

(b) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1048
general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter 1049
registration database shall permit a voter to search for the 1050
polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot. 1051

(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule 1052
adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for 1053
boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes 1054
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of 1055
updating the information made available on the secretary of 1056
state's web site under division (G) (1) (b) of this section. Those 1057
rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days 1058
before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the 1059
secretary of state within one business day of any change to the 1060
location of a precinct polling place within the county. 1061

(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or 1062
general election, not later than one business day after 1063
receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G) 1064
(2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling 1065
place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that 1066
information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose 1067
of division (G) (1) (b) of this section. 1068

(H) The secretary of state shall conduct an annual review 1069
of the statewide voter registration database as follows: 1070

(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information 1071
in the statewide voter registration database with the 1072
information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of 1073
motor vehicles under division (A) (2) of this section to identify 1074
any person who does all of the following, in the following 1075
order: 1076

(a) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 1077
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen; 1078

(b) Registers to vote, ~~submits a~~ updates the person's 1079
~~voter registration change of residence or change of name form,~~ 1080
or votes in this state; 1081

(c) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles 1082
that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen. 1083

(2) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to 1084
each person identified under division (H) (1) of this section, 1085
instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a 1086
United States citizen or to submit a completed voter 1087
registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The 1088
secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration 1089
cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to 1090

respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in 1091
division (H) (3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty 1092
days after the notice was sent, the secretary of state promptly 1093
shall send the person a second notice and form. 1094

(3) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 1095
was sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (H) (2) of 1096
this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that 1097
the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state 1098
shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration. 1099

(4) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice 1100
was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (H) (2) 1101
of this section sends a completed voter registration 1102
cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of 1103
state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in 1104
which the person is registered to cancel the person's 1105
registration. 1106

(5) If a person who was sent a second notice under 1107
division (H) (2) of this section fails to respond to the 1108
secretary of state in the manner described in division (H) (3) or 1109
(4) of this section not later than thirty days after the second 1110
notice was sent, the secretary of state shall refer the matter 1111
to the attorney general for further investigation and possible 1112
prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any 1113
other applicable section of the Revised Code. If, after the 1114
thirtieth day after the second notice was sent, the person sends 1115
a completed voter registration cancellation form to the 1116
secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the 1117
board of elections of the county in which the person is 1118
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify 1119
the attorney general of the cancellation. 1120

(6) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review 1121
described in division (H) of this section during the ninety days 1122
immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal 1123
office. 1124

Sec. 3503.16. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division 1125
(E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever a registered 1126
elector changes the place of residence of that registered 1127
elector from one precinct to another within a county or from one 1128
county to another, ~~or~~ has a change of name, or wishes to change 1129
the elector's political party affiliation, that registered 1130
elector shall report the change by delivering a change of 1131
residence ~~or,~~ change of name, or change of political party 1132
affiliation form, whichever is appropriate, as prescribed by the 1133
secretary of state under section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to 1134
the state or local office of a designated agency, a public high 1135
school or vocational school, a public library, the office of the 1136
county treasurer, the office of the secretary of state, any 1137
office of the registrar or deputy registrar of motor vehicles, 1138
or any office of a board of elections in person or by a third 1139
person. Any voter registration, change of address, or change of 1140
name application, returned by mail, may be sent only to the 1141
secretary of state or the board of elections. 1142

A registered elector also may update the registration of 1143
that registered elector by filing a change of residence ~~or,~~ 1144
change of name, or change of political party affiliation form on 1145
the day of a special, primary, or general election at the 1146
polling place in the precinct in which that registered elector 1147
resides or at the board of elections or at another site 1148
designated by the board. 1149

(B) (1) (a) Any registered elector who moves within a 1150

precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or 1151
special election and has not filed a notice of change of 1152
residence with the board of elections may vote in that election 1153
by ~~going~~ doing one of the following: 1154

(i) Casting absent voter's ballots by mail using the 1155
elector's current address. The identification envelope statement 1156
of voter shall serve as a notice of change of residence. 1157

(ii) Appearing to cast absent voter's ballots in person or 1158
appearing to that registered vote in person at the elector's 1159
assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of 1160
change of residence, showing the required identification in the 1161
form of a current and valid photo identification, a military 1162
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1163
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1164
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1165
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 1166
that shows the name and current address of the elector, and 1167
casting a regular ballot. 1168

(b) Any registered elector who wishes to change the 1169
elector's political party affiliation on or before the day of a 1170
primary election and has not filed a notice of change of 1171
political party affiliation with the board of elections may vote 1172
in that election by doing one of the following: 1173

(i) Applying to vote by absent voter's ballots by mail, 1174
which application shall serve as a notice of change of political 1175
party affiliation; 1176

(ii) Appearing to cast absent voter's ballots in person or 1177
to vote in person at the elector's assigned polling place, 1178
showing the required identification, and casting a regular 1179

ballot for the elector's preferred political party. The board of 1180
elections shall create a notice of change of political party 1181
affiliation form on behalf of the elector and update the 1182
elector's political party affiliation in the elector's 1183
registration record. 1184

(c) Any registered elector who changes the name of that 1185
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to 1186
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 1187
filed a notice of change of name with the board of elections may 1188
vote in that election by ~~going~~ doing one of the following: 1189

(i) Applying to vote by absent voter's ballots by mail 1190
using the elector's current name, including with the elector's 1191
application a copy of proof of a legal name change, such as a 1192
marriage license or a court order that includes the elector's 1193
current and prior names, and casting absent voter's ballots. The 1194
identification envelope statement of voter shall serve as a 1195
notice of change of residence. 1196

(ii) Applying to vote by absent voter's ballots by mail 1197
using the elector's current name and casting a provisional 1198
absent voter's ballot; 1199

(iii) Appearing to cast absent voter's ballots in person 1200
or to vote in person at the elector's assigned polling place 1201
using the elector's current name, providing to the precinct 1202
election officials proof of a legal name change, such as a 1203
marriage license or a court order that includes the elector's 1204
current and prior names, showing the required identification, 1205
and casting a regular ballot; 1206

(iv) Appearing to ~~that registered~~ cast absent voter's 1207
ballots in person or to vote in person at the elector's assigned 1208

polling place, ~~completing and signing a notice of a change of~~ 1209
~~using the elector's current name,~~ and casting a provisional 1210
ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. ~~If the~~ 1211
~~registered elector provides to the precinct election officials~~ 1212
~~proof of a legal name change, such as a marriage license or~~ 1213
~~court order that includes the elector's current and prior names,~~ 1214
~~the elector may complete and sign a notice of change of name and~~ 1215
~~cast a regular ballot.~~ 1216

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to 1217
another within a county or moves from one precinct to another 1218
and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to 1219
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not 1220
filed a notice of change of residence or change of name, 1221
whichever is appropriate, with the board of elections may vote 1222
in that election ~~if that registered elector complies with~~ 1223
~~division (G) of this section or does all by doing one~~ of the 1224
following: 1225

(a) ~~Appears at anytime during regular business hours on or~~ 1226
~~after the twenty eighth day prior to the election in which that~~ 1227
~~registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on~~ 1228
~~the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty fifth day~~ 1229
~~prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the~~ 1230
~~election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any~~ 1231
~~time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the~~ 1232
~~election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on~~ 1233
~~the day of the election at either of the following locations:~~ 1234

~~(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that~~ 1235
~~registered elector resides;~~ 1236

~~(ii) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant~~ 1237
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 1238

~~has designated another location in the county at which~~ 1239
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of~~ 1240
~~the office of the board of elections.~~ 1241

~~(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election~~ 1242
~~falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot~~ 1243
~~envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence~~ 1244
~~or change of name, whichever is appropriate,~~ 1245

~~(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of~~ 1246
~~the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the~~ 1247
~~board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section~~ 1248
~~3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another~~ 1249
~~location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at~~ 1250
~~that other location instead of the office of the board of~~ 1251
~~elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which~~ 1252
~~that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered~~ 1253
~~elector as changed, whichever is appropriate,~~ 1254

~~(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election~~ 1255
~~falsification, a statement attesting that that registered~~ 1256
~~elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate,~~ 1257
~~on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional~~ 1258
~~ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that~~ 1259
~~registered elector resides, at the office of the board of~~ 1260
~~elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of~~ 1261
~~the Revised Code the board has designated another location in~~ 1262
~~the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other~~ 1263
~~location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 1264
~~whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote~~ 1265
~~at any other location for that particular election.~~ 1266
Applying to 1266
vote by absent voter's ballots by mail using the elector's 1267
current name and address and casting a provisional absent 1268

voter's ballot; 1269

(b) Appearing to cast absent voter's ballots in person or 1270
appearing to vote in person at the polling place for the 1271
precinct in which the elector currently resides, using the 1272
elector's current name and address, and casting a provisional 1273
ballot. 1274

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to 1275
another county within the state on or prior to the day of a 1276
general, primary, or special election and has not registered to 1277
vote in the county to which that registered elector moved may 1278
vote in that election ~~if that registered elector complies with~~ 1279
~~division (G) of this section or does all by doing one~~ of the 1280
following: 1281

(1) ~~Appears at any time during regular business hours on~~ 1282
~~or after the twenty eighth day prior to the election in which~~ 1283
~~that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is~~ 1284
~~held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty~~ 1285
~~fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday~~ 1286
~~prior to the election at the office of the board of elections~~ 1287
~~or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the~~ 1288
~~Revised Code the board has designated another location in the~~ 1289
~~county at which registered electors may vote, at that other~~ 1290
~~location instead of the office of the board of elections,~~ 1291
~~appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the~~ 1292
~~election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant~~ 1293
~~to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board~~ 1294
~~has designated another location in the county at which~~ 1295
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of~~ 1296
~~the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of~~ 1297
~~the election at the office of the board of elections or, if~~ 1298

~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code— 1299~~
~~the board has designated another location in the county at which 1300~~
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1301~~
~~the office of the board of elections; 1302~~

~~(2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1303~~
~~falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot 1304~~
~~envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence; 1305~~

~~(3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of 1306~~
~~the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if 1307~~
~~pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code 1308~~
~~the board has designated another location in the county at which 1309~~
~~registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of 1310~~
~~the office of the board of elections, using the address to which 1311~~
~~that registered elector has moved; 1312~~

~~(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election 1313~~
~~falsification, a statement attesting that that registered 1314~~
~~elector has moved from one county to another county within the 1315~~
~~state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the 1316~~
~~office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) 1317~~
~~of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated 1318~~
~~another location in the county at which registered electors may 1319~~
~~vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board 1320~~
~~of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other 1321~~
~~location for that particular election. Applying to the board of 1322~~
~~elections of the elector's current county to vote by absent 1323~~
~~voter's ballots by mail using the elector's current address and 1324~~
~~casting a provisional absent voter's ballot; 1325~~

~~(2) Appearing to cast absent voter's ballots in person in 1326~~
~~the elector's current county using the elector's current address 1327~~
~~and casting a provisional ballot. 1328~~

~~(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division (G) of this section shall not make written application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division (G) of this section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division (G) of this section. Any ballot determined to be insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted.~~

~~Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site different from the office of the board at which registered electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this section.~~

~~(E)~~ Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the information necessary to complete or update that registrant's registration.

~~(F)~~ (E) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be available at each polling place, and when these forms are

completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, 1359
they shall be filed with election officials at the polling 1360
place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together 1361
with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections. 1362

The board of elections shall provide change of residence 1363
and change of name forms to the probate court and court of 1364
common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person 1365
eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order 1366
of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court 1367
shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections 1368
within five days after receiving them. 1369

~~(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to 1370
vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to 1371
appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant 1372
to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board 1373
has designated another location in the county at which 1374
registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account 1375
of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote 1376
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all 1377
of the following: 1378~~

~~(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the 1379
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 1380
to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or 1381
after the twenty seventh day prior to the election in which the 1382
registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday 1383
prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's 1384
ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector 1385
has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address 1386
of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a 1387
change of name; 1388~~

~~(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity;~~ 1389 1390 1391 1392 1393 1394 1395

~~(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice of change of name, whichever is appropriate;~~ 1396 1397 1398 1399

~~(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other location or address for that particular election.~~ 1400 1401 1402 1403 1404 1405 1406 1407 1408

Sec. 3503.19. (A) Persons qualified to register or to change their registration because of a change of address ~~or,~~ change of name, or change of political party affiliation may register or change their registration in person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a branch office established by the board of elections, or in person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the secretary of state or at the 1409 1410 1411 1412 1413 1414 1415 1416 1417 1418

office of a board of elections. A registered elector may also 1419
change the elector's registration on election day at any polling 1420
place where the elector is eligible to vote, in the manner 1421
provided under section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 1422

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1423
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1424
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1425
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any 1426
voter registration application or change of registration form 1427
that it receives to the board of elections of the county in 1428
which the state or local office is located, within five days 1429
after receiving the voter registration application or change of 1430
registration form. 1431

An otherwise valid voter registration application that is 1432
returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be 1433
received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the 1434
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1435
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1436
library, the office of a county treasurer, the office of the 1437
secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no 1438
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1439
general election for the person to qualify as an elector 1440
eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid 1441
registration application received after that day entitles the 1442
elector to vote at all subsequent elections. 1443

Any state or local office of a designated agency, the 1444
office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor 1445
vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public 1446
library, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a 1447
registration application or change of name ~~or,~~ change of 1448

address, or change of political party form it receives using a 1449
date stamp that does not disclose the identity of the state or 1450
local office that receives the registration. 1451

Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that 1452
are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or 1453
to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no 1454
later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or 1455
general election in order for the person to qualify as an 1456
elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid 1457
voter registration application that is returned by mail does not 1458
bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be 1459
valid for that election if received by the office of the 1460
secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no 1461
later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or 1462
general election. 1463

(B) (1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by 1464
mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to 1465
the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of 1466
elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed 1467
services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1468
1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by 1469
electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to 1470
the board of elections of the county in which the person's 1471
voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the 1472
Revised Code. 1473

(2) (a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed 1474
registration form in person or by mail to any state or local 1475
office of a designated agency, to a public high school or 1476
vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a 1477
county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to 1478

the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible 1479
to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in 1480
accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the 1481
applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to 1482
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of 1483
elections of the county in which the person's voting residence 1484
is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code. 1485

~~(b) Subject to division (B) (2) (c) of this section, an~~ 1486
applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form 1487
through another person to any board of elections or the office 1488
of the secretary of state. 1489

~~(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a~~ 1490
~~voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that~~ 1491
~~person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the~~ 1492
~~office of the secretary of state.~~ 1493

~~(d)~~ If a board of elections or the office of the secretary 1494
of state receives a registration form under division (B) (2) (b) 1495
~~or (c)~~ of this section before the thirtieth day before an 1496
election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as 1497
applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of 1498
elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to 1499
register to vote within ten days after receiving the 1500
application. If a board of elections or the office of the 1501
secretary of state receives a registration form under division 1502
(B) (2) (b) ~~or (c)~~ of this section on or after the thirtieth day 1503
before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of 1504
state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the 1505
board of elections of the county in which the applicant is 1506
seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that 1507
election. 1508

(C) (1) A board of elections that receives a voter 1509
registration application and is satisfied as to the truth of the 1510
statements made in the registration form shall register the 1511
applicant not later than twenty business days after receiving 1512
the application, unless that application is received during the 1513
thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The 1514
board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of 1515
the following: 1516

(a) The applicant's registration; 1517

(b) The applicant's political party affiliation, if any; 1518

(c) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote; 1519

~~(e)~~ (d) In bold type as follows: 1520

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1521
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1522
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1523
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1524
paycheck, or other government document, other than this 1525
notification, that shows the voter's name and current address. 1526
Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be 1527
able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not 1528
have any of the above forms of identification, including a 1529
social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an 1530
affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of 1531
election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1532

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the 1533
mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause 1534
the notification to be delivered to the correct address. 1535

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) 1536
(1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's 1537

correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official 1538
registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to 1539
be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned 1540
to the board. 1541

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been 1542
so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to 1543
provide identification to the election officials and to vote by 1544
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. 1545
If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B) (3) 1546
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct 1547
that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the 1548
indication that the voter's notification was returned from that 1549
voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll 1550
list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not 1551
counted pursuant to division (B) (4) (a) (i), (v), or (vi) of 1552
section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration 1553
shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United 1554
States mail of the cancellation. 1555

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid 1556
registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is 1557
returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided 1558
in division (C) (2) of this section and sent a confirmation 1559
notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to 1560
the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or 1561
vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C) (2) of 1562
this section in any election during the period of two federal 1563
elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, 1564
the person's registration shall be canceled. 1565

Sec. 3503.20. (A) As used in this section, "applicant" 1566
means a person who meets both of the following requirements: 1567

(1) The person is qualified to register to vote under this 1568
chapter; and 1569

(2) The person has a current and valid Ohio driver's 1570
license or identification card issued under Chapter 4507. of the 1571
Revised Code or a social security number. 1572

(B) The secretary of state shall establish a secure online 1573
voter registration system. The system shall provide for all of 1574
the following: 1575

(1) An applicant to submit a voter registration 1576
application to the secretary of state online through the 1577
internet; 1578

(2) The online applicant to be registered to vote, if all 1579
of the following apply: 1580

(a) The application contains all of the following 1581
information: 1582

(i) The applicant's name; 1583

(ii) The applicant's address; 1584

(iii) The applicant's date of birth; 1585

(iv) ~~The~~ Identification in the form of either the last 1586
four digits of the applicant's social security number; 1587

~~(v) The,~~ or the applicant's Ohio driver's license number 1588
or the number of the applicant's state identification card 1589
issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code. 1590

~~(b) The applicant's name, address, and date of birth, the~~ 1591
~~last four digits of the applicant's social security number, and~~ 1592
~~the applicant's Ohio driver's license number or the number of~~ 1593
~~the applicant's state identification card as they are provided~~ 1594

~~in the application are not inconsistent with the information on-~~
~~file with the bureau of motor vehicles;~~

~~(e)~~ The applicant is a United States citizen, will have
lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the
next election, will be at least eighteen years of age on or
before the day of the next general election, and is otherwise
eligible to register to vote;

~~(d)~~ (c) The applicant attests to the truth and accuracy of
the information submitted in the online application under
penalty of election falsification.

(3) An option for the applicant to select a political
party that is recognized in this state with which the applicant
wishes to be affiliated or to indicate that the applicant does
not wish to be affiliated with a political party. The system
shall state that the applicant is not required to select a
political party. If the applicant indicates that the applicant
does not wish to be affiliated with a political party, the
applicant, upon registration, shall not be affiliated with any
political party. The applicant shall not be registered as
affiliated with any political party if the applicant is not
currently registered as affiliated with a political party, does
not select a political party, and does not indicate that the
applicant does not wish to be affiliated with a political party.
The applicant shall remain registered as affiliated with the
applicant's current political party if the applicant currently
is registered as affiliated with a political party, does not
select the name of a political party, and does not indicate that
the applicant does not wish to be affiliated with a political
party.

~~(B) If an individual registers to vote or a registered~~

~~elector updates the elector's name, address, or both under this~~ 1625
~~section, the secretary of state shall obtain an electronic copy~~ 1626
~~of the applicant's or elector's signature that is on file with~~ 1627
~~the bureau of motor vehicles. That electronic signature shall be~~ 1628
~~used as the applicant's or elector's signature on voter~~ 1629
~~registration records, for all election and signature matching~~ 1630
~~purposes.~~ 1631

(C) The secretary of state shall employ whatever security 1632
measures the secretary of state considers necessary to ensure 1633
the integrity and accuracy of voter registration information 1634
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in 1635
processing voter registration applications in the online system 1636
shall not prevent an applicant from becoming registered or from 1637
voting. 1638

(D) The online voter registration application established 1639
under division ~~(A)~~ (B) of this section shall include the 1640
following language: 1641

"By clicking the box below, I affirm all of the following 1642
under penalty of election falsification, which is a felony of 1643
the fifth degree: 1644

(1) I am the person whose name and identifying information 1645
is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote, or 1646
update my voter registration, in the State of Ohio. 1647

(2) All of the information I have provided on this form is 1648
true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form. 1649

(3) I am a United States citizen. 1650

(4) I will have lived in Ohio for thirty days immediately 1651
preceding the next election. 1652

(5) I will be at least eighteen years of age on or before 1653
the day of the next general election. 1654

(6) If an electronic copy of my signature is on file with 1655
the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, I authorize the Bureau of Motor 1656
Vehicles to transmit to the Ohio Secretary of State my signature 1657
that is on file with the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and I 1658
understand and agree that the signature transmitted by the 1659
Bureau of Motor Vehicles will be used by the Secretary of State 1660
to validate this electronic voter registration application as if 1661
I had signed this form personally." 1662

In order to register to vote or update a voter 1663
registration under division ~~(A)~~ (B) of this section, an 1664
applicant or elector shall be required to mark the box in the 1665
online voter registration application that appears in 1666
conjunction with the previous statement. 1667

~~(E) The online voter registration process established~~ 1668
~~under division (A) of this section shall be in operation and~~ 1669
~~available for use by individuals who wish to register to vote or~~ 1670
~~update their voter registration information online not earlier~~ 1671
~~than January 1, 2017.~~ 1672

(E) (1) If an applicant who is to be registered under this 1673
section has an electronic signature on file with the bureau of 1674
motor vehicles, the secretary of state shall obtain the 1675
electronic signature and shall transmit it to the board of 1676
elections to be used as the applicant's signature for all 1677
election and signature-matching purposes. 1678

(2) If an applicant who is to be registered under this 1679
section does not have an electronic signature on file with the 1680
bureau of motor vehicles and the applicant is updating the 1681

elector's address, the board of elections of the county in which 1682
the applicant currently is registered shall create a legible 1683
digitized copy of the signature of the elector's existing 1684
registration record. That signature shall be used as the 1685
elector's signature on voter registration records for all 1686
election and signature-matching purposes. 1687

(3) (a) If an applicant who is to be registered under this 1688
section does not have an electronic signature on file with the 1689
bureau of motor vehicles and is not a registered elector who is 1690
updating the elector's address, the board of elections shall 1691
mail the applicant a signature card, return postage prepaid, 1692
that instructs the applicant to sign the card and return it to 1693
the office of the board. The card shall notify the applicant 1694
that until the applicant signs and returns the card, the 1695
applicant will not be registered to vote. 1696

(b) If the applicant signs and returns the signature card 1697
to the board of elections, the board shall register the 1698
applicant to vote as of the date the applicant submitted the 1699
application under this section and create a legible digitized 1700
copy of the signature on the card. That signature shall be used 1701
as the applicant's signature on voter registration records for 1702
all election and signature-matching purposes. 1703

(c) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of the 1704
signature card and shall reimburse the board of elections for 1705
the cost of printing and mailing the signature card and of 1706
prepaying the return postage on the signature card. 1707

(F) During the period beginning on the first day after the 1708
close of voter registration before an election and ending on the 1709
day of the election, the online voter registration system shall 1710
display a notice indicating that the applicant will not be 1711

registered to vote for the purposes of that election. 1712

~~(F)~~ (G) Notwithstanding section 1.50 of the Revised Code, 1713
if any provision of this section or of division ~~(E)~~ (C) of 1714
section 3503.14 of the Revised Code is held invalid, or if the 1715
application of any provision of this section or of that division 1716
to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then this section 1717
and that division cease to operate. 1718

Sec. 3503.23. (A) Fourteen days before an election, the 1719
board of elections shall cause to be prepared from the statewide 1720
voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of 1721
the Revised Code a complete and official registration list for 1722
each precinct, containing the names, addresses, and political 1723
party ~~whose ballot the elector voted in the most recent primary~~ 1724
~~election within the current year and the immediately preceding~~ 1725
~~two calendar years, affiliations, as determined under section~~ 1726
3503.231 of the Revised Code, of all qualified registered voters 1727
in the precinct, except as otherwise provided in section 111.44 1728
of the Revised Code. All the names, insofar as practicable, 1729
shall be arranged in alphabetical order. The lists may be 1730
prepared either in sheet form on one side of the paper or in 1731
electronic form, at the discretion of the board. Each precinct 1732
list shall be headed "Register of Voters," and under the heading 1733
shall be indicated the district or ward and precinct. 1734

Appended to each precinct list shall be attached the names 1735
of the members of the board and the name of the director. A 1736
sufficient number of such lists shall be provided for 1737
distribution to the candidates, political parties, or organized 1738
groups that apply for them. The board shall have each precinct 1739
list available at the board for viewing by the public during 1740
normal business hours. The board shall ensure that, by the 1741

opening of the polls on the day of a general or primary 1742
election, each precinct has a paper copy of the registration 1743
list of voters in that precinct. 1744

(B) On the day of a general or primary election, precinct 1745
election officials shall do both of the following: 1746

(1) By the time the polls open, conspicuously post and 1747
display at the polling place one copy of the registration list 1748
of voters in that precinct in an area of the polling place that 1749
is easily accessible; 1750

(2) At 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. place a mark, on the official 1751
registration list posted at the polling place, before the name 1752
of those registered voters who have voted. 1753

(C) Notwithstanding division (B) of section 3501.35 of the 1754
Revised Code, any person may enter the polling place for the 1755
sole purpose of reviewing the official registration list posted 1756
in accordance with division (B) of this section, provided that 1757
the person does not engage in conduct that would constitute 1758
harassment in violation of the election law, as defined in 1759
section 3501.90 of the Revised Code. 1760

Sec. 3503.231. An elector's political party affiliation 1761
shall be determined based on the most recent of the following: 1762

(A) The elector's most recent registration form or change 1763
of political party affiliation form; 1764

(B) The elector's action in casting the ballot of the 1765
elector's preferred political party at a primary election during 1766
the current calendar year or the previous two calendar years, if 1767
the election occurred before the effective date of this section. 1768

Sec. 3503.28. (A) The secretary of state shall develop an 1769

information brochure regarding voter registration. The brochure 1770
shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following 1771
information: 1772

(1) The applicable deadlines for registering to vote or 1773
for returning an applicant's completed registration form; 1774

~~(2) The applicable deadline for returning an applicant's~~ 1775
~~completed registration form if the person returning the form is~~ 1776
~~being compensated for registering voters;~~ 1777

~~(3)~~ The locations to which a person may return an 1778
applicant's completed registration form; 1779

~~(4) The location to which a person who is compensated for~~ 1780
~~registering voters may return an applicant's completed~~ 1781
~~registration form;~~ 1782

~~(5) The registration and affirmation requirements~~ 1783
~~applicable to persons who are compensated for registering voters~~ 1784
~~under section 3503.29 of the Revised Code;~~ 1785

~~(6)~~ (3) A notice, which shall be written in bold type, 1786
stating as follows: 1787

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to 1788
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid 1789
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1790
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1791
paycheck, or other government document, other than a voter 1792
registration notification sent by a board of elections, that 1793
shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not 1794
provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by 1795
casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the 1796
above forms of identification, including a social security 1797
number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation 1798

swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election 1799
falsification and by casting a provisional ballot." 1800

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this 1801
section, a board of elections, designated agency, public high 1802
school, public vocational school, public library, office of a 1803
county treasurer, or deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall 1804
distribute a copy of the brochure developed under division (A) 1805
of this section to any person who requests more than two voter 1806
registration forms at one time. 1807

(C) (1) The secretary of state shall provide the 1808
information required to be included in the brochure developed 1809
under division (A) of this section to any person who prints a 1810
voter registration form that is made available on a web site of 1811
the office of the secretary of state. 1812

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web 1813
site, the board shall provide the information required to be 1814
included in the brochure developed under division (A) of this 1815
section to any person who prints a voter registration form that 1816
is made available on that web site. 1817

(D) A board of elections shall not be required to 1818
distribute a copy of a brochure under division (B) of this 1819
section to any of the following officials or employees who are 1820
requesting more than two voter registration forms at one time in 1821
the course of the official's or employee's normal duties: 1822

(1) An election official; 1823

(2) A county treasurer; 1824

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles; 1825

(4) An employee of a designated agency; 1826

(5) An employee of a public high school;	1827
(6) An employee of a public vocational school;	1828
(7) An employee of a public library;	1829
(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;	1830
(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;	1831
(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;	1832
(11) An employee of an election official.	1833
(E) As used in this section, "registering voters" includes	1834
any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration	1835
forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those	1836
forms.	1837
Sec. 3505.181. (A) All of the following individuals shall	1838
be permitted to cast a provisional ballot at an election:	1839
(1) An individual who declares that the individual is a	1840
registered voter in the precinct in which the individual desires	1841
to vote and that the individual is eligible to vote in an	1842
election, but the name of the individual does not appear on the	1843
official list of eligible voters for the precinct or an election	1844
official asserts that the individual is not eligible to vote;	1845
(2) An individual who does not have or is unable to	1846
provide to the election officials any of the forms of	1847
identification required under division (A)(1) of section 3505.18	1848
of the Revised Code;	1849
(3) An individual whose name in the poll list or signature	1850
pollbook has been marked under section 3509.09 or 3511.13 of the	1851
Revised Code as having requested an absent voter's ballot or a	1852
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that	1853

election and who appears to vote at the polling place; 1854

(4) An individual whose notification of registration has 1855
been returned undelivered to the board of elections and whose 1856
name in the official registration list and in the poll list or 1857
signature pollbook has been marked under division (C) (2) of 1858
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code; 1859

(5) An individual who has been successfully challenged 1860
under section 3505.20 or 3513.20 of the Revised Code; 1861

(6) An individual who changes the individual's name and 1862
remains within the precinct without providing proof of that name 1863
~~change under division (B) (1) (b) of section 3503.16 of the~~ 1864
~~Revised Code~~, moves from one precinct to another within a 1865
county, moves from one precinct to another and changes the 1866
individual's name, or moves from one county to another within 1867
the state, ~~and completes and signs the required forms and~~ 1868
~~statements under division (B) or (C) of as described in~~ section 1869
3503.16 of the Revised Code; 1870

(7) An individual whose signature, in the opinion of the 1871
precinct officers under section 3505.22 of the Revised Code, is 1872
not that of the person who signed that name in the registration 1873
forms. 1874

(B) An individual who is eligible to cast a provisional 1875
ballot under division (A) of this section shall be permitted to 1876
cast a provisional ballot as follows: 1877

(1) An election official at the polling place shall notify 1878
the individual that the individual may cast a provisional ballot 1879
in that election. 1880

(2) Except as otherwise provided in division (F) of this 1881
section, the individual shall complete and execute a written 1882

affirmation before an election official at the polling place 1883
stating that the individual is both of the following: 1884

(a) A registered voter in the precinct in which the 1885
individual desires to vote; 1886

(b) Eligible to vote in that election. 1887

(3) An election official at the polling place shall 1888
transmit the ballot cast by the individual and the voter 1889
information contained in the written affirmation executed by the 1890
individual under division (B) (2) of this section to an 1891
appropriate local election official for verification under 1892
division (B) (4) of this section. 1893

(4) If the appropriate local election official to whom the 1894
ballot or voter or address information is transmitted under 1895
division (B) (3) of this section determines that the individual 1896
is eligible to vote, the individual's provisional ballot shall 1897
be counted as a vote in that election. 1898

(5) (a) At the time that an individual casts a provisional 1899
ballot, the appropriate local election official shall give the 1900
individual written information that states that any individual 1901
who casts a provisional ballot will be able to ascertain under 1902
the system established under division (B) (5) (b) of this section 1903
whether the vote was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, 1904
the reason that the vote was not counted. 1905

(b) The appropriate state or local election official shall 1906
establish a free access system, in the form of a toll-free 1907
telephone number, that any individual who casts a provisional 1908
ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that 1909
individual was counted, and, if the vote was not counted, the 1910
reason that the vote was not counted. The free access system 1911

established under this division also shall provide to an 1912
individual whose provisional ballot was not counted information 1913
explaining how that individual may contact the board of 1914
elections to register to vote or to resolve problems with the 1915
individual's voter registration. 1916

The appropriate state or local election official shall 1917
establish and maintain reasonable procedures necessary to 1918
protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personal 1919
information collected, stored, or otherwise used by the free 1920
access system established under this division. The system shall 1921
permit an individual only to gain access to information about 1922
the individual's own provisional ballot. 1923

(6) If, at the time that an individual casts a provisional 1924
ballot, the individual provides identification in the form of a 1925
current and valid photo identification, a military 1926
identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank 1927
statement, government check, paycheck, or other government 1928
document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a 1929
board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, 1930
that shows the individual's name and current address, or 1931
provides the individual's driver's license or state 1932
identification card number or the last four digits of the 1933
individual's social security number, the individual shall record 1934
the type of identification provided or the driver's license, 1935
state identification card, or social security number information 1936
and include that information on the provisional ballot 1937
affirmation under division (B) (3) of this section. 1938

(7) During the seven days after the day of an election, an 1939
individual who casts a provisional ballot because the individual 1940
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1941

any of the required forms of identification or because the 1942
individual has been successfully challenged under section 1943
3505.20 of the Revised Code shall appear at the office of the 1944
board of elections and provide to the board any additional 1945
information necessary to determine the eligibility of the 1946
individual who cast the provisional ballot. 1947

(a) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who 1948
does not have or is unable to provide to the election officials 1949
any of the required forms of identification to be eligible to be 1950
counted, the individual who cast that ballot, within seven days 1951
after the day of the election, shall do either of the following: 1952

(i) Provide to the board of elections proof of the 1953
individual's identity in the form of a current and valid photo 1954
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a 1955
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 1956
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 1957
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 1958
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the individual's name 1959
and current address; or 1960

(ii) Provide to the board of elections the individual's 1961
driver's license or state identification card number or the last 1962
four digits of the individual's social security number. 1963

(b) For a provisional ballot cast by an individual who has 1964
been successfully challenged under section 3505.20 of the 1965
Revised Code to be eligible to be counted, the individual who 1966
cast that ballot, within seven days after the day of that 1967
election, shall provide to the board of elections any 1968
identification or other documentation required to be provided by 1969
the applicable challenge questions asked of that individual 1970
under section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. 1971

(C) (1) If an individual declares that the individual is 1972
eligible to vote in a precinct other than the precinct in which 1973
the individual desires to vote, or if, upon review of the 1974
precinct voting location guide using the residential street 1975
address provided by the individual, an election official at the 1976
precinct at which the individual desires to vote determines that 1977
the individual is not eligible to vote in that precinct, the 1978
election official shall direct the individual to the precinct 1979
and polling place in which the individual appears to be eligible 1980
to vote, explain that the individual may cast a provisional 1981
ballot at the current location but the ballot or a portion of 1982
the ballot will not be counted if it is cast in the wrong 1983
precinct, and provide the telephone number of the board of 1984
elections in case the individual has additional questions. 1985

(2) If the individual refuses to travel to the correct 1986
precinct or to the office of the board of elections to cast a 1987
ballot, the individual shall be permitted to vote a provisional 1988
ballot at that precinct in accordance with division (B) of this 1989
section. If the individual is in the correct polling location 1990
for the precinct in which the individual is registered and 1991
eligible to vote, the election official shall complete and sign, 1992
under penalty of election falsification, a form that includes 1993
all of the following, and attach the form to the individual's 1994
provisional ballot affirmation: 1995

(a) The name or number of the individual's correct 1996
precinct; 1997

(b) A statement that the election official instructed the 1998
individual to travel to the correct precinct to vote; 1999

(c) A statement that the election official informed the 2000
individual that casting a provisional ballot in the wrong 2001

precinct would result in all or a portion of the votes on the 2002
ballot being rejected; 2003

(d) The name or number of the precinct in which the 2004
individual is casting a provisional ballot; and 2005

(e) The name of the polling location in which the 2006
individual is casting a provisional ballot. 2007

(D) The appropriate local election official shall cause 2008
voting information to be publicly posted at each polling place 2009
on the day of each election. 2010

(E) As used in this section and sections 3505.182 and 2011
3505.183 of the Revised Code: 2012

(1) "Precinct voting location guide" means either of the 2013
following: 2014

(a) An electronic or paper record that lists the correct 2015
precinct and polling place for either each specific residential 2016
street address in the county or the range of residential street 2017
addresses located in each neighborhood block in the county; 2018

(b) Any other method that a board of elections creates 2019
that allows a precinct election official or any elector who is 2020
at a polling place in that county to determine the correct 2021
precinct and polling place of any qualified elector who resides 2022
in the county. 2023

(2) "Voting information" means all of the following: 2024

(a) A sample version of the ballot that will be used for 2025
that election; 2026

(b) Information regarding the date of the election and the 2027
hours during which polling places will be open; 2028

(c) Instructions on how to vote, including how to cast a
vote and how to cast a provisional ballot;

(d) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time
voters under applicable federal and state laws;

(e) General information on voting rights under applicable
federal and state laws, including information on the right of an
individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how
to contact the appropriate officials if these rights are alleged
to have been violated;

(f) General information on federal and state laws
regarding prohibitions against acts of fraud and
misrepresentation.

(F) Nothing in this section or section 3505.183 of the
Revised Code is in derogation of section 3505.24 of the Revised
Code, which permits a blind, disabled, or illiterate elector to
receive assistance in the marking of the elector's ballot by two
precinct election officials of different political parties. A
blind, disabled, or illiterate elector may receive assistance in
marking that elector's provisional ballot and in completing the
required affirmation in the same manner as an elector may
receive assistance on the day of an election under that section.

Sec. 3509.02. ~~(A) Any qualified elector may vote by absent
voter's ballots at an election.~~

~~(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the
office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C)
of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated
another location in the county at which registered electors may
vote, at that other location on account of personal illness,
physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one~~

~~precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name~~ 2058
~~and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves~~ 2059
~~from one county to another county within the state, on or prior~~ 2060
~~to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has~~ 2061
~~not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name may~~ 2062
~~vote by absent voter's ballots in that election as specified in~~ 2063
~~division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code.~~ 2064

Sec. 3509.03. (A) Except as provided in sections 3509.031 2065
and 3509.042 and in division (B) of section 3509.08 of the 2066
Revised Code, any qualified elector desiring to vote absent 2067
voter's ballots at an election shall make written application 2068
for those ballots to the director of elections of the county in 2069
which the elector's voting residence is located. 2070

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this 2071
section and in section 3509.031 of the Revised Code, the 2072
application need not be in any particular form but shall contain 2073
all of the following: 2074

- (1) The elector's name; 2075
- (2) The elector's signature; 2076
- (3) The address at which the elector is registered to 2077
vote; 2078
- (4) The elector's date of birth; 2079
- (5) One of the following: 2080
 - (a) The elector's driver's license number; 2081
 - (b) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2082
number; 2083
 - (c) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2084

identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2085
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2086
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2087
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 2088
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of 2089
the elector. 2090

(6) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2091
voter's ballots are requested; 2092

(7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2093
a qualified elector; 2094

(8) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2095
~~elector's political party whose ballot the elector wishes to~~ 2096
cast or an indication that the elector wishes to vote only on 2097
any questions or issues appearing on the ballot at a special 2098
election held on the day of the primary election. If the elector 2099
requests the ballot of a political party with which the elector 2100
is not registered as affiliated, the request shall operate as a 2101
notice of change of political party affiliation. 2102

(9) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the 2103
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed. 2104

(C) If the elector has a confidential voter registration 2105
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the 2106
elector may provide the elector's program participant 2107
identification number instead of the address at which the 2108
elector is registered to vote. 2109

~~(D) Each~~ (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) 2110
(2) of this section, each application for absent voter's ballots 2111
shall be delivered to the director not earlier than the first 2112
day of January of the year of the elections for which the absent 2113

voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days 2114
before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be 2115
voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of 2116
the third day before the day of the election at which the 2117
ballots are to be voted, or not later than six p.m. on the last 2118
Friday before the day of the election at which the ballots are 2119
to be voted if the application is delivered in person to the 2120
office of the board. 2121

(2) An application for absent voter's ballots submitted 2122
through the online system described in section 3509.031 of the 2123
Revised Code shall be submitted through the system not earlier 2124
than the first day of January of the year of the election for 2125
which the absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier 2126
than ninety days before the day of the election at which the 2127
ballots are to be voted, whichever is earlier, and not later 2128
than twelve noon on the third day before the day of the election 2129
at which the ballots are to be voted. 2130

~~(E) A board of elections that mails an absent voter's 2131~~
~~ballot application to an elector under this section shall not 2132~~
~~prepay the return postage for that application. 2133~~

~~(F)~~ Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2134
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 2135
official shall not fill out any portion of an application for 2136
absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary 2137
of state or a board of elections may preprint only an 2138
applicant's name and address on an application for absent 2139
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 2140
applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter 2141
registration record, the secretary of state or a board of 2142
elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the 2143

application. 2144

Sec. 3509.031. (A) The secretary of state shall establish 2145
a secure online system for electors to apply for absent voter's 2146
ballots. The system shall provide for all of the following: 2147

(1) An elector to submit an application online through the 2148
internet to vote in an election by absent voter's ballots. The 2149
system shall permit the elector to submit the application not 2150
earlier than the first day of January of the year of the 2151
election or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the 2152
election, whichever is earlier. 2153

(2) The secretary of state to transmit the completed 2154
application to the board of elections of the county in which the 2155
elector resides; 2156

(3) The elector to be sent proper absent voter's ballots 2157
for the applicable election in accordance with section 3509.04 2158
of the Revised Code, if all of the following apply: 2159

(a) The application contains all of the information 2160
required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, except for 2161
the elector's signature. 2162

(b) The elector is registered to vote and eligible to vote 2163
in the election for which the elector is seeking absent voter's 2164
ballots. 2165

(c) The elector attests to the truth and accuracy of the 2166
information submitted in the online application under penalty of 2167
election falsification using the elector's birth date and the 2168
elector's Ohio driver's license number, the elector's Ohio 2169
identification card number, or the last four digits of the 2170
elector's social security number as proof of the elector's 2171
identity. 2172

(d) The elector submits the application through the online 2173
system not later than twelve noon on the third day before the 2174
day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted. 2175

(B) The secretary of state shall employ security measures 2176
necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of information 2177
submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in 2178
processing applications for absent voter's ballots in the online 2179
system shall not prevent an elector from receiving absent 2180
voter's ballots. 2181

Sec. 3509.032. (A) (1) Before every election, the secretary 2182
of state shall mail an application for absent voter's ballots, 2183
return postage prepaid, to every elector in this state. 2184

(2) The secretary of state is not required to mail 2185
applications for absent voter's ballots under division (A) of 2186
this section if, at the time the mailing is to be conducted, the 2187
procedures described in section 3509.042 of the Revised Code 2188
apply to the election. 2189

(B) The secretary of state shall reimburse the boards of 2190
elections for the cost of prepaying the return postage on absent 2191
voter's ballots and provisional absent voter's ballots, as 2192
described in sections 3509.04 and 3511.04 of the Revised Code. 2193

Sec. 3509.04. (A) (1) If a ~~director of a~~ board of elections 2194
receives an application for absent voter's ballots that does not 2195
contain all of the required information, the ~~director board~~ 2196
promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional 2197
information required to be provided by the applicant to complete 2198
that application. If the board has a telephone number or 2199
electronic mail address for the applicant, the board shall 2200
contact the applicant by one of those methods instead of by 2201

mail. The applicant may provide the required information to the 2202
board in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail. 2203

(2) If the board is unable to obtain all of the required 2204
information from an applicant for absent voter's ballots, if the 2205
board determines that the applicant is eligible to cast a 2206
provisional absent voter's ballot under section 3505.16 of the 2207
Revised Code, or if the board determines that an application is 2208
not valid for any reason, the board shall mail a provisional 2209
absent voter's ballot to the applicant in accordance with 2210
section 3509.041 of the Revised Code. However, the board shall 2211
not be required to mail a provisional absent voter's ballot to 2212
the applicant if the board communicates to the applicant that 2213
the applicant is eligible to vote in another precinct or by 2214
another means and the applicant agrees to do so. 2215

(B) Upon receipt by the director of elections of an 2216
application for absent voter's ballots that contains all of the 2217
required information, as provided by ~~section~~ sections 3509.03 2218
and ~~division (C) of section 3503.16~~ 3509.031 of the Revised 2219
Code, the director, if the director finds that the applicant is 2220
a qualified elector, shall deliver to the applicant in person or 2221
mail directly to the applicant by special delivery mail, air 2222
mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, proper absent voter's 2223
ballots. The director shall deliver or mail with the ballots an 2224
unsealed identification envelope upon the face of which shall be 2225
printed a form substantially as follows: 2226

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter 2227

I, _____ (Name of voter), declare under 2228
penalty of election falsification that the within ballot or 2229
ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received 2230
them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed 2231

in the identification envelope, and sealed in that envelope. 2232

My voting residence in Ohio is 2233

_____ 2234

(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number) 2235

of _____ (City, Village, or Township) 2236

Ohio, which is in Ward _____ Precinct _____ 2237

in that city, village, or township. 2238

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am 2239

providing my program participant identification number instead 2240

of my residence address: _____ 2241

The primary election ballots, if any, within this envelope 2242

are primary election ballots of the _____ Party. 2243

Ballots contained within this envelope are to be voted at 2244

the _____ (general, special, or primary) election to be 2245

held on the _____ day of 2246

_____, _____. 2247

My date of birth is _____ (Month and Day), 2248

_____ (Year). 2249

(Voter must provide one of the following:) 2250

My driver's license number is _____ (Driver's 2251

license number). 2252

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are 2253

_____ (Last four digits of Social Security Number). 2254

_____ In lieu of providing a driver's license number or 2255

the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am 2256

enclosing a copy of one of the following in the return envelope 2257

in which this identification envelope will be mailed: a current 2258

and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a 2259
current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2260
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2261
voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows my 2262
name and address. 2263

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2264
that the statements above are true, as I verily believe. 2265

_____ 2266

(Signature of Voter) 2267

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF 2268
THE FIFTH DEGREE." 2269

The director shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed 2270
identification envelope an unsealed return envelope upon the 2271
face of which shall be printed the official title and post- 2272
office address of the director. In the upper left corner on the 2273
face of the return envelope, several blank lines shall be 2274
printed upon which the voter may write the voter's name and 2275
return address. The return envelope shall be of such size that 2276
the identification envelope can be conveniently placed within it 2277
for returning the identification envelope to the director. 2278

A board of elections that mails or otherwise delivers 2279
absent voter's ballots or a provisional absent voter's ballot to 2280
an elector ~~under this section shall not~~ prepay the return 2281
postage for those ballots. The secretary of state shall 2282
reimburse the board for the cost of prepaying that return 2283
postage. 2284

Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2285
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 2286
official shall not fill out any portion of an identification 2287

envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on 2288
behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an 2289
elector's name and address on an identification envelope 2290
statement of voter before mailing absent voter's ballots to the 2291
elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter 2292
registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the 2293
Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the 2294
elector's address on the identification envelope statement of 2295
voter. 2296

Sec. 3509.041. (A) (1) If the board of elections 2297
determines, under section 3503.16, 3509.04, or 3511.04 of the 2298
Revised Code, that an applicant to cast absent voter's ballots 2299
by mail is eligible to cast a provisional absent voter's ballot, 2300
the board shall mail directly to the applicant by special 2301
delivery mail, air mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, a 2302
proper provisional absent voter's ballot. The board shall mail 2303
with the ballot an unsealed envelope, upon the face of which 2304
shall be printed an affirmation substantially as follows: 2305

"Provisional Absent Voter's Ballot Affirmation 2306

Clearly print your full name: _____ 2307

Write your date of birth: _____ 2308

Write your current address: _____ 2309

_____ 2310

Have you moved without updating your voter registration?: 2311

Yes _____ No _____ 2312

If yes, write your former address: _____ 2313

_____ 2314

Failure to provide your former address will not cause your 2315
provisional ballot to be rejected. 2316

Provide one of the following forms of identification: 2317

Write your full Ohio driver's license or state 2318
identification card number: _____ 2319

Write the last four digits of your Social Security number: 2320
_____ 2321

_____ Instead of providing a driver's license or state 2322
identification card number or the last four digits of my Social 2323
Security number, I am enclosing a copy of one of the following: 2324
a current and valid photo identification, a military 2325
identification, or a current utility bill, bank statement, 2326
government check, paycheck, or other government document, other 2327
than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of 2328
elections, that shows my name and address. 2329

If you fail to provide identification at this time, you 2330
must go to the board of elections on or before the seventh day 2331
following this election to provide a qualifying form of 2332
identification in order for this ballot to count. 2333

If your right to vote has been challenged, you must 2334
provide any required additional information to the board of 2335
elections on or before the seventh day following this election. 2336

Sign and date the following statement: 2337

I solemnly swear or affirm that I am a citizen of the 2338
United States; that I will be at least 18 years of age at the 2339
time of the general election; that I have lived in this state 2340
for 30 days immediately preceding this election in which I am 2341
voting this ballot; that I am a registered voter in the precinct 2342

in which I am voting this ballot; and that I am eligible to vote 2343
in the election in which I am voting this ballot. 2344

I understand that, if the information I provide on this 2345
affirmation is not fully completed and correct, if the board of 2346
elections determines that I am not registered to vote, a 2347
resident of this precinct, or eligible to vote in this election, 2348
or if the board of elections determines that I have already 2349
voted in this election, my ballot will not be counted. I 2350
understand that, if I am not currently registered to vote or if 2351
I am not registered at my current address or under my current 2352
name, this form will serve as an application to register to vote 2353
or update my registration for future elections, as long as I 2354
provide all of the information required to register to vote or 2355
update my registration. I further understand that knowingly 2356
providing false information is a violation of law and subjects 2357
me to possible criminal prosecution. 2358

The ballot in this envelope contained no voting marks of 2359
any kind when I received it, and I caused the ballot to be 2360
marked, enclosed in this envelope, and sealed in the envelope. 2361

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, 2362
that the above statements are true and correct to the best of my 2363
knowledge and belief. 2364

_____(Signature of Voter) 2365

_____(Date) 2366

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A 2367
FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE." 2368

(2) In addition to the information required to be included 2369
on the affirmation, the individual casting the provisional 2370
absent voter's ballot may provide additional information to the 2371

board of elections to assist the board in determining the 2372
individual's eligibility to vote in that election, including the 2373
date and location at which the individual registered to vote, if 2374
known. 2375

(3) Except as otherwise provided in sections 3505.24 and 2376
3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill 2377
out any portion of a provisional absent voter's ballot 2378
affirmation or a provisional absent voter's ballot on behalf of 2379
an individual. 2380

(B) The board shall include all of the following with the 2381
provisional absent voter's ballot and affirmation envelope: 2382

(1) An explanation of the reason the individual has 2383
received a provisional absent voter's ballot; 2384

(2) Information about how the individual may ascertain the 2385
status of the individual's ballot using the free access system 2386
described in division (B)(5) of section 3505.181 of the Revised 2387
Code or by another method; 2388

(3) An unsealed return envelope of the type described in 2389
section 3509.04 or 3511.05 of the Revised Code, as applicable; 2390

(4) Instructions for the individual to return the voted 2391
ballot in the manner described in section 3509.05 or 3511.09 of 2392
the Revised Code, as applicable. 2393

(C) If an individual cast a provisional absent voter's 2394
ballot in a precinct in which the individual is not registered 2395
and eligible to vote, but in the correct county, the 2396
individual's ballot shall be remade on a ballot for the 2397
appropriate precinct to reflect the offices, questions, and 2398
issues for which the individual was eligible to cast a ballot 2399
and for which the individual attempted to cast a ballot. The 2400

remade ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and 2401
issue for which the individual was eligible to vote. 2402

(D) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2403
sections 3509.04 and 3511.04 of the Revised Code, the 2404
requirements of sections 3505.181 to 3505.183 of the Revised 2405
Code concerning provisional ballots apply to a provisional 2406
absent voter's ballot cast under this section. 2407

Sec. 3509.042. If, by order of a public official or of a 2408
court issued before an election because of a public health 2409
emergency or for any other reason, opportunities for electors to 2410
cast ballots in person for the election are reduced or 2411
eliminated, all of the following shall apply: 2412

(A) As soon as practicable after the close of voter 2413
registration before the election or after the order is issued, 2414
whichever is later, the boards of elections shall mail absent 2415
voter's ballots, return postage prepaid, to every elector in 2416
this state who has not already been provided with absent voter's 2417
ballots for the election. The board shall continue to accept 2418
applications for absent voter's ballots, such as applications 2419
from electors who wish to receive their ballots at an alternate 2420
address, who require replacement ballots, or who are eligible to 2421
vote under section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. 2422

(B) If the election is a primary election, the board shall 2423
mail each elector ballots corresponding with the elector's 2424
political party affiliation as determined under section 3503.231 2425
of the Revised Code. An elector who receives ballots under this 2426
division and who wishes to change the elector's political party 2427
affiliation may apply to the board of elections for replacement 2428
ballots. If possible, the elector shall return the elector's 2429
original ballots to the board for destruction. 2430

(C) The secretary of state shall reimburse the boards of 2431
elections for the additional costs incurred under this section 2432
in printing and mailing ballots and prepaying return postage. 2433

Sec. 3509.05. (A) (1) When an elector receives an absent 2434
voter's ballot ~~pursuant to the elector's application or request~~ 2435
or provisional absent voter's ballot, the elector shall, before 2436
placing any marks on the ballot, note whether there are any 2437
voting marks on it. If there are any voting marks, the ballot 2438
shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; 2439
otherwise, the elector shall cause the ballot to be marked, 2440
folded in a manner that the stub on it and the indorsements and 2441
facsimile signatures of the members of the board of elections on 2442
the back of it are visible, and placed and sealed within the 2443
identification or affirmation envelope received from the 2444
director of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector shall 2445
cause the statement of voter or affirmation on the outside of 2446
the ~~identification~~ envelope, as applicable, to be completed and 2447
signed, under penalty of election falsification. 2448

~~If~~ (2) In the case of absent voter's ballots, if the 2449
elector does not provide the elector's driver's license number 2450
or the last four digits of the elector's social security number 2451
on the statement of voter on the identification envelope, the 2452
elector also shall include in the return envelope with the 2453
identification envelope a copy of the elector's current valid 2454
photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a 2455
copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government 2456
check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a 2457
notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections 2458
under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name 2459
and address of the elector. 2460

(3)(a) The elector shall ~~mail~~ place the identification or 2461
affirmation envelope to the director from whom it was received 2462
in the return envelope, ~~postage prepaid, or the elector may~~ and 2463
return it to the board of elections by one of the following 2464
methods: 2465

(i) By mailing it to the office of the board; 2466

(ii) By personally ~~deliver~~ delivering it to the director, 2467
or office of the board or to a ballot drop box in the county 2468
described in section 3509.052 of the Revised Code; 2469

(iii) By having the ~~elector's spouse of the elector, the~~ 2470
father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, 2471
grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, ~~or~~ 2472
the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, 2473
stepchild, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may 2474
deliver it to the ~~director~~ office of the board or to a ballot 2475
drop box in the county described in section 3509.052 of the 2476
Revised Code. The 2477

(b) The return envelope shall be transmitted to the 2478
director ~~board of elections~~ in no other manner, except as 2479
provided in section 3509.08 of the Revised Code. 2480

~~When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at~~ 2481
~~the office of the board, the elector may retire to a voting~~ 2482
~~compartment provided by the board and there mark the ballots.~~ 2483
~~Thereupon, the elector shall fold them, place them in the~~ 2484
~~identification envelope provided, seal the envelope, fill in and~~ 2485
~~sign the statement on the envelope under penalty of election~~ 2486
~~falsification, and deliver the envelope to the director of the~~ 2487
~~board.~~ 2488

(4) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this 2489

section, all ~~other~~ envelopes containing marked absent voter's 2490
ballots or provisional absent voter's ballots shall be ~~delivered~~ 2491
~~to the director~~ received at the office of the board or at a 2492
ballot drop box in the county not later than the close of the 2493
polls on the day of an election. ~~Absent voter's ballots~~ 2494
~~delivered to the director~~ Ballots received at the office of the 2495
board later than the times specified shall not be counted, but 2496
shall be kept by the board in the sealed identification or 2497
affirmation envelopes in which they are delivered ~~to the~~ 2498
~~director~~, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the 2499
Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at 2500
the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they 2501
shall be destroyed. 2502

(B) ~~(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2) of~~ 2503
~~this section, any~~ Any return envelope that is returned by mail 2504
and is postmarked prior to or otherwise marked or tracked by the 2505
United States postal service in a manner that indicates that it 2506
was mailed on or before the day of the election shall be 2507
~~delivered to~~ received at the director office of the board prior 2508
to the eleventh day after the election. Ballots delivered in 2509
envelopes postmarked ~~prior to or otherwise marked or tracked by~~ 2510
the United States postal service in a manner that indicates that 2511
they were mailed on or before the day of the election that are 2512
received after the close of the polls on election day through 2513
the tenth day thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at 2514
the board of elections in the manner provided in ~~divisions (C)~~ 2515
~~and (D) of section 3505.183 or 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in~~ 2516
~~the manner provided in division (E) of that section, as~~ 2517
applicable. Any such ballots that are received ~~by the director~~ 2518
later than the tenth day following the election shall not be 2519
counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed 2520

identification or affirmation envelopes as provided in division 2521
(A) of this section. 2522

~~(2) Division (B) (1) of this section shall not apply to any 2523~~
~~mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, 2524~~
~~including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1. 2525~~

Sec. 3509.051. Notwithstanding section 3509.05 or any 2526
other provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, all of the 2527
following shall apply to the casting of absent voter's ballots 2528
in person: 2529

(A) The absent voter shall provide identification to the 2530
election officials in the same manner as one of the following: 2531

(1) As a voter who casts a ballot in person on the day of 2532
an election is required to provide identification under section 2533
3505.18 of the Revised Code; or 2534

(2) As a voter who casts an absent voter's ballot is 2535
required to submit a completed written application for an absent 2536
voter's ballot under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code. 2537

(B) The absent voter shall not be required to complete a 2538
statement of voter on an absent voter's ballot identification 2539
envelope. 2540

(C) The board of elections shall provide a signature book 2541
to be signed by absent voters who are casting their ballots in 2542
person. 2543

(D) No person other than an election official shall be 2544
permitted to challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who 2545
is casting a ballot in person. An election official may 2546
challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a 2547
ballot in person in the same manner as a precinct election 2548

official may challenge the right to vote of an elector on the 2549
day of an election under section 3505.20 or 3513.19 of the 2550
Revised Code. 2551

(E) If, for any reason, the election officials determine 2552
that a person who wishes to cast absent voter's ballots in 2553
person is not eligible to do so, the person shall be permitted 2554
to cast a provisional ballot as described in sections 3505.181 2555
to 3505.183 of the Revised Code. 2556

(F) No absent voter may receive a replacement ballot after 2557
the voter's absent voter's ballot has been scanned or entered 2558
into automatic tabulating equipment. 2559

Sec. 3509.052. The board of elections may establish one or 2560
more secure drop boxes in the county for the return of absent 2561
voter's ballots to the board without the payment of postage. A 2562
bipartisan team of election officials shall close each drop box 2563
and collect the deposited ballots promptly at seven-thirty p.m. 2564
on the day of the election, provided that persons who are 2565
waiting in line to deposit ballots in a drop box at that time 2566
shall be permitted to deposit those ballots. 2567

Sec. 3509.08. (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account 2568
of the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or 2569
infirmary, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail 2570
or workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial 2571
on a felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the 2572
elector's home or place of confinement to the voting booth in 2573
the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or 2574
primary election may make application in writing for an absent 2575
voter's ballot to the director of the board of elections of the 2576
elector's county. The application shall include all of the 2577
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 2578

and shall state the nature of the elector's illness, physical 2579
disability, or infirmity, or the fact that the elector is 2580
confined in a jail or workhouse and the elector's resultant 2581
inability to travel to the election booth in the elector's 2582
precinct on election day. The application shall not be valid if 2583
it is delivered to the director before the ninetieth day or 2584
after twelve noon of the third day before the day of the 2585
election at which the ballot is to be voted. 2586

The absent voter's ballot may be mailed directly to the 2587
applicant at the applicant's voting residence or place of 2588
confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or the 2589
board may designate two board employees belonging to the two 2590
major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot 2591
to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the 2592
board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or private 2593
institution within the county, in which case the board shall 2594
designate two board employees belonging to the two major 2595
political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to 2596
the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board. 2597
In all other instances, the ballot shall be returned to the 2598
office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05 2599
of the Revised Code. 2600

Any disabled or confined elector who declares to the two 2601
board employees belonging to the two major political parties 2602
that the elector is unable to mark the elector's ballot by 2603
reason of physical infirmity that is apparent to the employees 2604
to be sufficient to incapacitate the voter from marking the 2605
elector's ballot properly, may receive, upon request, the 2606
assistance of the employees in marking the elector's ballot, and 2607
they shall thereafter give no information in regard to this 2608
matter. Such assistance shall not be rendered for any other 2609

cause. 2610

When two board employees belonging to the two major 2611
political parties deliver a ballot to a disabled or confined 2612
elector, each of the employees shall be present when the ballot 2613
is delivered, when assistance is given, and when the ballot is 2614
returned to the office of the board, and shall subscribe to the 2615
declaration on the identification envelope. 2616

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of 2617
application for absent voter's ballots under this division. 2618

This chapter applies to disabled and confined absent 2619
voter's ballots except as otherwise provided in this section. 2620

(B) (1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to 2621
the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any 2622
general, special, or primary election may apply to the director 2623
of the board of elections of the county where the elector is a 2624
qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's 2625
ballot if either of the following apply: 2626

(a) The elector is confined in a hospital as a result of 2627
an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency occurring before 2628
the election; 2629

(b) The elector's minor child is confined in a hospital as 2630
a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency 2631
occurring before the election. 2632

(2) The application authorized under division (B) (1) of 2633
this section shall be made in writing, shall include all of the 2634
information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, 2635
and shall be delivered to the director not later than three p.m. 2636
on the day of the election. The application shall indicate the 2637
hospital where the applicant or the applicant's child is 2638

confined, the date of the applicant's or the applicant's child's 2639
admission to the hospital, and the offices for which the 2640
applicant is qualified to vote. The applicant may also request 2641
that a member of the applicant's family, as listed in section 2642
3509.05 of the Revised Code, deliver the absent voter's ballot 2643
to the applicant. The director, after establishing to the 2644
director's satisfaction the validity of the circumstances 2645
claimed by the applicant, shall supply an absent voter's ballot 2646
to be delivered to the applicant. When the applicant or the 2647
applicant's child is in a hospital in the county where the 2648
applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a 2649
member of the family to deliver the ballot, the director shall 2650
arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the 2651
applicant, and for its return to the office of the board, by two 2652
board employees belonging to the two major political parties 2653
according to the procedures prescribed in division (A) of this 2654
section. When the applicant or the applicant's child is in a 2655
hospital outside the county where the applicant is a qualified 2656
elector and no request is made for a member of the family to 2657
deliver the ballot, the director shall arrange for the delivery 2658
of an absent voter's ballot to the applicant by mail, and the 2659
ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the 2660
manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code. 2661

~~(3) Any qualified elector who is eligible to vote under 2662~~
~~division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code but 2663~~
~~is unable to do so because of the circumstances described in 2664~~
~~division (B) (2) of this section may vote in accordance with 2665~~
~~division (B) (1) of this section if that qualified elector states 2666~~
~~in the application for absent voter's ballots that that 2667~~
~~qualified elector moved or had a change of name under the 2668~~
~~circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of section 2669~~

~~3503.16 of the Revised Code and if that qualified elector~~ 2670
~~complies with divisions (G) (1) to (4) of section 3503.16 of the~~ 2671
~~Revised Code.~~ 2672

(C) Any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B) 2673
(1) of this section who needs no assistance to vote or to return 2674
absent voter's ballots to the board of elections may apply for 2675
absent voter's ballots under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code 2676
instead of applying for them under this section. 2677

Sec. 3509.09. (A) The poll list or signature pollbook for 2678
each precinct shall identify each registered elector in that 2679
precinct who has ~~requested~~ been provided an absent voter's 2680
ballot, uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, or 2681
provisional absent voter's ballot or who has cast absent voter's 2682
ballots or a provisional ballot in person at the office of the 2683
board for that election, other than an elector who has a 2684
confidential voter registration record, as described in section 2685
111.44 of the Revised Code. 2686

(B) ~~(1)~~ If a registered elector appears to vote in that 2687
precinct and that elector has ~~requested~~ been provided an absent 2688
voter's ballot, uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 2689
ballot, or provisional absent voter's ballot or has cast absent 2690
voter's ballots or a provisional ballot in person at the office 2691
of the board for that election ~~but the director has not received~~ 2692
~~a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that~~ 2693
~~elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election, the~~ 2694
elector shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under 2695
section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day 2696
of that election. 2697

~~(2) If a registered elector appears to vote in that~~ 2698
~~precinct and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot~~ 2699

~~for that election and the director has received a sealed~~ 2700
~~identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's~~ 2701
~~voted absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector~~ 2702
~~shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section~~ 2703
~~3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that~~ 2704
~~election.~~ 2705

(C) (1) In counting absent voter's ballots ~~under section~~ 2706
~~3509.06 of the Revised Code, uniformed services or overseas~~ 2707
~~absent voter's ballots, provisional absent voter's ballots, and~~ 2708
~~provisional ballots cast in person at the office of the board,~~ 2709
the board of elections shall compare the voter's signature of 2710
~~each elector from whom the director has received a sealed on the~~ 2711
~~identification or affirmation envelope purporting to contain~~ 2712
~~that elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election to~~ 2713
the signature on that elector's registration form. Except as 2714
otherwise provided in division (C) (3) of this section, if the 2715
board of elections determines that the absent voter's ballot ~~in~~ 2716
~~the sealed identification envelope, uniformed services or~~ 2717
~~overseas absent voter's ballot, provisional absent voter's~~ 2718
~~ballot, or provisional ballot cast in person at the office of~~ 2719
~~the board~~ is valid, it shall be eligible to be counted. If the 2720
board of elections determines that the signature on the ~~sealed~~ 2721
~~identification or affirmation envelope purporting to contain the~~ 2722
~~elector's voted absent voter's ballot~~ does not match the 2723
signature on the elector's registration form, the ballot shall 2724
be set aside and the board shall examine, during the time prior 2725
to the beginning of the official canvass, the poll list or 2726
signature pollbook from the precinct in which the elector is 2727
registered to vote to determine if the elector also cast a 2728
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in 2729
that precinct on the day of the election. 2730

(2) The ~~board of elections shall count the~~ provisional 2731
ballot cast in person on the day of the election shall be 2732
eligible to be counted, instead of the absent voter's ballot, 2733
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, 2734
provisional absent voter's ballot, or provisional ballot cast in 2735
person at the office of the board, if both of the following 2736
apply: 2737

(a) The board of elections determines that the signature 2738
of the elector on the outside of the identification or 2739
affirmation envelope in which the absent voter's ~~ballots are~~ 2740
ballot, uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, 2741
provisional absent voter's ballot, or provisional ballot cast in 2742
person at the office of the board is enclosed does not match the 2743
signature of the elector on the elector's registration form; 2744

(b) The elector cast a provisional ballot in the precinct 2745
on the day of the election. 2746

(3) If the board of elections does not receive the sealed 2747
identification or affirmation envelope purporting to contain the 2748
elector's voted absent voter's ballot, uniformed services or 2749
overseas absent voter's ballot, or provisional absent voter's 2750
ballot by the applicable deadline established under section 2751
3509.05 or 3511.11 of the Revised Code, as applicable, the 2752
provisional ballot cast under section 3505.181 of the Revised 2753
Code in that precinct on the day of the election shall be 2754
eligible to be counted as valid, ~~if that provisional ballot is~~ 2755
~~otherwise determined to be valid pursuant to section 3505.183 of~~ 2756
~~the Revised Code.~~ 2757

(D) If the board of elections counts a provisional ballot 2758
cast on the day of the election under division (C) (2) or (3) of 2759
this section, the returned identification or affirmation 2760

envelope ~~of that elector purporting to contain the elector's~~ 2761
~~absent voter's ballot, uniformed services or overseas absent~~ 2762
~~voter's ballot, provisional absent voter's ballot, or~~ 2763
~~provisional ballot cast in person at the office of the board~~ 2764
shall not be opened, and the ballot within that envelope shall 2765
not be counted. The identification or affirmation envelope shall 2766
be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reason the ballot was not 2767
counted. 2768

Sec. 3511.02. (A) Notwithstanding any section of the 2769
Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for 2770
registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with 2771
federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas 2772
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973ff 2773
(1986), this application shall be sufficient for voter 2774
registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. 2775
Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be 2776
obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 2777
3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the 2778
secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in 2779
which the person's voting residence is located in accordance 2780
with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the 2781
director of the board of elections of the county in which the 2782
person's voting residence is located, in one of the following 2783
ways: 2784

(1) That person may make written application for those 2785
ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to 2786
the director or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send 2787
it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such 2788
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 2789
of state, or otherwise send it to the director. Except as 2790
otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the 2791

application need not be in any particular form but shall contain 2792
all of the following information: 2793

(a) The elector's name; 2794

(b) The elector's signature; 2795

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to 2796
vote; 2797

(d) The elector's date of birth; 2798

(e) One of the following: 2799

(i) The elector's driver's license number; 2800

(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2801
number; 2802

(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2803
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2804
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2805
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2806
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 2807
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of 2808
the elector. 2809

(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2810
voter's ballots are requested; 2811

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2812
a qualified elector; 2813

(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed 2814
services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff- 2815
6; 2816

(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in 2817
the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, 2818

immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the 2819
service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United 2820
States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 2821
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 2822
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 2823
United States, whichever is applicable; 2824

(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2825
~~elector's political party whose ballots the elector wishes to~~ 2826
~~cast or an indication that the elector wishes to vote only on~~ 2827
~~any questions or issues appearing on the ballot at a special~~ 2828
~~election held on the day of the primary election. If the elector~~ 2829
~~requests the ballot of a political party with which the elector~~ 2830
~~is not registered as affiliated, the request shall operate as a~~ 2831
~~notice of change of political party affiliation.~~ 2832

(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the 2833
elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed; 2834

(l) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the 2835
elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they 2836
shall be so sent; 2837

(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the 2838
elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of 2839
elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, 2840
the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact 2841
information. 2842

(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division 2843
(A) (3) of this section may use a single federal post card 2844
application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent 2845
voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in 2846
a given year and any special election to be held on the day in 2847

that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for each election.

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only by the director or on a single federal post card as provided in division (A)(2) of this section. The form of the application shall be prescribed by the secretary of state. The director shall furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in this division desiring to make the application, only upon the request of such a relative made in person at the office of the board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following:

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are requested;

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed

services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff- 2878
6; 2879

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to 2880
vote; 2881

(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of 2882
residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of 2883
service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or 2884
near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the 2885
United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal 2886
guardian resided in this state long enough to establish 2887
residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the 2888
United States, as the case may be; 2889

(e) The elector's date of birth; 2890

(f) One of the following: 2891

(i) The elector's driver's license number; 2892

(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security 2893
number; 2894

(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo 2895
identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy 2896
of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, 2897
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of 2898
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 2899
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of 2900
the elector. 2901

(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent 2902
voter's ballots are requested; 2903

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is 2904
a qualified elector; 2905

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the 2906
elector's political party whose ballot the elector wishes to 2907
cast or an indication that the elector wishes to vote only on 2908
any questions or issues appearing on the ballot at a special 2909
election held on the day of the primary election. If the elector 2910
requests the ballot of a political party with which the elector 2911
is not registered as affiliated, the request shall operate as a 2912
notice of change of political party affiliation. 2913

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to 2914
the elector as specified in division (A)(3) of this section; 2915

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the 2916
telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile 2917
machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be 2918
sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by 2919
the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet 2920
contact information to which ballots shall be sent through 2921
internet delivery; 2922

(l) The signature and address of the person making the 2923
application. 2924

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration 2925
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the 2926
application may include the elector's program participant 2927
identification number instead of the address at which the 2928
elector is registered to vote. 2929

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas 2930
absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director not 2931
earlier than the first day of January of the year of the 2932
elections for which the uniformed services or overseas absent 2933
voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days 2934

before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be 2935
voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of 2936
the third day preceding the day of the election, or not later 2937
than six p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election 2938
at which those ballots are to be voted if the application is 2939
delivered in person to the office of the board. 2940

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is 2941
entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors 2942
only, the applicant shall submit to the director in addition to 2943
the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to 2944
the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential 2945
and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices. 2946

~~(E) A board of elections that mails a federal post card 2947
application or other absent voter's ballot application to an 2948
elector under this section shall not prepay the return postage 2949
for that application. 2950~~

~~(F)~~ Except as otherwise provided in this section and in 2951
sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election 2952
official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card 2953
application or other application for absent voter's ballots on 2954
behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of 2955
elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a 2956
federal post card application or other application for absent 2957
voter's ballots before mailing that application to the 2958
applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter 2959
registration record, the secretary of state or the board of 2960
elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the 2961
application. 2962

Sec. 3511.04. (A) (1) If a ~~director of a~~ board of elections 2963
receives an application for uniformed services or overseas 2964

absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required 2965
information, the ~~director-board~~ promptly shall notify the 2966
applicant of the additional information required to be provided 2967
by the applicant to complete that application. If the board has 2968
a telephone number or electronic mail address for the applicant, 2969
the board shall contact the applicant by one of those methods 2970
instead of by mail. The applicant may provide the required 2971
information to the board in person, by mail, by telephone, or by 2972
electronic mail. 2973

(2) If the board is unable to obtain all of the required 2974
information from an applicant for absent voter's ballots, if the 2975
board determines that the applicant is eligible to cast a 2976
provisional absent voter's ballot under section 3505.16 of the 2977
Revised Code, or if the board determines that an application is 2978
not valid for any reason, the board shall mail a provisional 2979
absent voter's ballot to the applicant in accordance with 2980
section 3509.041 of the Revised Code. However, the board shall 2981
not be required to mail a provisional absent voter's ballot to 2982
the applicant if the board communicates to the applicant that 2983
the applicant is eligible to vote in another precinct or by 2984
another means and the applicant agrees to do so. 2985

(B) Not later than the forty-sixth day before the day of 2986
each general or primary election, and at the earliest possible 2987
time before the day of a special election held on a day other 2988
than the day on which a general or primary election is held, the 2989
director of the board of elections shall mail, send by facsimile 2990
machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery 2991
if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the 2992
secretary of state, or otherwise send uniformed services or 2993
overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use as provided 2994
for in section 3511.03 of the Revised Code and for which the 2995

director has received valid applications prior to that time. 2996
Thereafter, and until twelve noon of the third day preceding the 2997
day of election, the director shall promptly, upon receipt of 2998
valid applications for them, mail, send by facsimile machine, 2999
send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such 3000
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 3001
of state, or otherwise send to the proper persons all uniformed 3002
services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use. 3003

If, after the seventieth day before the day of a general 3004
or primary election, any other question, issue, or candidacy is 3005
lawfully ordered submitted to the electors voting at the general 3006
or primary election, the board shall promptly provide a separate 3007
official issue, special election, or other election ballot for 3008
submitting the question, issue, or candidacy to those electors, 3009
and the director shall promptly mail, send by facsimile machine, 3010
send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such 3011
delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary 3012
of state, or otherwise send each such separate ballot to each 3013
person to whom the director has previously mailed or sent other 3014
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots. 3015

A board of elections that mails or otherwise delivers 3016
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots or a 3017
provisional absent voter's ballot to an elector ~~under this~~ 3018
~~section shall not~~ prepay the return postage for those ballots 3019
unless, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, no postage is required. In The 3020
secretary of state shall reimburse the board for the cost of 3021
prepaying that return postage. 3022

In mailing uniformed services or overseas absent voter's 3023
ballots, the director shall use the fastest mail service 3024
available, but the director shall not mail them by certified 3025

mail. 3026

Sec. 3511.09. Upon receiving uniformed services or 3027
overseas absent voter's ballots or a provisional absent voter's 3028
ballot, the elector shall cause the questions on the face of the 3029
identification or affirmation envelope, as applicable, to be 3030
answered, and, by writing the elector's usual signature in the 3031
proper place on the identification or affirmation envelope, the 3032
elector shall declare under penalty of election falsification 3033
that the answers to those questions are true and correct to the 3034
best of the elector's knowledge and belief. Then, the elector 3035
shall note whether there are any voting marks on the ballot. If 3036
there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned 3037
immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector 3038
shall cause the ballot to be marked, folded separately so as to 3039
conceal the markings on it, deposited in the identification or 3040
affirmation envelope, and securely sealed in the identification 3041
or affirmation envelope. The elector then shall sign the 3042
identification or affirmation envelope not later than seven- 3043
thirty p.m. eastern standard time on the day of the election and 3044
cause the identification or affirmation envelope to be placed 3045
within the return envelope, sealed in the return envelope, and 3046
mailed to the director of the board of elections to whom it is 3047
addressed. ~~The ballot shall be submitted for mailing not later-~~ 3048
~~than 12:01 a.m. at the place where the voter completes the~~ 3049
~~ballot, on the date of the election. If~~ In the case of uniformed 3050
services or overseas absent voter's ballots, if the elector does 3051
not provide the elector's driver's license number or the last 3052
four digits of the elector's social security number on the 3053
statement of voter on the identification envelope, the elector 3054
also shall include in the return envelope with the 3055
identification envelope a copy of the elector's current valid 3056

photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a 3057
copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government 3058
check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a 3059
notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections 3060
under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name 3061
and address of the elector. ~~Each~~ 3062

Each elector who will be outside the United States on the 3063
day of the election shall check the box on the return envelope 3064
indicating this fact and shall mail the return envelope to the 3065
director prior to the close of the polls on election day. 3066

Every uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot 3067
identification or affirmation envelope shall be accompanied by 3068
the following statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER 3069
COMMITTS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE 3070
FIFTH DEGREE. 3071

Sec. 3511.11. (A) Upon receipt of any return envelope 3072
bearing the designation "Official Election Uniformed Services or 3073
Overseas Absent Voter's Ballot" prior to the eleventh day after 3074
the day of any election, the director of the board of elections 3075
shall open it but shall not open the identification envelope 3076
contained in it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the 3077
director finds ballots in it that are not enclosed in and 3078
properly sealed in the identification envelope, the director 3079
shall not look at the markings upon the ballots and shall 3080
promptly place them in the identification envelope and promptly 3081
seal it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the director 3082
finds that ballots are enclosed in the identification envelope 3083
but that it is not properly sealed, the director shall not look 3084
at the markings upon the ballots and shall promptly seal the 3085
identification envelope. 3086

(B) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots 3087
~~delivered to received at the director office of the board of~~ 3088
~~elections or at a ballot drop box in the county described in~~ 3089
section 3509.052 of the Revised Code not later than the close of 3090
the polls on election day shall be processed and counted in the 3091
manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code. 3092

(C) A return envelope is not required to be postmarked in 3093
order for a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot 3094
contained in it to be valid. Except as otherwise provided in 3095
this division, whether or not the return envelope containing the 3096
ballot is postmarked, contains a late postmark, or contains an 3097
illegible postmark, a uniformed services or overseas absent 3098
voter's ballot that is received by mail after the close of the 3099
polls on election day through the tenth day after the election 3100
day shall be processed and counted on the eleventh day after the 3101
election day at the office of the board of elections in the 3102
manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code if the 3103
voter signed the identification envelope by the time specified 3104
in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code. ~~However, if a return~~ 3105
~~envelope containing a uniformed services or overseas absent~~ 3106
~~voter's ballot is so received and so indicates, but the~~ 3107
~~identification envelope in it is signed after the close of the~~ 3108
~~polls on election day, the uniformed services or overseas absent~~ 3109
~~voter's ballot shall not be counted.~~ 3110

(D) The following types of uniformed services or overseas 3111
absent voter's ballots shall not be counted: 3112

(1) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots 3113
contained in return envelopes that bear the designation 3114
"Official Election Uniformed Services or Overseas Absent Voter's 3115
Ballots," that are received by the director after the close of 3116

the polls on the day of the election, and that contain an 3117
identification envelope that is signed after the time specified 3118
in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code; 3119

(2) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots 3120
contained in return envelopes that bear that designation and 3121
that are received after the tenth day following the election. 3122

The uncounted ballots shall be preserved in their 3123
identification envelopes unopened until the time provided by 3124
section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all 3125
other ballots used at the election for which ballots were 3126
provided, at which time they shall be destroyed. 3127

Sec. 3513.05. Each person desiring to become a candidate 3128
for a party nomination at a primary election or for election to 3129
an office or position to be voted for at a primary election, 3130
except persons desiring to become joint candidates for the 3131
offices of governor and lieutenant governor and except as 3132
otherwise provided in section 3513.051 of the Revised Code, 3133
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 3134
day of the primary election, file a declaration of candidacy and 3135
petition and pay the fees required under divisions (A) and (B) 3136
of section 3513.10 of the Revised Code. The declaration of 3137
candidacy and all separate petition papers shall be filed at the 3138
same time as one instrument. When the offices are to be voted 3139
for at a primary election, persons desiring to become joint 3140
candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor 3141
shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the 3142
day of the primary election, comply with section 3513.04 of the 3143
Revised Code. The prospective joint candidates' declaration of 3144
candidacy and all separate petition papers of candidacies shall 3145
be filed at the same time as one instrument. The secretary of 3146

state or a board of elections shall not accept for filing a 3147
declaration of candidacy and petition of a person seeking to 3148
become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has 3149
already filed a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of 3150
intent to be a write-in candidate, or has become a candidate by 3151
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised 3152
Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the 3153
declaration of candidacy is for a state or county office, or for 3154
any municipal or township office, if the declaration of 3155
candidacy is for a municipal or township office. 3156

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy which 3157
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, the 3158
petition, including a petition for joint candidates for the 3159
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by 3160
at least one thousand qualified electors who are members of the 3161
same political party as the candidate or joint candidates, and 3162
the declaration of candidacy and petition shall be filed with 3163
the secretary of state; provided that the secretary of state 3164
shall not accept or file any such petition appearing on its face 3165
to contain signatures of more than three thousand electors. 3166

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if the 3167
declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only 3168
to electors within a district, political subdivision, or portion 3169
thereof, the petition shall be signed by not less than fifty 3170
qualified electors who are members of the same political party 3171
as the political party of which the candidate is a member. If 3172
the declaration of candidacy is for party nomination as a 3173
candidate for member of the legislative authority of a municipal 3174
corporation elected by ward, the petition shall be signed by not 3175
less than twenty-five qualified electors who are members of the 3176
political party of which the candidate is a member. 3177

No such petition, except the petition for a candidacy that 3178
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, 3179
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain on its 3180
face signatures of more than three times the minimum number of 3181
signatures. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for 3182
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed 3183
invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the 3184
petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures 3185
accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures 3186
required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying 3187
signatures on petitions when the number of verified signatures 3188
equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures. 3189

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy for 3190
party nomination or for election as a candidate of a minor 3191
party, the minimum number of signatures on such petition is one- 3192
half the minimum number provided in this section, except that, 3193
when the candidacy is one for election as a member of the state 3194
central committee or the county central committee of a political 3195
party, the minimum number shall be the same for a minor party as 3196
for a major party. 3197

If a declaration of candidacy is one for election as a 3198
member of the state central committee or the county central 3199
committee of a political party, the petition shall be signed by 3200
five qualified electors of the district, county, ward, township, 3201
or precinct within which electors may vote for such candidate. 3202
The electors signing such petition shall be ~~members of~~ 3203
affiliated with the same political party as the ~~political party~~ 3204
~~of which the candidate is a member,~~ as determined under section 3205
3503.231 of the Revised Code. 3206

~~For purposes of signing or circulating a petition of~~ 3207

~~candidacy for party nomination or election, an elector is~~ 3208
~~considered to be a member of a political party if the elector~~ 3209
~~voted in that party's primary election within the preceding two~~ 3210
~~calendar years, or if the elector did not vote in any other~~ 3211
~~party's primary election within the preceding two calendar~~ 3212
~~years.~~ 3213

If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be 3214
submitted only to electors within a county, or within a district 3215
or subdivision or part thereof smaller than a county, the 3216
petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the 3217
county. If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be 3218
submitted only to electors of a district or subdivision or part 3219
thereof that is situated in more than one county, the petition 3220
shall be filed with the board of elections of the county within 3221
which the major portion of the population thereof, as 3222
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, is located. 3223

A petition shall consist of separate petition papers, each 3224
of which shall contain signatures of electors of only one 3225
county. Petitions or separate petition papers containing 3226
signatures of electors of more than one county shall not thereby 3227
be declared invalid. In case petitions or separate petition 3228
papers containing signatures of electors of more than one county 3229
are filed, the board shall determine the county from which the 3230
majority of signatures came, and only signatures from such 3231
county shall be counted. Signatures from any other county shall 3232
be invalid. 3233

Each separate petition paper shall be circulated by one 3234
person only, who shall be the candidate or a joint candidate or 3235
a member of the same political party as the candidate or joint 3236
candidates, and each separate petition paper shall be governed 3237

by the rules set forth in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code. 3238

The secretary of state shall promptly transmit to each 3239
board such separate petition papers of each petition 3240
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with the secretary 3241
of state as purport to contain signatures of electors of the 3242
county of such board. The board of the most populous county of a 3243
district shall promptly transmit to each board within such 3244
district such separate petition papers of each petition 3245
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 3246
to contain signatures of electors of the county of each such 3247
board. The board of a county within which the major portion of 3248
the population of a subdivision, situated in more than one 3249
county, is located, shall promptly transmit to the board of each 3250
other county within which a portion of such subdivision is 3251
located such separate petition papers of each petition 3252
accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport 3253
to contain signatures of electors of the portion of such 3254
subdivision in the county of each such board. 3255

All petition papers so transmitted to a board and all 3256
petitions accompanying declarations of candidacy filed with a 3257
board shall, under proper regulations, be open to public 3258
inspection until four p.m. of the eightieth day before the day 3259
of the next primary election. Each board shall, not later than 3260
the seventy-eighth day before the day of that primary election, 3261
examine and determine the validity or invalidity of the 3262
signatures on the petition papers so transmitted to or filed 3263
with it and shall return to the secretary of state all petition 3264
papers transmitted to it by the secretary of state, together 3265
with its certification of its determination as to the validity 3266
or invalidity of signatures thereon, and shall return to each 3267
other board all petition papers transmitted to it by such board, 3268

together with its certification of its determination as to the 3269
validity or invalidity of the signatures thereon. All other 3270
matters affecting the validity or invalidity of such petition 3271
papers shall be determined by the secretary of state or the 3272
board with whom such petition papers were filed. 3273

Protests against the candidacy of any person filing a 3274
declaration of candidacy for party nomination or for election to 3275
an office or position, as provided in this section, may be filed 3276
by any qualified elector who is a member of the same political 3277
party as the candidate and who is eligible to vote at the 3278
primary election for the candidate whose declaration of 3279
candidacy the elector objects to, or by the controlling 3280
committee of that political party. The protest shall be in 3281
writing, and shall be filed not later than four p.m. of the 3282
seventy-fourth day before the day of the primary election. The 3283
protest shall be filed with the election officials with whom the 3284
declaration of candidacy and petition was filed. Upon the filing 3285
of the protest, the election officials with whom it is filed 3286
shall promptly fix the time for hearing it, and shall forthwith 3287
mail notice of the filing of the protest and the time fixed for 3288
hearing to the person whose candidacy is so protested. They 3289
shall also forthwith mail notice of the time fixed for such 3290
hearing to the person who filed the protest. At the time fixed, 3291
such election officials shall hear the protest and determine the 3292
validity or invalidity of the declaration of candidacy and 3293
petition. If they find that such candidate is not an elector of 3294
the state, district, county, or political subdivision in which 3295
the candidate seeks a party nomination or election to an office 3296
or position, or has not fully complied with this chapter, the 3297
candidate's declaration of candidacy and petition shall be 3298
determined to be invalid and shall be rejected; otherwise, it 3299

shall be determined to be valid. That determination shall be 3300
final. 3301

A protest against the candidacy of any persons filing a 3302
declaration of candidacy for joint party nomination to the 3303
offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall be filed, 3304
heard, and determined in the same manner as a protest against 3305
the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy 3306
singly. 3307

The secretary of state shall, on the seventieth day before 3308
the day of a primary election, certify to each board in the 3309
state the forms of the official ballots to be used at the 3310
primary election, together with the names of the candidates to 3311
be printed on the ballots whose nomination or election is to be 3312
determined by electors throughout the entire state and who filed 3313
valid declarations of candidacy and petitions. 3314

The board of the most populous county in a district 3315
comprised of more than one county but less than all of the 3316
counties of the state shall, on the seventieth day before the 3317
day of a primary election, certify to the board of each county 3318
in the district the names of the candidates to be printed on the 3319
official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 3320
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 3321
within the district and who filed valid declarations of 3322
candidacy and petitions. 3323

The board of a county within which the major portion of 3324
the population of a subdivision smaller than the county and 3325
situated in more than one county is located shall, on the 3326
seventieth day before the day of a primary election, certify to 3327
the board of each county in which a portion of that subdivision 3328
is located the names of the candidates to be printed on the 3329

official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose 3330
nomination or election is to be determined only by electors 3331
within that subdivision and who filed valid declarations of 3332
candidacy and petitions. 3333

Sec. 3513.18. Party primaries shall be held at the same 3334
place and time, but there shall be separate pollbooks and tally 3335
sheets provided at each polling place for each party 3336
participating in the election. 3337

If a special election on a question or issue is held on 3338
the day of a primary election, there shall be provided in the 3339
pollbooks pages on which shall be recorded the names of all 3340
electors voting on said question or issue and not voting in such 3341
primary. It shall not be necessary for electors desiring to vote 3342
only on the question or issue to declare their be affiliated 3343
with a political-affiliation party. 3344

Sec. 3513.19. ~~(A)~~ It is the duty of any precinct election 3345
official, whenever any such official doubts that a person 3346
attempting to vote at a primary election is legally entitled to 3347
vote at that election, to challenge the right of that person to 3348
vote in accordance with section 3505.20 of the Revised Code. ~~The~~ 3349
~~right of a person to vote at a primary election may be~~ 3350
~~challenged upon the following grounds:~~ 3351

~~(1) That the person whose right to vote is challenged is~~ 3352
~~not a legally qualified elector;~~ 3353

~~(2) That the person has received or has been promised some~~ 3354
~~valuable reward or consideration for the person's vote;~~ 3355

~~(3) That the person is not affiliated with or is not a~~ 3356
~~member of the political party whose ballot the person desires to~~ 3357
~~vote. Such party affiliation shall be determined by examining~~ 3358

~~the elector's voting record for the current year and the~~ 3359
~~immediately preceding two calendar years as shown on the voter's~~ 3360
~~registration card, using the standards of affiliation specified~~ 3361
~~in the seventh paragraph of section 3513.05 of the Revised Code.~~ 3362
~~Division (A) (3) of this section and the seventh paragraph of~~ 3363
~~section 3513.05 of the Revised Code do not prohibit a person who~~ 3364
~~holds an elective office for which candidates are nominated at a~~ 3365
~~party primary election from doing any of the following:~~ 3366

~~(a) If the person voted as a member of a different~~ 3367
~~political party at any primary election within the current year~~ 3368
~~and the immediately preceding two calendar years, being a~~ 3369
~~candidate for nomination at a party primary held during the~~ 3370
~~times specified in division (C) (2) of section 3513.191 of the~~ 3371
~~Revised Code provided that the person complies with the~~ 3372
~~requirements of that section;~~ 3373

~~(b) Circulating the person's own petition of candidacy for~~ 3374
~~party nomination in the primary election.~~ 3375

~~(B) When the right of a person to vote is challenged upon~~ 3376
~~the ground set forth in division (A) (3) of this section,~~ 3377
~~membership in or political affiliation with a political party~~ 3378
~~shall be determined by the person's statement, made under~~ 3379
~~penalty of election falsification, that the person desires to be~~ 3380
~~affiliated with and supports the principles of the political~~ 3381
~~party whose primary ballot the person desires to vote.~~ 3382

Sec. 3513.191. (A) No person shall be a candidate for 3383
nomination or election at a party primary if the person ~~voted as~~ 3384
~~a member of a different~~ is not affiliated with that political 3385
~~party at any primary election within the current year and the~~ 3386
~~immediately preceding two calendar years,~~ as determined under 3387
section 3503.231 of the Revised Code. 3388

(B) ~~Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, either~~ 3389
~~of the following persons may be candidates for nomination of any~~ 3390
~~political party at a party primary.~~ 3391

~~(1) A person who does not hold an elective office;~~ 3392

~~(2) A person who holds an elective office other than one~~ 3393
~~for which candidates are nominated at a party primary.~~ 3394

~~(C) (1) Notwithstanding division (A) of this section, a~~ 3395
person who holds an elective office for which candidates are 3396
nominated at a party primary may be a candidate at a primary 3397
election held during the times specified in division ~~(C) (2)~~ (B) 3398
(3) of this section for nomination as a candidate of a political 3399
party ~~of which the person is prohibited from being a candidate~~ 3400
~~for nomination under division (A) of this section other than the~~ 3401
~~party that most recently nominated the person as a candidate for~~ 3402
~~the office the person currently holds, only if the person files~~ 3403
all of the following are true: 3404

(a) The person files a notice of change of political party 3405
affiliation in accordance with section 3503.16 of the Revised 3406
Code before or at the same time as the person files a 3407
declaration of intent under division (B) (1) (b) of this section. 3408

(b) The person files a declaration of intent to seek the 3409
nomination of ~~that the person's new party and if, by filing the~~ 3410
~~declaration, the person has~~ . 3411

(c) The person has not violated division ~~(C) (3)~~ (B) (4) of 3412
this section. ~~The~~ 3413

(2) The declaration of intent shall: 3414

(a) Be filed not later than four p.m. of the thirtieth day 3415
before a declaration of candidacy and petition is required to be 3416

filed under section 3513.05 of the Revised Code; 3417

(b) Be filed with the same official with whom the person 3418
filing the declaration of intent is required to file a 3419
declaration of candidacy and petition; 3420

(c) Indicate the political party whose nomination in the 3421
primary election the person seeks; 3422

(d) Be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state. 3423

~~(2)~~ (3) No person filing a declaration of intent under 3424
division ~~(C)~~ (B) (1) of this section shall be a candidate at any 3425
primary election for nomination for an elective office for which 3426
candidates are nominated at a party primary during the calendar 3427
year in which the person files the declaration or during the 3428
next calendar year except as a candidate of the party indicated 3429
under division ~~(C)~~ (1) (B) (2) (c) of this section. 3430

~~(3)~~ (4) No person who files a declaration of intent under 3431
division ~~(C)~~ (B) (1) of this section shall file another such 3432
declaration for a period of ten years after the declaration is 3433
filed. 3434

~~(4) Notwithstanding the seventh paragraph of section~~ 3435
~~3513.05 of the Revised Code, a person who complies with this~~ 3436
~~section may circulate that person's own petition of candidacy~~ 3437
~~for party nomination at the party primary at which the person~~ 3438
~~seeks nomination under this section.~~ 3439

Sec. 3517.012. (A) (1) When a party formation petition 3440
meeting the requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code 3441
declaring the intention to organize a political party is filed 3442
with the secretary of state, the new party comes into legal 3443
existence on the date of filing and is entitled to nominate 3444
candidates to appear on the ballot at the general election held 3445

in even-numbered years that occurs more than one hundred twenty- 3446
five days after the date of filing. 3447

(2) (a) Upon receiving a party formation petition filed 3448
under division (A) (1) of this section, the secretary of state 3449
shall promptly transmit to each board of elections the separate 3450
petition papers that purport to contain signatures of electors 3451
of that board's county. 3452

(b) Not later than the one hundred eighteenth day before 3453
the day of the general election, each board shall examine and 3454
determine the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition 3455
papers and shall return them to the secretary of state, together 3456
with the board's certification of its determination as to the 3457
validity or invalidity of the signatures on the petition. 3458

(c) Any qualified elector may file a written protest 3459
against the petition with the secretary of state not later than 3460
the one hundred fourteenth day before the day of the general 3461
election. Any such protest shall be resolved in the manner 3462
specified under section 3501.39 of the Revised Code. 3463

(d) Not later than the ninety-fifth day before the day of 3464
the general election, the secretary of state shall determine 3465
whether the party formation petition is sufficient and shall 3466
notify the committee designated in the petition of that 3467
determination. 3468

(B) (1) Not later than one hundred ten days before the day 3469
of that general election and not earlier than the day the 3470
applicable party formation petition is filed, each candidate or 3471
pair of joint candidates wishing to appear on the ballot at the 3472
general election as the nominee or nominees of the party that 3473
filed the party formation petition shall file a nominating 3474

petition, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, that 3475
includes the name of the political party that submitted the 3476
party formation petition. Except as otherwise provided in this 3477
section and sections 3505.03, 3505.08, 3506.11, 3513.31, 3478
3513.311, and 3513.312 of the Revised Code, the provisions of 3479
the Revised Code concerning independent candidates who file 3480
nominating petitions apply to candidates who file nominating 3481
petitions under this section. 3482

(2) (a) If the candidacy is to be submitted to electors 3483
throughout the entire state, the nominating petition, including 3484
a petition for joint candidates for the offices of governor and 3485
lieutenant governor, shall be signed by at least fifty qualified 3486
electors who ~~have not voted as a member of~~ are not affiliated 3487
with a different political party at any primary election within 3488
the current year or the immediately preceding two calendar 3489
years, as determined under section 3503.231 of the Revised Code. 3490

(b) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this division, if~~ If 3491
the candidacy is to be submitted only to electors within a 3492
district, political subdivision, or portion thereof, the 3493
nominating petition shall be signed by not less than five 3494
qualified electors who ~~have not voted as a member of~~ are not 3495
affiliated with a different political party at any primary 3496
election within the current year or the immediately preceding 3497
two calendar years, as determined under section 3503.231 of the 3498
Revised Code. 3499

(3) (a) Each board of elections that is responsible to 3500
verify signatures on the nominating petition shall examine and 3501
determine the sufficiency of those signatures not later than the 3502
one hundred fifth day before the day of the general election ~~and~~ 3503
~~shall be resolved as specified in that section.~~ 3504

(b) Written protests against the petition may be filed in 3505
the manner specified under section 3513.263 of the Revised Code 3506
not later than the one hundredth day before the general election 3507
and shall be resolved as specified in that section. 3508

(c) Not later than the ninety-fifth day before the day of 3509
the general election, the secretary of state or the board of 3510
elections, as applicable, shall determine whether the nominating 3511
petition is sufficient and shall notify the candidate and the 3512
committee designated in the party formation petition of that 3513
determination. 3514

(C) (1) After being notified that the political party has 3515
submitted a sufficient party formation petition under division 3516
(A) of this section, the committee designated in a party 3517
formation petition shall, not later than the seventy-fifth day 3518
before the day of the general election, certify to the secretary 3519
of state a slate of candidates consisting of candidates or joint 3520
candidates who submitted sufficient nominating petitions under 3521
division (B) of this section. The slate certifying the 3522
candidates shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of 3523
state and signed by all of the individuals of the committee 3524
designated in the party formation petition. In no event shall 3525
the slate of candidates include more than one candidate for any 3526
public office or more than one set of joint candidates for the 3527
offices of governor and lieutenant governor. The names of the 3528
candidates or joint candidates so certified shall appear on the 3529
ballot at the general election as that party's nominees for 3530
those offices. For purposes of this division, "joint candidates" 3531
means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and 3532
lieutenant governor. 3533

(2) If a candidate's nominating petition is insufficient 3534

or if the committee does not certify the candidate's name under 3535
division (C) (1) of this section, the candidate shall not appear 3536
on the ballot in the general election. 3537

(3) If a party formation petition is insufficient, no 3538
candidate shall appear on the ballot in the general election as 3539
that political party's nominee, regardless of whether any 3540
candidate's nominating petition is sufficient. 3541

Sec. 3517.013. ~~Section~~ Division (B) of section 3513.191 of 3542
the Revised Code does not apply to persons desiring to become 3543
candidates for party nomination of a newly formed political 3544
party meeting the requirements of sections 3517.011 and 3517.012 3545
of the Revised Code for a period of four calendar years from the 3546
date of the party formation. 3547

Sec. 3599.11. (A) No person shall knowingly register or 3548
make application or attempt to register in a precinct in which 3549
the person is not a qualified voter; or knowingly aid or abet 3550
any person to so register; or attempt to register or knowingly 3551
induce or attempt to induce any person to so register; or 3552
knowingly impersonate another or write or assume the name of 3553
another, real or fictitious, in registering or attempting to 3554
register; or by false statement or other unlawful means procure, 3555
aid, or attempt to procure the erasure or striking out on the 3556
register or duplicate list of the name of a qualified elector 3557
therein; or knowingly induce or attempt to induce a registrar or 3558
other election authority to refuse registration in a precinct to 3559
an elector thereof; or knowingly swear or affirm falsely upon a 3560
lawful examination by or before any registering officer; or 3561
make, print, or issue any false or counterfeit certificate of 3562
registration or knowingly alter any certificate of registration. 3563

No person shall knowingly register under more than one 3564

name or knowingly induce any person to so register. 3565

No person shall knowingly make any false statement on any 3566
form for registration or change of registration or upon any 3567
application or return envelope for an absent voter's ballot. 3568

Whoever violates this division is guilty of a felony of 3569
the fifth degree. 3570

(B) (1) No person who helps another person register outside 3571
an official voter registration place shall knowingly destroy, or 3572
knowingly help another person to destroy, any completed 3573
registration form. 3574

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 3575
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree. 3576

(2) ~~(a)~~ No person who helps another person register outside 3577
an official voter registration place shall knowingly fail to 3578
~~return-cause~~ any registration form entrusted to that person to 3579
be returned to any board of elections or the office of the 3580
secretary of state within ten days after that 3581
~~registration~~registration form is completed, or on or before the 3582
thirtieth day before the election, whichever day is earlier, 3583
unless the registration form is received by the person within 3584
twenty-four hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in 3585
which case the person shall ~~return-cause~~ the registration form 3586
to be returned to any board of elections or the office of the 3587
secretary of state within ten days of its receipt. 3588

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 3589
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 3590
has not previously been convicted of a violation of this 3591
division ~~(B) (2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this~~ 3592
~~section~~, the violation of this division does not cause any 3593

person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to 3594
any election, and the number of voter registration forms that 3595
the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed 3596
forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a 3597
misdemeanor of the first degree. 3598

~~(b) Subject to division (C) (2) of this section, no person 3599
who helps another person register outside an official 3600
registration place shall knowingly return any registration form 3601
entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of 3602
elections or the office of the secretary of state. 3603~~

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election 3604
falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person 3605
has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B) 3606
(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the 3607
violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any 3608
voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the 3609
number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed 3610
to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the 3611
violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree. 3612~~

~~(C) (1) No person who receives compensation for registering 3613
a voter shall knowingly fail to return any registration form 3614
entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office 3615
of the secretary of state within ten days after that voter 3616
registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth 3617
day before the election, whichever is earlier, unless the 3618
registration form is received by the person within twenty-four 3619
hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case 3620
the person shall return the registration form to any board of 3621
elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days 3622
of its receipt. 3623~~

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election~~ 3624
~~falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person~~ 3625
~~has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)~~ 3626
~~(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the~~ 3627
~~violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any~~ 3628
~~voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the~~ 3629
~~number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed~~ 3630
~~to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the~~ 3631
~~violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 3632

~~(2) No person who receives compensation for registering a~~ 3633
~~voter shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to~~ 3634
~~that person to any location other than any board of elections or~~ 3635
~~the office of the secretary of state.~~ 3636

~~Whoever violates this division is guilty of election~~ 3637
~~falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person~~ 3638
~~has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)~~ 3639
~~(2) (a), (B) (2) (b), (C) (1), or (C) (2) of this section, the~~ 3640
~~violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any~~ 3641
~~voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the~~ 3642
~~number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed~~ 3643
~~to properly return does not exceed forty nine, in which case the~~ 3644
~~violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.~~ 3645

~~(D) As used in division (C) of this section, "registering~~ 3646
~~a voter" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter~~ 3647
~~registration forms or to assist persons in completing or~~ 3648
~~returning those forms.~~ 3649

Sec. 3599.12. (A) No person shall do any of the following: 3650

(1) Vote or attempt to vote in any primary, special, or 3651
general election in a precinct in which that person is not a 3652

legally qualified elector; 3653

(2) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at the same 3654
election by any means, ~~including voting or attempting to vote~~ 3655
~~both by absent voter's ballots under division (G) of section~~ 3656
~~3503.16 of the Revised Code and by regular ballot at the polls~~ 3657
~~at the same election, or voting or attempting to vote both by~~ 3658
~~absent voter's ballots under division (G) of section 3503.16 of~~ 3659
~~the Revised Code and by absent voter's ballots under Chapter~~ 3660
~~3509. or armed service absent voter's ballots under Chapter~~ 3661
~~3511. of the Revised Code at the same election;~~ 3662

(3) Impersonate or sign the name of another person, real 3663
or fictitious, living or dead, and vote or attempt to vote as 3664
that other person in any such election; 3665

(4) Cast a ballot at any such election after objection has 3666
been made and sustained to that person's vote; 3667

(5) Knowingly vote or attempt to vote a ballot other than 3668
the official ballot. 3669

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is 3670
guilty of a felony of the fourth degree. 3671

Section 2. That existing sections 111.31, 3501.01, 3672
3501.05, 3501.29, 3503.09, 3503.10, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3673
3503.19, 3503.20, 3503.23, 3503.28, 3505.181, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3674
3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3675
3511.09, 3511.11, 3513.05, 3513.18, 3513.19, 3513.191, 3517.012, 3676
3517.013, 3599.11, and 3599.12 of the Revised Code are hereby 3677
repealed. 3678

Section 3. That sections 3503.29 and 3511.13 of the 3679
Revised Code are hereby repealed. 3680

Section 4. Section 3501.29 of the Revised Code is 3681
presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended 3682
by both S.B. 10 and S.B. 109 of the 130th General Assembly. The 3683
General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) 3684
of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be 3685
harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, 3686
finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section 3687
in effect prior to the effective date of the section as 3688
presented in this act. 3689

Section 5. This act is hereby declared to be an emergency 3690
measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 3691
peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is that 3692
preparations to administer the November 3, 2020, general 3693
election in accordance with this act must begin as soon as 3694
possible. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect. 3695