

SENATE, No. 679

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator SAMUEL D. THOMPSON

District 12 (Burlington, Middlesex, Monmouth and Ocean)

SYNOPSIS

Requires automatic voter registration process at agency or office providing hunting, fishing, or trapping license.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning automatic voter registration locations and
2 amending P.L.2018, c.6.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. Section 4 of P.L.2018, c.6 (C.19:31-6.14) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 4. a. Any State agency, except for the Motor Vehicle
10 Commission, that the Secretary of State verifies already collects
11 documents that would provide proof of eligibility, including age,
12 citizenship, and residence address, may establish and implement,
13 upon approval by the Secretary of State, a procedure for
14 automatically and electronically transmitting voter registration
15 information to the Secretary of State of persons who are eligible to
16 vote for the purpose of registering such persons to vote or updating
17 their voter registration. Each person from whom such information is
18 collected shall be offered an opportunity to decline automatic voter
19 registration. Any such agency shall comply with the requirements,
20 to the extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State, as
21 established in subsections b. through d. of section 24 of P.L.1994,
22 c.182 (C.39:2-3.2).

23 b. Any additional agencies that are designated for automatic
24 voter registration shall comply with the requirements, to the extent
25 applicable as determined by the Secretary of State, as established in
26 section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) for automatic voter
27 registration and shall provide the notices required pursuant to
28 subsection c. thereof to each person from whom such information is
29 collected.

30 c. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section to the
31 contrary, any agency or office providing hunting, fishing, or
32 trapping licenses under the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the
33 Department of Environmental Protection, established pursuant to
34 P.L.1999, c.282 (C.23:2B-15.1), and that the Secretary of State
35 verifies already collects documents that would provide proof of
36 eligibility, including age, citizenship, and residence address, shall
37 establish and implement, upon approval by the Secretary of State, a
38 procedure for automatically and electronically transmitting voter
39 registration information to the Secretary of State of persons who are
40 eligible to vote for the purpose of registering such persons to vote
41 or updating their voter registration. Each person from whom such
42 information is collected shall be offered an opportunity to decline
43 automatic voter registration. An agency or office implementing the
44 provisions of this subsection shall comply with the requirements, to
45 the extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State, for
46 automatic voter registration as established in subsections b. through

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 d. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2), including the
2 provision of the notices required pursuant to subsection c. thereof to
3 each person from whom voter registration information is collected.
4 (cf: P.L.2018, c.6, s.4)

5
6 2. This act shall take effect on January 1 next following the
7 date of enactment, but the Secretary of State may take such
8 anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be
9 necessary for the implementation of this act.

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12 STATEMENT

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14 This bill requires the establishment of an automatic voter
15 registration process at an agency or office providing hunting,
16 fishing, or trapping licenses. The bill requires such agencies or
17 offices to establish an automatic voter registration process similar to
18 that currently applicable at the New Jersey Motor Vehicle
19 Commission (NJMVC).

20 Under the bill, any agency or office providing hunting, fishing,
21 or trapping licenses under the Division of Fish and Wildlife in the
22 Department of Environmental Protection, that the Secretary of State
23 verifies already collects documents that would provide proof of
24 eligibility, including age, citizenship, and residence address, would
25 be required to establish and implement, upon approval by the
26 Secretary of State, a procedure for automatically and electronically
27 transmitting voter registration information to the Secretary of State
28 of persons who are eligible to vote for the purpose of registering
29 such persons to vote or updating their voter registration. Each
30 person from whom voter registration information is collected would
31 be offered an opportunity to decline automatic voter registration.
32 The bill requires compliance with the automatic voter registration
33 requirements established under current law for the NJMVC,
34 including the provision of required notices to their clients, to the
35 extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State.