LC 3016 2013 Regular Session 2/15/13 (DRG/ps)

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SUMMARY

Directs Secretary of State to designate Department of Revenue as voter registration agency.

Becomes operative January 1, 2014.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to voter registration; creating new provisions; amending ORS

3 247.208; and declaring an emergency.

4 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

5 **SECTION 1.** ORS 247.208 is amended to read:

6 247.208. (1)(a) The Secretary of State by rule, in accordance with the re-7 quirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31), shall 8 designate agencies as voter registration agencies. Agencies designated may 9 include state, county, city or district offices and federal and nongovern-10 mental offices with the agreement of the federal or nongovernmental offices.

(b) The secretary shall designate the Department of Revenue as a voter registration agency.

(2) Services required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L.
103-31) shall be made available in connection with any registration card at
each voter registration agency designated by the Secretary of State.

(3) A person providing services referred to in subsection (2) of this section
at a voter registration agency [*shall*] may not:

(a) Seek to influence the political preference or party registration of a
 person registering to vote;

20 (b) In accordance with provisions of the Oregon Constitution, display

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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1 such political preference or party allegiance;

2 (c) Make any statement to a person registering to vote or take any action
3 the purpose or effect of which is to discourage a person from registering to
4 vote;

(d) Make any statement to a person registering to vote or take any action
the purpose or effect of which is to lead the person to believe that a decision
to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services
or benefits; or

9 (e) Seek to induce any person to register or vote in any particular man-10 ner.

11 (4) Each state agency required to be designated a voter registration 12 agency under the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31) or 13 **under this section,** shall, with each application for service or assistance 14 and with each recertification, renewal or change of address form relating to 15 the service or assistance:

(a) Distribute a registration card, including all statements required under
 the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31); and

(b) Provide a form including other information required by the National
Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31).

(5) Information relating to a declination to register to vote in connection with an application made at an office described in subsection (4) of this section shall not be used for any purpose other than voter registration.

(6) A completed registration card accepted at a voter registration agency
 designated under this section shall be delivered to a county clerk or the
 Secretary of State.

26 (7) At least once each biennium, the Secretary of State shall:

(a) Assess new and developing federal guidelines regarding compliance
with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31);

(b) Identify steps necessary to ensure ongoing compliance with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (P.L. 103-31);

31 (c) Identify barriers to and research opportunities for ensuring the accu-

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racy, security and efficiency of current voter registration processes at voter
 registration agencies designated under this section; and

3 (d) Identify ways to improve use of current technology.

4 <u>SECTION 2.</u> (1) Section 1 of this 2013 Act becomes operative on 5 January 1, 2014.

6 (2) The Secretary of State and the Department of Revenue may take 7 any action necessary before the operative date specified in subsection 8 (1) of this section to enable the secretary and department to exercise, 9 on and after the operative date specified in subsection (1) of this sec-10 tion, all the duties, functions and powers conferred on the secretary 11 and department by section 1 of this 2013 Act.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> This 2013 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2013 Act takes effect on its passage.

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