

Submitter: Sloan Neal
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure: HB2585

I support HB 2585, ending automatic voter registration via driver's license issuance.

Simply put, voting is a sacred trust granted to qualified citizens, and a privilege to participate in our representative government. Being registered to vote automatically upon getting a driver's license is irresponsible and widens the potential for errors in voter records, when it's already far too easy to compromise our votes.

Also, many people perhaps getting their license for the first time, or being new to the state, are not necessarily well-informed or established enough to register to vote, especially if they've never voted before. Experienced voters will already be motivated to get registered, while a newer voter is likely to register without much forethought, when voting should be viewed as the tremendous responsibility it is. Additionally, handing even more information to government control, where more errors are likely (due to sheer volume) risks disenfranchising voters from their intended party affiliation preference as well as potential errors that register the motorist under incorrect information (name, address, affiliation), which could jeopardize their ability to vote according to their individual preferences.

People who want to vote should take it upon themselves to ensure they're registered. It's not a government agency's role to hand-hold; we need more individual accountability, not less.