

Senate Bill 1075

Sponsored by Senator THATCHER, Representative RESCHKE; Representatives HARBICK, JAVADI, MANNIX, OWENS, WRIGHT

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act tells a person to show certain forms to register to vote. The Act declares an emergency and becomes law when the Governor signs it. (Flesch Readability Score: 73.2).
Requires evidence of United States citizenship for persons registering to vote in this state.
Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to providing proof of United States citizenship when registering to vote; creating new
3 provisions; amending ORS 247.012, 247.019, 247.025, 247.171 and 260.993; and declaring an emer-
4 gency.

5 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

6 **SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2025 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 247.**

7 **SECTION 2. (1) A person who is registering to vote in accordance with ORS 247.012 (1)**
8 **must provide evidence of the person's United States citizenship with the registration.**

9 **(2) For purposes of subsection (1) of this section, evidence of United States citizenship**
10 **may include:**

11 **(a) Any form of identification issued in accordance with the requirements of the federal**
12 **Real ID Act of 2005, 119 Stat. 231, that indicates the person is a United States citizen;**

13 **(b) A valid United States passport;**

14 **(c) A United States military identification card, together with a United States military**
15 **record of service showing that the person's place of birth was in the United States;**

16 **(d) A valid government-issued photo identification card issued by a federal, state or tribal**
17 **government showing that the person's place of birth was in the United States; or**

18 **(e) A valid government-issued photo identification card issued by a federal, state or tribal**
19 **government, other than an identification described in paragraphs (a) to (d) of this subsection,**
20 **if also presented together with one or more of the following:**

21 **(A) A certified birth certificate, including any legal documentation proving that the**
22 **person's legal name has changed since birth;**

23 **(B) An extract from a United States hospital record of birth created at the time of the**
24 **applicant's birth that indicates that the applicant's place of birth was in the United States;**

25 **(C) A final adoption decree showing the person's name and that the person was born in**
26 **the United States;**

27 **(D) A consular report of birth abroad for a citizen of the United States or a certification**
28 **of the person's report of birth of a United States citizen issued by the United States Secre-**
29 **tary of State;**

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.

1 **(E) A naturalization certificate or certificate of citizenship issued by the Secretary of**
 2 **Homeland Security or any other document or method of proof of United States citizenship**
 3 **issued by the federal government under the federal Immigration and Nationality Act (8**
 4 **U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) (1952); or**

5 **(F) A United States Bureau of Indian Affairs card number, tribal treaty card number or**
 6 **tribal enrollment number.**

7 **SECTION 3.** ORS 247.171 is amended to read:

8 247.171. (1) Except as provided in this subsection, the Secretary of State shall design, prepare
 9 and distribute state voter registration cards. The Secretary of State shall also distribute federal
 10 registration cards. Any person may apply in writing to the Secretary of State for permission to print,
 11 copy or otherwise prepare and distribute the registration cards designed by the Secretary of State.
 12 The secretary may revoke any permission granted under this subsection at any time. All registration
 13 cards shall be distributed to the public without charge.

14 (2) The Secretary of State shall approve any voter registration application form developed for
 15 use by any agency designated as a voter registration agency under ORS 247.208.

16 (3) Each voter registration card designed or approved by the Secretary of State shall describe
 17 the penalties for knowingly supplying false information on the registration card and shall contain
 18 space for a person to provide the following information:

19 (a) Full name;

20 (b) Residence address, mailing address or any other information necessary to locate the resi-
 21 dence of the person offering to register to vote;

22 (c) The name of the political party with which the person is affiliated, if any;

23 (d) Date of birth;

24 (e) An indication that the person is a citizen of the United States; and

25 (f) A signature attesting to the fact that the person is qualified to be an elector.

26 **(4) Each voter registration card designed by the Secretary of State must state that evi-**
 27 **dence of United States citizenship is required for persons who are registering to vote in this**
 28 **state and must list examples of documents that are accepted as evidence of citizenship.**

29 [(4)] **(5)** Any form containing a voter registration card may also include space for a person to
 30 provide:

31 (a) A telephone number where the person may be contacted; and

32 (b) If previously registered to vote in this state, the name then supplied by the person and the
 33 county and, if known, the address of previous registration.

34 [(5)] **(6)** A person shall not supply any information under subsection (3) or [(4)] **(5)** of this section
 35 knowing it to be false.

36 [(6)] **(7)** A county clerk or other person accepting registration cards shall not request any in-
 37 formation unless it is authorized by state or federal law.

38 [(7)] **(8)** A person shall attest to the information supplied on the voter registration card by
 39 signing the completed registration card.

40 [(8)] **(9)** Any completed and signed registration card described in subsection (3) of this section
 41 shall be the official registration card of the elector.

42 **SECTION 4.** ORS 247.171, as amended by section 7, chapter 492, Oregon Laws 2023, is amended
 43 to read:

44 247.171. (1) Except as provided in this subsection, the Secretary of State shall design, prepare
 45 and distribute state voter registration cards. The Secretary of State shall also distribute federal

1 registration cards. Any person may apply in writing to the Secretary of State for permission to print,
 2 copy or otherwise prepare and distribute the registration cards designed by the Secretary of State.
 3 The secretary may revoke any permission granted under this subsection at any time. All registration
 4 cards shall be distributed to the public without charge.

5 (2) The Secretary of State shall approve any voter registration application form developed for
 6 use by any agency designated as a voter registration agency under ORS 247.208.

7 (3) Each voter registration card designed or approved by the Secretary of State shall describe
 8 the penalties for knowingly supplying false information on the registration card and shall contain
 9 space for a person to provide the following information:

10 (a) Full name;

11 (b) Residence address, mailing address or any other information necessary to locate the resi-
 12 dence of the person offering to register to vote;

13 (c) The name of the political party with which the person is affiliated, if any;

14 (d) Date of birth;

15 (e) An indication that the person is a citizen of the United States; and

16 (f) Except as provided in ORS 247.018, a signature attesting to the fact that the person is qual-
 17 ified to be an elector.

18 **(4) Each voter registration card designed by the Secretary of State must state that evi-**
 19 **dence of United States citizenship is required for persons who are registering to vote in this**
 20 **state and must list examples of documents that are accepted as evidence of citizenship.**

21 [(4)] (5) Any form containing a voter registration card may also include space for a person to
 22 provide:

23 (a) A telephone number where the person may be contacted; and

24 (b) If previously registered to vote in this state, the name then supplied by the person and the
 25 county and, if known, the address of previous registration.

26 [(5)] (6) A person shall not supply any information under subsection (3) or [(4)] (5) of this section
 27 knowing it to be false.

28 [(6)] (7) A county clerk or other person accepting registration cards shall not request any in-
 29 formation unless it is authorized by state or federal law.

30 [(7)] (8) Except as provided in ORS 247.018, a person shall attest to the information supplied on
 31 the voter registration card by signing the completed registration card.

32 [(8)] (9) Except as provided in subsection [(7)] (8) of this section, any completed and signed
 33 registration card described in subsection (3) of this section shall be the official registration card of
 34 the elector.

35 **SECTION 5.** ORS 247.012 is amended to read:

36 247.012. (1) A qualified person may register to vote or update a registration to vote by:

37 (a) Delivering by mail, having a person deliver or otherwise delivering a completed registration
 38 card to any county clerk, the Secretary of State, any office of the Department of Transportation or
 39 any designated voter registration agency as described in ORS 247.208;

40 (b) Personally delivering, or having a person deliver, the card to an official designated by a
 41 county clerk under subsection (7) of this section;

42 (c) Submitting the person's legal name, age, residence and citizenship information and electronic
 43 signature to the Department of Transportation; or

44 (d) Completing a registration card using the electronic voter registration system described in
 45 ORS 247.019.

1 (2) If a registration card is mailed or delivered to:

2 (a) Any person other than a county clerk or the Secretary of State, the person shall forward the
 3 card to a county clerk or the Secretary of State not later than the fifth day after receiving the card;
 4 or

5 (b) The Secretary of State or a county clerk for a county other than the county in which the
 6 person applying for registration resides, the Secretary of State or county clerk shall forward the
 7 card to the county clerk for the county in which the person resides not later than the fifth day after
 8 receiving the card.

9 [(3) *Registration of a qualified person occurs:*]

10 [(a) *When a legible, accurate and complete registration card is received in the office of any county*
 11 *clerk, the Office of the Secretary of State, an office of the Department of Transportation, a designated*
 12 *voter registration agency under ORS 247.208 or at a location designated by a county clerk under sub-*
 13 *section (7) of this section;*]

14 [(b) *On the date a registration card is postmarked if the card is received after the 21st day imme-*
 15 *diately preceding an election but is postmarked not later than the 21st day immediately preceding the*
 16 *election and is addressed to an office of any county clerk, the Office of the Secretary of State, an office*
 17 *of the Department of Transportation or any designated voter registration agency as described in ORS*
 18 *247.208; or]*

19 [(c) *In the case of a registration card missing a date of birth, containing an incomplete date of birth*
 20 *or containing an unintentional scrivener's error that is supplied or corrected as described in subsection*
 21 *(4) or (6) of this section, on the date that registration would have occurred if the registration card had*
 22 *not been missing the date of birth, contained an incomplete date of birth or contained the scrivener's*
 23 *error.*]

24 [(4)(a)] **(3) The county clerk for the county in which the person resides shall register the**
 25 **person:**

26 (a) Except as provided in ORS 247.125, if [a] **the person's** registration card is legible, accurate
 27 and contains, at a minimum, the [registrant's] **person's** name, residence address, date of birth and
 28 signature[, *the county clerk shall register the person.*]; **and**

29 **(b) If the person's registration card is accompanied by evidence of United States citi-**
 30 **zenship in accordance with section 2 of this 2025 Act.**

31 [(b)] (4) If the information **or evidence of United States citizenship** required under [paragraph
 32 (a) of this] subsection (3) **of this section** is missing [from the registration card] or the date of birth
 33 is incomplete, the county clerk shall attempt to obtain the missing or incomplete information from
 34 all sources available to the county clerk, including but not limited to current and previous addresses
 35 and phone numbers of the registrant. The county clerk may also supply the registrant's date of birth
 36 from any previous registration of the registrant. If the missing or incomplete information cannot be
 37 obtained from sources available to the county clerk, the county clerk shall use reasonable efforts
 38 to contact the registrant by phone, mail and electronic mail to obtain the missing or incomplete
 39 information.

40 (5) If a registration card meets the requirements of subsection [(4)] (3) of this section but is
 41 missing an indication of political party affiliation, the registrant [shall be] **is** considered not affil-
 42 iated with any political party. This subsection does not apply if an elector is updating a registration.

43 (6) If a registration card contains an unintentional scrivener's error, the county clerk may at-
 44 tempt to contact the person to correct the error.

45 (7) A county clerk may appoint officials to accept registration of persons at designated locations.

1 The appointments and locations shall be in writing and filed in the office of the county clerk. The
 2 county clerk *[shall be]* **is** responsible for the performance of duties by those appointed.

3 (8) A registration *[card received and accepted]* **that occurs** under this section *[shall be]* **is** con-
 4 sidered an active registration.

5 (9) A registration may be updated at any time.

6 **(10) The county clerk shall mail a written notice to each person who has attempted to**
 7 **register to vote in this state under this section. The notice must indicate whether the person**
 8 **is registered and must be mailed not later than seven business days after the county clerk**
 9 **receives registration materials under subsection (1) or (2) of this section. If the notice indi-**
 10 **cates that the person is not registered because of missing information, the notice must in-**
 11 **clude information regarding how the person may submit the missing information to complete**
 12 **the registration.**

13 **SECTION 6.** ORS 247.012, as amended by section 4, chapter 492, Oregon Laws 2023, is amended
 14 to read:

15 247.012. (1) A qualified person may register to vote or update a registration to vote by:

16 (a) Delivering by mail, having a person deliver or otherwise delivering a completed registration
 17 card to any county clerk, the Secretary of State, any office of the Department of Transportation or
 18 any designated voter registration agency as described in ORS 247.208;

19 (b) Personally delivering, or having a person deliver, the card to an official designated by a
 20 county clerk under subsection (7) of this section;

21 (c) Submitting the person's legal name, age, residence and citizenship information and electronic
 22 signature to the Department of Transportation;

23 (d) Submitting the person's legal name, age, residence and citizenship information to the Oregon
 24 Health Authority for use in the Oregon Health Plan; or

25 (e) Completing a registration card using the electronic voter registration system described in
 26 ORS 247.019.

27 (2) If a registration card is mailed or delivered to:

28 (a) Any person other than a county clerk or the Secretary of State, the person shall forward the
 29 card to a county clerk or the Secretary of State not later than the fifth day after receiving the card;
 30 or

31 (b) The Secretary of State or a county clerk for a county other than the county in which the
 32 person applying for registration resides, the Secretary of State or county clerk shall forward the
 33 card to the county clerk for the county in which the person resides not later than the fifth day after
 34 receiving the card.

35 *[(3) Registration of a qualified person occurs:]*

36 *[(a) When a legible, accurate and complete registration card is received in the office of any county*
 37 *clerk, the Office of the Secretary of State, an office of the Department of Transportation, a designated*
 38 *voter registration agency under ORS 247.208 or at a location designated by a county clerk under sub-*
 39 *section (7) of this section;]*

40 *[(b) On the date a registration card is postmarked if the card is received after the 21st day imme-*
 41 *diately preceding an election but is postmarked not later than the 21st day immediately preceding the*
 42 *election and is addressed to an office of any county clerk, the Office of the Secretary of State, an office*
 43 *of the Department of Transportation or any designated voter registration agency as described in ORS*
 44 *247.208; or]*

45 *[(c) In the case of a registration card missing a date of birth, containing an incomplete date of birth*

1 or containing an unintentional scrivener's error that is supplied or corrected as described in subsection
 2 (4) or (6) of this section, on the date that registration would have occurred if the registration card had
 3 not been missing the date of birth, contained an incomplete date of birth or contained the scrivener's
 4 error.]

5 [(4)(a)(A)] **(3) The county clerk for the county in which the person resides shall register**
 6 **the person:**

7 **(a)(A)** Except as provided in ORS 247.125, if [a] **the person's** registration card is legible, ac-
 8 curate and contains, at a minimum, the [registrant's] **person's** name, residence address, date of birth
 9 and signature[, the county clerk shall register the person.]; **or**

10 **(B)** [The county clerk shall register a person] Pursuant to ORS 247.018, regardless of whether the
 11 person's registration card contains a signature, if the person's registration card is legible, accurate
 12 and contains, at a minimum, the registrant's name, residence address and date of birth[.]; **and**

13 **(b) If the person's registration card is accompanied by evidence of United States citi-**
 14 **zenship in accordance with section 2 of this 2025 Act.**

15 [(b)] **(4)** If the information **or evidence of United States citizenship** required under [paragraph
 16 (a)(A) of this] subsection **(3) of this section** is missing [from the registration card] or the date of
 17 birth is incomplete, or if the signature of a person described in [paragraph (a)(B) of this] subsection
 18 **(3) of this section** has not been submitted, the county clerk shall attempt to obtain the missing or
 19 incomplete information from all sources available to the county clerk, including but not limited to
 20 current and previous addresses and phone numbers of the registrant. The county clerk may also
 21 supply the registrant's date of birth from any previous registration of the registrant. If the missing
 22 or incomplete information cannot be obtained from sources available to the county clerk, the county
 23 clerk shall use reasonable efforts to contact the registrant by phone, mail and electronic mail to
 24 obtain the missing or incomplete information.

25 (5) If a registration card meets the requirements of subsection [(4)] **(3)** of this section but is
 26 missing an indication of political party affiliation, the registrant [shall be] **is** considered not affil-
 27 iated with any political party. This subsection does not apply if an elector is updating a registration.

28 (6) If a registration card contains an unintentional scrivener's error, the county clerk may at-
 29 tempt to contact the person to correct the error.

30 (7) A county clerk may appoint officials to accept registration of persons at designated locations.
 31 The appointments and locations shall be in writing and filed in the office of the county clerk. The
 32 county clerk [shall be] **is** responsible for the performance of duties by those appointed.

33 (8) A registration [card received and accepted] **that occurs** under this section [shall be] **is** con-
 34 sidered an active registration.

35 (9) A registration may be updated at any time.

36 **(10) The county clerk shall mail a written notice to each person who has attempted to**
 37 **register to vote in this state under this section. The notice must indicate whether the person**
 38 **is registered and must be mailed not later than seven business days after the county clerk**
 39 **receives registration materials under subsection (1) or (2) of this section. If the notice indi-**
 40 **cates that the person is not registered because of missing information, the notice must in-**
 41 **clude information regarding how the person may submit the missing information to complete**
 42 **the registration.**

43 **SECTION 7.** ORS 247.019 is amended to read:

44 247.019. (1) The Secretary of State by rule shall adopt an electronic voter registration system
 45 to be used by qualified persons who have a valid:

- 1 (a) Oregon driver license, as defined in ORS 801.245;
- 2 (b) Oregon driver permit, as defined in ORS 801.250;
- 3 (c) State identification card, issued under ORS 807.400; or
- 4 (d) Social Security number.

5 (2)(a) The electronic voter registration system shall:

6 (A) Require a person registering to vote under subsection (1)(d) of this section to enter only the
7 final four digits of the person’s valid Social Security number;

8 (B) Allow a person registering to vote under subsection (1)(d) of this section to electronically
9 submit an image of the person’s signature; *[and]*

10 **(C) Require a person registering to vote under subsection (1) of this section to electron-**
11 **ically submit, in a manner to be determined by the Secretary of State, proof of the person’s**
12 **United States citizenship; and**

13 *[(C)]* (D) Allow a qualified person to complete and deliver a registration card electronically.

14 (b) A registration card delivered under this section is considered delivered to the Secretary of
15 State for purposes of this chapter.

16 (3) A person who completes a registration card electronically under this section consents to the
17 use of the person’s driver license, driver permit or state identification card signature, or an elec-
18 tronically submitted image of the person’s signature, for voter registration purposes.

19 (4) If available, the Department of Transportation shall provide to the Secretary of State a dig-
20 ital copy of the driver license, driver permit or state identification card signature of each person
21 who completes a registration card under this section.

22 *[(5) The electronic voter registration system may also include an application programming interface*
23 *to allow third-party organizations to securely submit registration cards electronically on behalf of in-*
24 *dividuals. In order to submit registration cards under this subsection, a third-party organization must*
25 *be approved as a voter registration organization under a process designed by the Secretary of State*
26 *by rule.]*

27 **SECTION 8.** ORS 247.019, as amended by section 8, chapter 492, Oregon Laws 2023, is amended
28 to read:

29 247.019. (1) The Secretary of State by rule shall adopt an electronic voter registration system
30 to be used by qualified persons who have a valid:

- 31 (a) Oregon driver license, as defined in ORS 801.245;
- 32 (b) Oregon driver permit, as defined in ORS 801.250;
- 33 (c) State identification card, issued under ORS 807.400; or
- 34 (d) Social Security number.

35 (2)(a) The electronic voter registration system shall:

36 (A) Require a person registering to vote under subsection (1)(d) of this section to enter only the
37 final four digits of the person’s valid Social Security number;

38 (B) Allow a person to electronically submit an image of the person’s signature; *[and]*

39 **(C) Require a person registering to vote under subsection (1) of this section to electron-**
40 **ically submit, in a manner to be determined by the Secretary of State, proof of the person’s**
41 **United States citizenship; and**

42 *[(C)]* (D) Allow a qualified person to complete and deliver a registration card electronically.

43 (b) A registration card delivered under this section is considered delivered to the Secretary of
44 State for purposes of this chapter.

45 (3) A person who completes a registration card electronically under this section consents to the

1 use of the person’s driver license, driver permit or state identification card signature, or an elec-
 2 tronically submitted image of the person’s signature, for voter registration purposes.

3 (4) If available, the Department of Transportation shall provide to the Secretary of State a dig-
 4 ital copy of the driver license, driver permit or state identification card signature of each person
 5 who completes a registration card under this section.

6 *[(5) The electronic voter registration system may also include an application programming interface*
 7 *to allow third-party organizations to securely submit registration cards electronically on behalf of in-*
 8 *dividuals. In order to submit registration cards under this subsection, a third-party organization must*
 9 *be approved as a voter registration organization under a process designed by the Secretary of State*
 10 *by rule.]*

11 **SECTION 9.** ORS 247.025 is amended to read:

12 247.025. To vote in an election:

13 (1) **Except as provided in ORS 247.012 (10)**, a person’s registration card must be received at
 14 an office or location described in ORS 247.012 not later than the time the office or location closes
 15 for business on the 21st day immediately preceding the election, but in no case later than midnight
 16 of the 21st day immediately preceding the election; **or**

17 (2) **Except as provided in ORS 247.012 (10)**, a person’s registration card must be postmarked
 18 not later than the 21st day immediately preceding the election and be addressed to an office of any
 19 county clerk, the Office of the Secretary of State, an office of the Department of Transportation or
 20 any designated voter registration agency as described in ORS 247.208; **or**

21 (3) A person’s registration card must be delivered electronically as described in ORS 247.019 not
 22 later than 11:59 p.m. of the 21st day immediately preceding the election.

23 **SECTION 10.** ORS 260.993 is amended to read:

24 260.993. (1) The penalty for violation of ORS 260.532 is limited to that provided in ORS 260.532
 25 (6) and (8).

26 (2) Violation of ORS 247.125 (1), 247.171 [(5)] (6), 247.420 (2), 253.710, 260.402, 260.555, 260.558,
 27 260.575, 260.645 or 260.665 (2) or (3) involving any action described in ORS 260.665 (2)(d) to (f) or
 28 260.715 is a Class C felony.

29 (3) Violation of ORS 260.695 (5) is a Class A misdemeanor.

30 (4) Violation of ORS 247.171 [(6)] (7) is a Class C misdemeanor.

31 **SECTION 11.** (1) **Section 2 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 247.012, 247.019,**
 32 **247.025, 247.171 and 260.993 by sections 3 to 10 of this 2025 Act become operative on June 1,**
 33 **2026.**

34 (2) **Section 2 of this 2025 Act and the amendments to ORS 247.019 by sections 7 and 8 of**
 35 **this 2025 Act apply to persons who register to vote in this state on or after June 1, 2026.**

36 (3) **The amendments to ORS 247.171 by sections 3 and 4 of this 2025 Act apply to voter**
 37 **registration cards designed, prepared or distributed on or after June 1, 2026, and to persons**
 38 **who register to vote in this state on or after June 1, 2026.**

39 (4) **The amendments to ORS 247.012 by sections 5 and 6 of this 2025 Act apply to voter**
 40 **registration cards received, delivered or completed on or after June 1, 2026.**

41 **SECTION 12.** **This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**
 42 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**
 43 **on its passage.**