

Subject Elections Administration

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Date March 23, 2022

Overview

This bill contains a number of miscellaneous updates and changes to the general laws governing the administration of elections.

Summary

Section	Description
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| 1 | <p>Voting by program participant; absentee ballot.</p> <p>Provides that a ballot and related voting materials for a participant in the Safe at Home address confidentiality program may be prepared and delivered by the secretary of state, based either on precinct information provided by a county auditor, or using information contained in the statewide voter registration system.</p> |
| 2 | <p>Election day registration.</p> <p>Expands the types of residential facilities that must participate in providing information on residents to the county auditor to facilitate election day registration activities. The new types of facilities added to the law include residential treatment programs and adult foster care programs.</p> |
| 3 | <p>Form.</p> <p>Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”</p> |
| 4 | <p>Deficient registration.</p> <p>Updates grammar and reorganizes a subdivision governing the conditions under which a voter registration application is considered deficient. A registration application would not be considered deficient for lack of an identification number if the voter was not issued a number and the information can be verified using another database associated with the applicant’s name and date of birth.</p> |
| 5 | <p>School district assistance.</p> <p>Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”</p> |

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6	Moved within state. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
7	Use of change of address system. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
8	Forms. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
9	Technology requirements. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
10	Eligible voters. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
11	Utility worker. Defines the term “utility worker” for purposes of the state’s absentee voting laws. This definition is used in the following section, granting certain absentee voting rights to workers deployed during the voting period for an election.
12	Emergency response providers. Authorizes trained or certified emergency response providers and utility workers to vote by absentee ballot, if deployed during the absentee voting period or on election day.
13-14	Location; timing (absentee ballot polling locations). Reorganizes language related to the designation of in-person absentee ballot polling places. The requirements for these designations remain unchanged.
15	Generally. Permits local elections officials to engage in absentee voting activities in state veterans homes and in certain shelters for battered women, in the same manner as permitted in hospitals and other health care facilities.
16	Indefinite residence outside United States. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”

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17	State and local offices. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
18	Candidates in state and county general elections. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
19	Candidates for federal office. Provides that the existing law establishing procedure for filling a vacancy in nomination for an office (for example, due to the death of a candidate prior to an election) do not apply to candidates for election to a federal office.
20	Authority; location. Modifies standards for when a local government must adopt an ordinance or resolution designating a polling place for each precinct. Rather than requiring an ordinance or resolution every year, a local government would only be required to adopt an ordinance or resolution if a polling place has changed. Additional conforming changes are included.
21	High school students. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
22	Appointing authority; powers and duties. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
23	Authorization. Authorizes the option of mail balloting for all towns, and all cities with fewer than 400 registered voters, regardless of their geographic location in the state. Under current law, these towns and cities are only eligible if they are located outside of a metropolitan area county.
24	Procedure. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
25	Mail elections; questions. Authorizes a mail election ballot to include both a question and candidates for office, if there are overlapping municipal and school district jurisdictions and one of those jurisdictions has a question on the ballot. Current law prohibits offices from appearing on the ballot at a

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	mail-only special election conducted for the purpose of submitting a ballot question to the voters.
26	Physical assistance in marking ballots. Eliminates the three-person limit on the number of voters a person can assist on election day. This limit was the subject of a consent decree and an order of the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2020.
27	State canvass. Provides an explicit requirement that the State Canvassing Board declare the election of candidates for state and county office after the canvass is complete.
28-30	Special election timeline; legislative vacancies. Extends the period for conducting a special election to fill a vacant legislative seat by two weeks, in cases where an expedited process is required in order to allow the person elected to be seated quickly for a legislative session. A reorganization of language related to elections held immediately preceding or after a holiday, including an extension of these requirements to cover special primary elections, is also included.
31	Nominating petitions; cities of the first class. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
32	School District Canvassing Board. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
33	Board elections. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
34	Conducting presidential nomination primary. Clarifies that voters voting under the Safe at Home address confidentiality program procedures must be permitted to cast a ballot using those procedures at the presidential nomination primary.
35	Notice filed with court. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”

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36	Soliciting near polling places. Narrows the prohibition on campaigning near a polling place on election day so that it only applies during voting hours.
37	Vacancies. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”
38	Candidates; ballots; certifying election. Provides a terminology update, to refer to a place where a voter “maintains” or “maintained” residence rather than a place where the voter “resides” or “resided.”