

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill restores a person's right to vote upon release from incarceration.

Section

- 1** **Felony conviction; restoration of civil right to vote.** Provides that an individual convicted of a felony is eligible to vote as soon as the individual completes any incarceration imposed and executed by the court for the offense. If the individual is later incarcerated for the same offense, the individual's eligibility to vote is lost only during the period of incarceration.
- 2** **Form.** Makes a conforming amendment that changes the voter registration application requirements to reflect the right of felons who have completed their term of incarceration to vote.
- 3** **Duties of secretary of state; information about voting rights.** Requires the secretary of state to develop an electronic publication with complete and accurate information about the voting rights of people who have been charged with or convicted of a crime. The publication must be made available to the state court administrator for distribution to judges, court personnel, probation officers, and the Department of Corrections for distribution to corrections officials and the public.
- 4** **Voter's bill of rights.** Makes a conforming amendment to the Voter's Bill of Rights notifying the public that individuals have the right to vote even if they have been convicted of a felony, so long as they have completed their term of imprisonment for the offense.

Section

5 Notice of restoration of right to vote.

Subd. 1. Correctional facilities; designation of official. Requires the chief executive officer of each state and local correctional facility to designate an official within the facility to provide the notice and application required under this section to inmates who have had their civil right to vote restored.

Subd. 2. Notice requirement. Requires notice of the restoration of the civil right to vote and a voter registration application be provided to inmates being released from a correctional facility following incarceration for a felony-level offense. Requires probation officers and supervised release agents to provide the notice and application for all offenders under correctional supervision for a felony offense.

Subd. 3. Form of notice. Stipulates the form and content of the notice of the restoration of the civil right to vote.

Subd. 4. Failure to provide notice. Provides that failure to provide notice as required by this section does not prevent the restoration of the person's civil right to vote.

6 Restoration. Makes a conforming amendment regarding the restoration of civil rights for persons convicted of a disqualifying crime.

7 Repealer. Repeals the statute that requires county attorneys to promptly investigate voter fraud claims.