

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Online Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Applications

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Overview

This bill permits an individual to register to vote and/or request an absentee ballot online, using a website operated by the secretary of state.

Section

- 1** **Prior to election day (voter registration).** Authorizes an eligible individual to submit a voter registration application through a secure website maintained by the secretary of state.

An email address, plus the applicant's driver's license number, state identification card number, or the last four digits of the applicant's social security number are required to use the website.

Submission of a registration application through the website on behalf of another individual is prohibited.
- 2** **Form.** Provides conforming changes to the provisions governing the format of a voter registration application, to reflect the new authorization to submit the application online.

Paper and electronic applications are required to contain the same information, except where otherwise specified in the law.
- 3** **Deficient registration.** Provides that a voter registration application submitted through the website of the secretary of state prior to enactment of this bill does not invalidate the application.

Section

- 4** **Application procedures (absentee ballots).** Authorizes a voter to submit an application to receive an absentee ballot for a federal, state, or county election through a secure website maintained by the secretary of state.

An email address, plus the applicant's driver's license number, state identification card number, or the last four digits of the applicant's social security number are required to use the website.

- 5** **Application for ballot (UOCAVA).** Authorizes a military or overseas voter to submit an application to receive an absentee ballot for an election through a secure website maintained by the secretary of state.

An email address, plus the applicant's driver's license number, state identification card number, or the last four digits of the applicant's Social Security number are required to use the website.

- 6** **Certification of web site security; report to legislature.** Requires the secretary of state to certify that the websites used for voter registration and absentee ballot applications have been tested and include sufficient security measures to prevent unauthorized access to data.

The secretary of state is required to report to the legislature on use of the websites, and any issues that arise related to website operations, no later than January 15, 2015.

- 7** **Effective date.** Provides that the bill is effective the day following final enactment.