A BILL

To amend sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 3501.38, 3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.183, 3509.01, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.06, 3511.07, 3511.08, 3511.09, 3511.10, 3511.11, 3511.13, 3513.05, 3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 3513.257, 3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 3599.18; to enact new section 3503.11 and sections 3506.24 and 3509.031; and to repeal section 3503.11 of the Revised Code to enact the Ohio Election Security and Modernization Act to create an automated voter registration and verification system, to modify the law governing absent voting, and to make other changes to the Election Law.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 3501.38,
3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3503.183, 3509.01, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.06, 3511.07, 3511.08, 3511.09, 3511.10, 3511.11, 3511.13, 3513.05, 3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 3513.257, 3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 3599.18 be amended and new section 3503.11 and sections 3506.24 and 3509.031 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3501.01. As used in the sections of the Revised Code relating to elections and political communications:

(A) "General election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in each November.

(B) "Regular municipal election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered year.

(C) "Regular state election" means the election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each even-numbered year.

(D) "Special election" means any election other than those elections defined in other divisions of this section. A special election may be held only on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May, August, or November, or on the day authorized by a particular municipal or county charter for the holding of a primary election, except that in any year in which a presidential primary election is held, no special election shall be held in May, except as authorized by a municipal or county charter, but may be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March.

(E)(1) "Primary" or "primary election" means an election
held for the purpose of nominating persons as candidates of political parties for election to offices, and for the purpose of electing persons as members of the controlling committees of political parties and as delegates and alternates to the conventions of political parties. Primary elections shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in May of each year except in years in which a presidential primary election is held.

(2) "Presidential primary election" means a primary election as defined by division (E)(1) of this section at which an election is held for the purpose of choosing delegates and alternates to the national conventions of the major political parties pursuant to section 3513.12 of the Revised Code. Unless otherwise specified, presidential primary elections are included in references to primary elections. In years in which a presidential primary election is held, all primary elections shall be held on the third Tuesday after the first Monday in March except as otherwise authorized by a municipal or county charter.

(F) "Political party" means any group of voters meeting the requirements set forth in section 3517.01 of the Revised Code for the formation and existence of a political party.

(1) "Major political party" means any political party organized under the laws of this state whose candidate for governor or nominees for presidential electors received not less than twenty per cent of the total vote cast for such office at the most recent regular state election.

(2) "Minor political party" means any political party organized under the laws of this state that meets either of the following requirements:
(a) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the political party's candidate for governor or nominees for presidential electors received less than twenty per cent but not less than three per cent of the total vote cast for such office at the most recent regular state election. A political party that meets the requirements of this division remains a political party for a period of four years after meeting those requirements.

(b) The political party has filed with the secretary of state, subsequent to its failure to meet the requirements of division (F)(2)(a) of this section, a petition that meets the requirements of section 3517.01 of the Revised Code.

A newly formed political party shall be known as a minor political party until the time of the first election for governor or president which occurs not less than twelve months subsequent to the formation of such party, after which election the status of such party shall be determined by the vote for the office of governor or president.

(G) "Dominant party in a precinct" or "dominant political party in a precinct" means that political party whose candidate for election to the office of governor at the most recent regular state election at which a governor was elected received more votes than any other person received for election to that office in such precinct at such election.

(H) "Candidate" means any qualified person certified in accordance with the provisions of the Revised Code for placement on the official ballot of a primary, general, or special election to be held in this state, or any qualified person who claims to be a write-in candidate, or who knowingly assents to being represented as a write-in candidate by another at either a
primary, general, or special election to be held in this state.

(I) "Independent candidate" means any candidate who claims not to be affiliated with a political party, and whose name has been certified on the office-type ballot at a general or special election through the filing of a statement of candidacy and nominating petition, as prescribed in section 3513.257 of the Revised Code.

(J) "Nonpartisan candidate" means any candidate whose name is required, pursuant to section 3505.04 of the Revised Code, to be listed on the nonpartisan ballot, including all candidates for judicial office, for member of any board of education, for municipal or township offices in which primary elections are not held for nominating candidates by political parties, and for offices of municipal corporations having charters that provide for separate ballots for elections for these offices.

(K) "Party candidate" means any candidate who claims to be a member of a political party and who has been certified to appear on the office-type ballot at a general or special election as the nominee of a political party because the candidate has won the primary election of the candidate's party for the public office the candidate seeks, has been nominated under section 3517.012, or is selected by party committee in accordance with section 3513.31 of the Revised Code.

(L) "Officer of a political party" includes, but is not limited to, any member, elected or appointed, of a controlling committee, whether representing the territory of the state, a district therein, a county, township, a city, a ward, a precinct, or other territory, of a major or minor political party.
(M) "Question or issue" means any question or issue certified in accordance with the Revised Code for placement on an official ballot at a general or special election to be held in this state.

(N) "Elector" or "qualified elector" means a person having the qualifications provided by law to be entitled to vote.

(O) "Voter" means an elector who votes at an election.

(P) "Voting residence" means that place of residence of an elector which shall determine the precinct in which the elector may vote.

(Q) "Precinct" means a district within a county established by the board of elections of such county within which all qualified electors having a voting residence therein may vote at the same polling place.

(R) "Polling place" means that place provided for each precinct at which the electors having a voting residence in such precinct may vote.

(S) "Board" or "board of elections" means the board of elections appointed in a county pursuant to section 3501.06 of the Revised Code.

(T) "Political subdivision" means a county, township, city, village, or school district.

(U) "Election officer" or "election official" means any of the following:

(1) Secretary of state;

(2) Employees of the secretary of state serving the division of elections in the capacity of attorney,
administrative officer, administrative assistant, elections administrator, office manager, or clerical supervisor;

(3) Director of a board of elections;

(4) Deputy director of a board of elections;

(5) Member of a board of elections;

(6) Employees of a board of elections;

(7) Precinct election officials;

(8) Employees appointed by the boards of elections on a temporary or part-time basis.

(V) "Acknowledgment notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, informing a voter registration applicant or an applicant who wishes to change the applicant's residence or name of the status of the application; the information necessary to complete or update the application, if any; and if the application is complete, the precinct in which the applicant is to vote.

(W) "Confirmation notice" means a notice sent by a board of elections, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, by forwardable mail and with return postage prepaid, to a registered elector to confirm the registered elector's current address. The notice shall comply with all applicable requirements of the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993."

(X) "Designated agency" means an office or agency in the state that provides public assistance or that provides state-funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities and that is required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to implement a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering
voters, or any other public or government office or agency that implements a program designed and administered by the secretary of state for registering voters, including the department of job and family services, the program administered under section 3701.132 of the Revised Code by the department of health, the department of mental health and addiction services, the department of developmental disabilities, the opportunities for Ohioans with disabilities agency, and any other agency the secretary of state designates. "Designated agency" does not include public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, or the office of a county treasurer.


(AA) "Photo identification" means a document that meets each of the following requirements:

(1) It shows the name of the individual to whom it was issued, which shall conform to the name in the poll list or signature pollbook.

(2) It shows the current address of the individual to whom it was issued, which shall conform to the address in the poll list or signature pollbook, except for a driver's license or a state identification card issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code, which may show either the current or former address of the individual to whom it was issued, regardless of whether that address conforms to the address in the poll list or
signature pollbook.

(3) It shows a photograph of the individual to whom it was issued.

(4) It includes an expiration date that has not passed.

(5) It was issued by the government of the United States or this state.

Sec. 3501.05. The secretary of state shall do all of the following:

(A) Appoint all members of boards of elections;

(B) Issue instructions by directives and advisories in accordance with section 3501.053 of the Revised Code to members of the boards as to the proper methods of conducting elections.

(C) Prepare rules and instructions for the conduct of elections;

(D) Publish and furnish to the boards from time to time a sufficient number of indexed copies of all election laws then in force;

(E) Edit and issue all pamphlets concerning proposed laws or amendments required by law to be submitted to the voters;

(F) Prescribe the form of registration cards, blanks, and records;

(G) Determine and prescribe the forms of ballots and the forms of all blanks, cards of instructions, pollbooks, tally sheets, certificates of election, and forms and blanks required by law for use by candidates, committees, and boards;

(H) Prepare the ballot title or statement to be placed on the ballot for any proposed law or amendment to the constitution
to be submitted to the voters of the state;

(I) Except as otherwise provided in section 3519.08 of the Revised Code, certify to the several boards the forms of ballots and names of candidates for state offices, and the form and wording of state referendum questions and issues, as they shall appear on the ballot;

(J) Except as otherwise provided in division (I)(2)(b) of section 3501.38 of the Revised Code, give final approval to ballot language for any local question or issue approved and transmitted by boards of elections under section 3501.11 of the Revised Code;

(K) Receive all initiative and referendum petitions on state questions and issues and determine and certify to the sufficiency of those petitions;

(L) Require such reports from the several boards as are provided by law, or as the secretary of state considers necessary;

(M) Compel the observance by election officers in the several counties of the requirements of the election laws;

(N)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (N)(2) of this section, investigate the administration of election laws, frauds, and irregularities in elections in any county, and report violations of election laws to the attorney general or prosecuting attorney, or both, for prosecution;

(2) On and after August 24, 1995, report a failure to comply with or a violation of a provision in sections 3517.08 to 3517.13, 3517.20 to 3517.22, 3599.03, or 3599.031 of the Revised Code, whenever the secretary of state has or should have knowledge of a failure to comply with or a violation of a
provision in one of those sections, by filing a complaint with the Ohio elections commission under section 3517.153 of the Revised Code.

(O) Make an annual report to the governor containing the results of elections, the cost of elections in the various counties, a tabulation of the votes in the several political subdivisions, and other information and recommendations relative to elections the secretary of state considers desirable;

(P) Prescribe and distribute to boards of elections a list of instructions indicating all legal steps necessary to petition successfully for local option elections under sections 4301.32 to 4301.41, 4303.29, 4305.14, and 4305.15 of the Revised Code;

(Q) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for the removal by boards of elections of ineligible voters from the statewide voter registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or signature pollbook used in each precinct, which rules shall provide for all of the following:

(1) A process for the removal of voters who have changed residence, which shall be uniform, nondiscriminatory, and in compliance with the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993, including a program that uses the national change of address service provided by the United States postal system through its licensees;

(2) A process for the removal of ineligible voters under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;

(3) A uniform system for marking or removing the name of a voter who is ineligible to vote from the statewide voter registration database and, if applicable, from the poll list or
signature pollbook used in each precinct and noting the reason
for that mark or removal.

(R)(1) Prescribe a general program for registering voters
or updating voter registration information, such as name and
residence changes, by boards of elections, designated agencies,
offices of deputy registrars of motor vehicles, public high
schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of
county treasurers consistent with the requirements of section
3503.09 of the Revised Code;

(2) Adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised
Code to develop, implement, and administer the automated voter
registration and verification system described in section
3503.11 of the Revised Code, including rules prescribing all of
the following:

(a) The manner and format in which the bureau of motor
vehicles must transmit information to the secretary of state
under that section;

(b) An earlier deadline for the bureau of motor vehicles
to transmit information to the secretary of state than the
deadline described in division (C) of that section, if the
bureau obtains that information during the period immediately
preceding the close of voter registration before an election;

(c) Procedures for the bureau of motor vehicles, the
office of the secretary of state, and boards of elections to
follow to ensure that information transmitted under that section
that is not considered a public record remains confidential.

(S) Prescribe a program of distribution of voter
registration forms through boards of elections, designated
agencies, offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of
motor vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public libraries, and offices of county treasurers;

(T) To the extent feasible, provide copies, at no cost and upon request, of the voter registration form in post offices in this state;

(U) Adopt rules pursuant to section 111.15 of the Revised Code for the purpose of implementing the program for registering voters through boards of elections, designated agencies, and the offices of the registrar and deputy registrars of motor vehicles consistent with this chapter;

(V) Establish the full-time position of Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator within the office of the secretary of state to do all of the following:

1. Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that there is equal access to polling places for persons with disabilities;

2. Assist the secretary of state with ensuring that each voter may cast the voter's ballot in a manner that provides the same opportunity for access and participation, including privacy and independence, as for other voters;

3. Advise the secretary of state in the development of standards for the certification of voting machines, marking devices, and automatic tabulating equipment.

(W) Establish and maintain a computerized statewide database of all legally registered voters under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code that complies with the requirements of the "Help America Vote Act of 2002," Pub. L. No. 107-252, 116 Stat. 1666, and provide training in the operation of that system;

(X) Ensure that all directives, advisories, other
instructions, or decisions issued or made during or as a result
of any conference or teleconference call with a board of
elections to discuss the proper methods and procedures for
conducting elections, to answer questions regarding elections,
or to discuss the interpretation of directives, advisories, or
other instructions issued by the secretary of state are posted
on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as soon as
is practicable after the completion of the conference or
teleconference call, but not later than the close of business on
the same day as the conference or teleconference call takes
place.

(Y) Publish a report on a web site of the office of the
secretary of state not later than one month after the completion
of the canvass of the election returns for each primary and
general election, identifying, by county, the number of absent
eroter's ballots cast and the number of those ballots that were
counted, and the number of provisional ballots cast and the
number of those ballots that were counted, for that election.
The secretary of state shall maintain the information on the web
site in an archive format for each subsequent election.

(Z) Conduct voter education outlining voter
identification, absent voters ballot, provisional ballot, and
other voting requirements;

(AA) Establish a procedure by which a registered elector
may make available to a board of elections a more recent
signature to be used in the poll list or signature pollbook
produced by the board of elections of the county in which the
elector resides;

(BB) Disseminate information, which may include all or
part of the official explanations and arguments, by means of
direct mail or other written publication, broadcast, or other
means or combination of means, as directed by the Ohio ballot
board under division (F) of section 3505.062 of the Revised
Code, in order to inform the voters as fully as possible
concerning each proposed constitutional amendment, proposed law,
or referendum;

(CC) Be the single state office responsible for the
implementation of the "Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee
1973ff, et seq., as amended, in this state. The secretary of
state may delegate to the boards of elections responsibilities
for the implementation of that act, including responsibilities
arising from amendments to that act made by the "Military and
Overseas Voter Empowerment Act," Subtitle H of the "National
111-84, 123 Stat. 3190.

(DD) Adopt rules, under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code,
to establish procedures and standards for determining when a
board of elections shall be placed under the official oversight
of the secretary of state, placing a board of elections under
the official oversight of the secretary of state, a board that
is under official oversight to transition out of official
oversight, and the secretary of state to supervise a board of
elections that is under official oversight of the secretary of
state.

(EE) Perform other duties required by law.

Whenever a primary election is held under section 3513.32
of the Revised Code or a special election is held under section
3521.03 of the Revised Code to fill a vacancy in the office of
representative to congress, the secretary of state shall
establish a deadline, notwithstanding any other deadline
required under the Revised Code, by which any or all of the
following shall occur: the filing of a declaration of candidacy
and petitions or a statement of candidacy and nominating
petition together with the applicable filing fee; the filing of
protests against the candidacy of any person filing a
declaration of candidacy or nominating petition; the filing of
declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate; the filing of
campaign finance reports; the preparation of, and the making of
corrections or challenges to, precinct voter registration lists;
the receipt of applications for absent voter's ballots or
uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots; the
supplying of election materials to precincts by boards of
elections; the holding of hearings by boards of elections to
consider challenges to the right of a person to appear on a
voter registration list; and the scheduling of programs to
instruct or reinstruct election officers.

In the performance of the secretary of state's duties as
the chief election officer, the secretary of state may
administer oaths, issue subpoenas, summon witnesses, compel the
production of books, papers, records, and other evidence, and
fix the time and place for hearing any matters relating to the
administration and enforcement of the election laws.

In any controversy involving or arising out of the
adoption of registration or the appropriation of funds for
registration, the secretary of state may, through the attorney
general, bring an action in the name of the state in the court
of common pleas of the county where the cause of action arose or
in an adjoining county, to adjudicate the question.

In any action involving the laws in Title XXXV of the
Revised Code wherein the interpretation of those laws is in
issue in such a manner that the result of the action will affect
the lawful duties of the secretary of state or of any board of
elections, the secretary of state may, on the secretary of
state's motion, be made a party.

The secretary of state may apply to any court that is
hearing a case in which the secretary of state is a party, for a
change of venue as a substantive right, and the change of venue
shall be allowed, and the case removed to the court of common
pleas of an adjoining county named in the application or, if
there are cases pending in more than one jurisdiction that
involve the same or similar issues, the court of common pleas of
Franklin county.

Public high schools and vocational schools, public
libraries, and the office of a county treasurer shall implement
voter registration programs as directed by the secretary of
state pursuant to this section.

The secretary of state may mail unsolicited applications
for absent voter's ballots to individuals only for a general
election and only if the general assembly has made an
appropriation for that particular mailing. Under no other
circumstance shall a public office, or a public official or
employee who is acting in an official capacity, mail unsolicited
applications for absent voter's ballots to any individuals.

Upon the request of the secretary of state, a state agency
shall provide any information or assistance the secretary of
state requires to carry out the secretary of state's powers and
duties under Title XXXV of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3501.38. All declarations of candidacy, nominating
petitions, or other petitions presented to or filed with the secretary of state or a board of elections or with any other public office for the purpose of becoming a candidate for any nomination or office or for the holding of an election on any issue shall, in addition to meeting the other specific requirements prescribed in the sections of the Revised Code relating to them, be governed by the following rules:

(A) Only electors qualified to vote on the candidacy or issue which is the subject of the petition shall sign a petition. Each signer shall be a registered elector pursuant to section 3503.01 of the Revised Code. The facts of qualification shall be determined as of the date when the petition is filed.

(B) Signatures shall be affixed in ink. Each signer may also print the signer's name, so as to clearly identify the signer's signature.

(C) Each signer shall place on the petition after the signer's name the date of signing and the location of the signer's voting residence, including the street and number if in a municipal corporation or the rural route number, post office address, or township if outside a municipal corporation. The voting address given on the petition shall be the address appearing in the registration records at the board of elections.

(D) Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, no person shall write any name other than the person's own on any petition. Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, no person may authorize another to sign for the person. If a petition contains the signature of an elector two or more times, only the first signature shall be counted.
(E)(1) On each petition paper, the circulator shall indicate the number of signatures contained on it, and shall sign a statement made under penalty of election falsification that the circulator witnessed the affixing of every signature, that all signers were to the best of the circulator's knowledge and belief qualified to sign, and that every signature is to the best of the circulator's knowledge and belief the signature of the person whose signature it purports to be or of an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code. On the circulator's statement for a declaration of candidacy or nominating petition for a person seeking to become a statewide candidate or for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum petition, the circulator shall identify the circulator's name, the address of the circulator's permanent residence, and the name and address of the person employing the circulator to circulate the petition, if any.

(2) As used in division (E) of this section, "statewide candidate" means the joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor or a candidate for the office of secretary of state, auditor of state, treasurer of state, or attorney general.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, if a circulator knowingly permits an unqualified person to sign a petition paper or permits a person to write a name other than the person's own on a petition paper, that petition paper is invalid; otherwise, the signature of a person not qualified to sign shall be rejected but shall not invalidate the other valid signatures on the paper.

(G) The circulator of a petition may, before filing it in a public office, strike from it any signature the circulator
does not wish to present as a part of the petition.

(H) Any signer of a petition or an attorney in fact acting pursuant to section 3501.382 of the Revised Code on behalf of a signer may remove the signer's signature from that petition at any time before the petition is filed in a public office by striking the signer's name from the petition; no signature may be removed after the petition is filed in any public office.

(I)(1) No alterations, corrections, or additions may be made to a petition after it is filed in a public office.

(2)(a) No declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or other petition for the purpose of becoming a candidate may be withdrawn after it is filed in a public office. Nothing in this division prohibits a person from withdrawing as a candidate as otherwise provided by law.

(b) No petition presented to or filed with the secretary of state, a board of elections, or any other public office for the purpose of the holding of an election on any question or issue may be resubmitted after it is withdrawn from a public office or rejected as containing insufficient signatures. Nothing in this division prevents a question or issue petition from being withdrawn by the filing of a written notice of the withdrawal by a majority of the members of the petitioning committee with the same public office with which the petition was filed prior to the sixtieth day before the election at which the question or issue is scheduled to appear on the ballot.

(J) All declarations of candidacy, nominating petitions, or other petitions under this section shall be accompanied by the following statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE
FIFTH DEGREE.

(K) All separate petition papers shall be filed at the same time, as one instrument.

(L) If a board of elections distributes for use a petition form for a declaration of candidacy, nominating petition, or any type of question or issue petition that does not satisfy the requirements of law as of the date of that distribution, the board shall not invalidate the petition on the basis that the petition form does not satisfy the requirements of law, if the petition otherwise is valid. Division (L) of this section applies only if the candidate received the petition from the board within ninety days of when the petition is required to be filed.

(M)(1) Upon receiving an initiative petition, or a petition filed under section 307.94 or 307.95 of the Revised Code, concerning a ballot issue that is to be submitted to the electors of a county or municipal political subdivision, the board of elections shall examine the petition to determine:

(a) Whether the petition falls within the scope of a municipal political subdivision's authority to enact via initiative, including, if applicable, the limitations placed by Sections 3 and 7 of Article XVIII of the Ohio Constitution on the authority of municipal corporations to adopt local police, sanitary, and other similar regulations as are not in conflict with general laws, and whether the petition satisfies the statutory prerequisites to place the issue on the ballot. The petition shall be invalid if any portion of the petition is not within the initiative power; or

(b) Whether the petition falls within the scope of a
county's authority to enact via initiative, including whether the petition conforms to the requirements set forth in Section 3 of Article X of the Ohio Constitution, including the exercise of only those powers that have vested in, and the performance of all duties imposed upon counties and county officers by law, and whether the petition satisfies the statutory prerequisites to place the issue on the ballot. The finding of the board shall be subject to challenge by a protest filed pursuant to division (B) of section 307.95 of the Revised Code.

(2) After making a determination under division (M)(1)(a) or (b) of this section, the board of elections shall promptly transmit a copy of the petition and a notice of the board's determination to the office of the secretary of state. Notice of the board's determination shall be given to the petitioners and the political subdivision.

(3) If multiple substantially similar initiative petitions are submitted to multiple boards of elections and the determinations of the boards under division (M)(1)(a) or (b) of this section concerning those petitions differ, the secretary of state shall make a single determination under division (M)(1)(a) or (b) of this section that shall apply to each such initiative petition.

(N) A board of elections shall continue to verify every signature on a petition after the number of signatures found to be valid equals the minimum required number of valid signatures. When the board determines that an elector has signed a petition and that the signature is valid, the board shall note that fact in the elector's registration record.

Sec. 3503.09. (A)(1) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the electronic transmission by boards of elections,
designated agencies, offices of deputy registrars of motor
vehicles, public high schools and vocational schools, public
libraries, and offices of county treasurers, where applicable,

of change of name and change of residence changes forms for
voter registration records in the statewide voter registration
database.

(2) The secretary of state shall adopt rules for the
purpose of improving the speed of processing new voter
registrations that permit information from a voter registration
application received by a designated agency or an office of
deputy registrar of motor vehicles to be made available
electronically, in addition to requiring the original voter
registration application to be transmitted to the applicable
board of elections under division (E)(2) of section 3503.10 or
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code.

(B) Rules adopted under division (A) of this section shall
do all of the following:

(1) Prohibit any direct electronic connection between a
designated agency, office of deputy registrar of motor vehicles,
public high school or vocational school, public library, or
office of a county treasurer and the statewide voter
registration database;

(2) Require any updated voter registration information to
be verified by the secretary of state or a board of elections
before the information is added to the statewide voter
registration database for the purpose of modifying an existing
voter registration;

(3) Require each designated agency or office of deputy
registrar of motor vehicles that transmits voter registration
information electronically to transmit an identifier for data relating to each new voter registration that shall be used by the secretary of state or a board of elections to match the electronic data to the original voter registration application.

(C) This section does not apply to information transmitted to the secretary of state under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3503.11. (A)(1) When a person applies to receive or renew a driver's license, commercial driver's license, or state identification card, or to receive a duplicate or replacement of one of those items, the registrar or deputy registrar shall attempt to obtain all of the following information from that person:

(a) The person's legal name;

(b) The person's residence address;

(c) The person's date of birth;

(d) The number of the person's driver's license or state identification card;

(e) The last four digits of the person's social security number.

(2) The secretary of state and the registrar of motor vehicles shall prescribe a method by which the registrar or a deputy registrar, upon obtaining all of the information described in division (A)(1) of this section concerning a person, may use the information in the statewide voter registration database immediately to determine whether the person is registered to vote in this state and, if so, whether the person is registered at the address and under the name the
person provided under division (A)(1) of this section.

(B)(1) When the registrar or deputy registrar obtains all of the information described in division (A)(1) of this section concerning a person who is not registered to vote in this state, unless the registrar or deputy registrar has information indicating that the person is not eligible to vote in this state, the registrar or deputy registrar shall cause a customer facing electronic display to ask the person whether the person wishes to be registered to vote. The secretary of state shall prescribe the language to appear on the display. When the display asks the person that question, the display also shall inform the person of both of the following:

(a) The fact that if the person declines to be registered to vote, that fact will remain confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes;

(b) The fact that if the person wishes to be registered to vote, the office at which the person submitted the person's information will remain confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.

(2) If the person indicates that the person wishes to be registered to vote, the customer facing electronic display shall present the person with all of the following information, using language prescribed by the secretary of state:

(a) A statement that in order to register to vote, the person must be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age at the time of the next general election, and have lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the next election;

(b) A statement that election falsification is a felony of
the fifth degree;

(c) A statement instructing the person to decline to be registered to vote if the person is not eligible to register.

(3) The customer facing electronic display then shall request the person to provide the person's signature electronically in association with a statement, made under penalty of election falsification, that the person is a United States citizen, will be at least eighteen years of age at the time of the next general election, will have lived in this state for thirty days immediately preceding the next election, and is otherwise eligible to vote in this state. The secretary of state shall prescribe the language to appear on the display.

(4) If the person electronically signs the statement described in division (B)(3) of this section, the registrar or deputy registrar shall proceed under division (C) of this section.

(C)(1) Not later than seven days after the registrar or deputy registrar obtains all of the information described in division (A) of this section concerning a person, along with the person's electronic signature under division (B) of this section, the registrar or deputy registrar shall transmit the information and signature, along with any telephone number or electronic mail address the person has provided, to the secretary of state electronically in the manner prescribed by the secretary of state.

(2) Not later than seven days after the bureau of motor vehicles receives a notice of change of residence address from a registered elector, the bureau shall transmit the elector's updated information to the secretary of state electronically in
the manner prescribed by the secretary of state.

(D)(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D)(2) of this section, when the secretary of state receives information concerning a person under division (C) of this section, the secretary of state shall consult the statewide voter registration database to determine whether the person is registered to vote at the person's current address and under the person's current name, and if not, promptly shall transmit the person's information electronically to the appropriate board of elections.

(b) If the person is registered to vote at the person's current address and under the person's current name, the secretary of state promptly shall transmit to the appropriate board of elections an electronic notice of the date of the person's transaction with the registrar or deputy registrar.

(2) If the secretary of state determines that a person concerning whom the secretary of state receives information under division (C) of this section is not registered to vote at the person's current address or under the person's current name, but is a participant in the address confidentiality program described in sections 111.41 to 111.48 of the Revised Code, the secretary of state shall not transmit that information to the board of elections. Instead, the secretary of state shall send a notice to the person explaining the process to register to vote or to update the person's confidential registration under section 111.44 of the Revised Code.

(E)(1) If the board of elections determines that a person whose information is sent to the board under division (D)(1)(a) of this section is eligible to register to vote or to update the person's voter registration, the board promptly shall register
the person to vote or update the person's voter registration, as applicable, and send the person a notice in accordance with section 3503.19 of the Revised Code. The electronic record transmitted to the board of elections under this division shall be considered to be the person's voter registration form.

(2) Upon receiving a notice under division (D)(1)(b) of this section concerning an elector, the board of elections shall record the date of the elector's transaction with the registrar or deputy registrar in the elector's registration record.

(F) The secretary of state and the registrar of motor vehicles shall ensure that the procedures implemented under this section maintain the integrity, security, and confidentiality of information contained in the statewide voter registration database.

Sec. 3503.12. All registrations shall be carefully checked, and in case any person is found to have registered more than once one registration form, the additional all registration forms other than the most recent registration form shall be canceled by the board of elections.

Six weeks prior to the day of a special, primary, or general election, the board shall publish notices in one or more newspapers of general circulation advertising the places, dates, times, methods of registration, and voter qualifications for registration.

The board shall establish a schedule or program to assure to the extent reasonably possible that, on or before November 1, 1980, all registration places shall be free of barriers that would impede the ingress and egress of handicapped persons. Entrances shall be level or shall be provided with a nonskid
ramp of not over eight per cent gradient, and doors shall be a minimum of thirty-two inches wide. Registration places located at polling places shall, however, comply with the requirements of section 3501.29 of the Revised Code for the elimination of barriers.

As used in this section, "handicapped" means having lost the use of one or both legs, one or both arms, or any combination thereof, or being blind or so severely disabled as to be unable to move about without the aid of crutches or a wheelchair.

Sec. 3503.13. (A) Except as otherwise provided in section 111.44 of the Revised Code or by state or federal law, registration forms submitted by applicants and the statewide voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code shall be open to public inspection at all times when the office of the board of elections is open for business, under such regulations as the board adopts, provided that no person shall be permitted to inspect voter registration forms except in the presence of an employee of the board.

(B) A board of elections may use a legible digitized signature list of voter signatures, copied from the signatures on the registration forms in a form and manner prescribed by the secretary of state, provided that the board includes the required voter registration information in the statewide voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code, and provided that the precinct election officials have computer printouts at the polls prepared in the manner required under section 3503.23 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3503.14. (A) The secretary of state shall prescribe the form and content of the registration, change of residence,
and change of name forms used in this state. The forms shall meet the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 and shall include spaces for all of the following:

(1) The voter's name;

(2) The voter's address;

(3) The current date;

(4) The voter's date of birth;

(5) The voter to provide one or more of the following:

   (a) The voter's driver's license or state identification card number, if any;

   (b) The last four digits of the voter's social security number, if any;

   (c) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the voter's name and address.

(6) The voter's signature.

The registration form shall include a space on which the person registering an applicant shall sign the person's name and provide the person's address and a space on which the person registering an applicant shall name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant.

Except for forms prescribed by the secretary of state under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, the secretary of
state shall permit boards of elections to produce forms that have subdivided spaces for each individual alphanumeric character of the information provided by the voter so as to accommodate the electronic reading and conversion of the voter's information to data and the subsequent electronic transfer of that data to the statewide voter registration database established under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code.

(B) None of the following persons who are registering an applicant in the course of that official's or employee's normal duties shall sign the person's name, provide the person's address, or name the employer who is employing the person to register an applicant on a form prepared under this section:

(1) An election official;

(2) A county treasurer;

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(4) An employee of a designated agency;

(5) An employee of a public high school;

(6) An employee of a public vocational school;

(7) An employee of a public library;

(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;

(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;

(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(11) An employee of an election official.

(C) Except as provided in section 3501.382 of the Revised Code, any applicant who is unable to sign the applicant's own name shall make an "X," if possible, which shall be certified by
the signing of the name of the applicant by the person filling out the form, who shall add the person's own signature. If an applicant is unable to make an "X," the applicant shall indicate in some manner that the applicant desires to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence. The person registering the applicant shall sign the form and attest that the applicant indicated that the applicant desired to register to vote or to change the applicant's name or residence.

(D) No registration, change of residence, or change of name form shall be rejected solely on the basis that a person registering an applicant failed to sign the person's name or failed to name the employer who is employing that person to register the applicant as required under division (A) of this section.

(E) A voter registration application submitted online through the internet pursuant to section 3503.20 of the Revised Code is not required to contain a signature to be considered valid. The signature obtained under division (B) of that section shall be considered the applicant's signature for all election and signature-matching purposes.

(F) As used in this section, "registering an applicant" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.

Sec. 3503.15. (A)(1) The secretary of state shall establish and maintain a statewide voter registration database that shall be administered by the office of the secretary of state and made continuously available to each board of elections and to other agencies as authorized by law.
(2)(a) State agencies, including, but not limited to, the department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and family services, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections, shall provide any information and data to the secretary of state that is collected in the course of normal business and that is necessary to register to vote, to update an elector's registration, or to maintain the statewide voter registration database established pursuant to this section, except where prohibited by federal law or regulation. The department of health, the bureau of motor vehicles, the department of job and family services, the department of medicaid, and the department of rehabilitation and corrections shall provide that information and data to the secretary of state not later than the last day of each month. The secretary of state shall ensure that any information or data provided to the secretary of state that is confidential in the possession of the entity providing the data remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of state. No public office, and no public official or employee, shall sell that information or data or use that information or data for profit.

(b) Information provided under this division for maintenance of the statewide voter registration database shall not be used to update the name or address of a registered elector. The name or address of a registered elector shall only be updated as a result of the elector's actions in filing a notice of change of name, change of address, or both.

(c) A board of elections shall contact a registered elector pursuant to the rules adopted under division (D)(7) of
this section to verify the accuracy of the information in the
statewide voter registration database regarding that elector if
that information does not conform with information provided
under division (A)(2)(a) of this section and the discrepancy
would affect the elector's eligibility to cast a regular ballot.

(3)(a) The secretary of state shall enter into agreements
to share information or data that is in the possession of the
secretary of state with other states or groups of states, as the
secretary of state considers necessary, in order to maintain the
statewide voter registration database established pursuant to
this section. Except as otherwise provided in division (A)(3)(b)
of this section, the secretary of state shall ensure that any
information or data provided to the secretary of state that is
confidential in the possession of the state providing the data
remains confidential while in the possession of the secretary of
state.

(b) The secretary of state may provide such otherwise
confidential information or data to persons or organizations
that are engaging in legitimate governmental purposes related to
the maintenance of the statewide voter registration database.
The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter
119. of the Revised Code identifying the persons or
organizations who may receive that information or data. The
secretary of state shall not share that information or data with
a person or organization not identified in those rules. The
secretary of state shall ensure that a person or organization
that receives confidential information or data under this
division keeps the information or data confidential in the
person's or organization's possession by, at a minimum, entering
into a confidentiality agreement with the person or
organization. Any confidentiality agreement entered into under

this division shall include a requirement that the person or organization submit to the jurisdiction of this state in the event that the person or organization breaches the agreement.

(4) No person or entity that receives information or data under division (A)(3) of this section shall sell the information or data or use the information or data for profit.

(5) The secretary of state shall regularly transmit to the boards of elections, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, the information and data the secretary of state receives under divisions (A)(2) and (3) of this section that is necessary to do the following, in order to ensure that the accuracy of the statewide voter registration database is maintained on a regular basis in accordance with applicable state and federal law:

(a) Require the boards of elections to maintain the database in a manner that ensures that the name of each registered elector appears in the database, that only individuals who are not registered or eligible to vote are removed from the database, and that duplicate registrations are eliminated from the database;

(b) Require the boards of elections to make a reasonable effort to remove individuals who are not eligible to vote from the database;

(c) Establish safeguards to ensure that eligible electors are not removed in error from the database.

(B) The statewide voter registration database established under this section shall be the official list of registered voters for all elections conducted in this state.

(C) The statewide voter registration database established
under this section shall, at a minimum, include all of the following:

(1) An electronic network that connects all board of elections offices with the office of the secretary of state and with the offices of all other boards of elections;

(2) A computer program that harmonizes the records contained in the database with records maintained by each board of elections;

(3) An interactive computer program that allows access to the records contained in the database by each board of elections and by any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct updates of the database;

(4) A search program capable of verifying registered voters and their registration information by name, driver's license or state identification card number, birth date, social security number, or current address;

(5) Safeguards and components to ensure that the integrity, security, and confidentiality of the voter registration information is maintained;

(6) Methods to retain canceled voter registration records for not less than five years after they are canceled and to record the reason for their cancellation.

(D) The secretary of state shall adopt rules pursuant to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code doing all of the following:

(1) Specifying the manner in which existing voter registration records maintained by boards of elections shall be converted to electronic files for inclusion in the statewide
voter registration database;

(2) Establishing a uniform method for entering voter registration records into the statewide voter registration database on an expedited basis, but not less than once per day, if new registration information is received;

(3) Establishing a uniform method for purging canceled voter registration records from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with section 3503.21 of the Revised Code;

(4) Specifying the persons authorized to add, delete, modify, or print records contained in the statewide voter registration database and to make updates of that database;

(5) Establishing a process for annually auditing the information contained in the statewide voter registration database;

(6) Establishing, by mutual agreement with the bureau of motor vehicles, the content and format of the information and data the bureau of motor vehicles shall provide to the secretary of state under division (A)(2)(a) of this section and the frequency with which the bureau shall provide that information and data;

(7) Establishing a uniform method for addressing instances in which records contained in the statewide voter registration database do not conform with records maintained by an agency, state, or group of states described in division (A)(2)(a) or (3)(a) of this section. That method shall prohibit an elector's voter registration from being canceled on the sole basis that the information in the registration record does not conform to records maintained by such an agency.

(E) A board of elections promptly shall purge a voter's
name and voter registration information from the statewide voter registration database in accordance with the rules adopted by the secretary of state under division (D)(3) of this section after the cancellation of a voter's registration under section 3503.21 of the Revised Code.

(F) The secretary of state shall provide training in the operation of the statewide voter registration database to each board of elections and to any persons authorized by the secretary of state to add, delete, modify, or print database records, and to conduct updates of the database.

(G)(1) The statewide voter registration database established under this section shall be made available on a web site of the office of the secretary of state as follows:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (G)(1)(b) of this section, the following information from the statewide voter registration database regarding a registered voter shall be made available on the web site:

(i) The voter's name;

(ii) The voter's address;

(iii) The voter's precinct number;

(iv) The voter's voting history.

(b) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, the web site interface of the statewide voter registration database shall permit a voter to search for the polling location at which that voter may cast a ballot.

(2) The secretary of state shall establish, by rule adopted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, a process for boards of elections to notify the secretary of state of changes
in the locations of precinct polling places for the purpose of updating the information made available on the secretary of state's web site under division (G)(1)(b) of this section. Those rules shall require a board of elections, during the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, to notify the secretary of state within one business day of any change to the location of a precinct polling place within the county.

(3) During the thirty days before the day of a primary or general election, not later than one business day after receiving a notification from a county pursuant to division (G) (2) of this section that the location of a precinct polling place has changed, the secretary of state shall update that information on the secretary of state's web site for the purpose of division (G)(1)(b) of this section.

(H) The secretary of state shall conduct an annual review of the statewide voter registration database as follows:

(1) The secretary of state shall compare the information in the statewide voter registration database with the information the secretary of state obtains from the bureau of motor vehicles under division (A)(2) of this section to identify any person who does all of the following, in the following order:

(a) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen;

(b) Registers to vote, submits a has the person's voter registration change of residence or change of name form updated, or votes in this state;

(c) Submits documentation to the bureau of motor vehicles that indicates that the person is not a United States citizen.
(2) The secretary of state shall send a written notice to each person identified under division (H)(1) of this section, instructing the person either to confirm that the person is a United States citizen or to submit a completed voter registration cancellation form to the secretary of state. The secretary of state shall include a blank voter registration cancellation form with the notice. If the person fails to respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in division (H)(3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty days after the notice was sent, the secretary of state promptly shall send the person a second notice and form.

(3) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice was sent, a person who is sent a notice under division (H)(2) of this section responds to the secretary of state, confirming that the person is a United States citizen, the secretary of state shall take no action concerning the person's voter registration.

(4) If, not later than sixty days after the first notice was sent, a person who receives a notice under division (H)(2) of this section sends a completed voter registration cancellation form to the secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the board of elections of the county in which the person is registered to cancel the person's registration.

(5) If a person who was sent a second notice under division (H)(2) of this section fails to respond to the secretary of state in the manner described in division (H)(3) or (4) of this section not later than thirty days after the second notice was sent, the secretary of state shall refer the matter to the attorney general for further investigation and possible prosecution under section 3599.11, 3599.12, 3599.13, or any
other applicable section of the Revised Code. If, after the
thirtieth day after the second notice was sent, the person sends
a completed voter registration cancellation form to the
secretary of state, the secretary of state shall instruct the
board of elections of the county in which the person is
registered to cancel the person's registration and shall notify
the attorney general of the cancellation.

(6) The secretary of state shall not conduct the review
described in division (H) of this section during the ninety days
immediately preceding a primary or general election for federal
office.

Sec. 3503.16. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division
(E) of section 111.44 of the Revised Code, whenever a
registered elector changes the place of residence of that
registered elector from one precinct to another within a county
or from one county to another, or has a change of name, that
registered elector shall report the change by delivering a
change of residence or change of name form, whichever is
appropriate, as prescribed by the secretary of state under
section 3503.14 of the Revised Code to the state or local office
of a designated agency, a public high school or vocational
school, a public library, the office of the county treasurer,
the office of the secretary of state, any office of the
registrar or deputy registrar of motor vehicles, or any office
of a board of elections in person or by a third person. Any
voter registration, change of address, or change of name
application, returned by mail, may be sent only to the secretary
of state or the board of elections.

A registered elector also may update the registration of
that registered elector by filing a change of residence or
change of name form on the day of a special, primary, or general
election at the polling place in the precinct in which that
registered elector resides or at the board of elections or at
another site designated by the board one of the methods
described in section 3503.19 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1)(a) Any registered elector who moves within a
precinct on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or
special election and has not filed a notice of reported the
change of residence in accordance with the board of elections
section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election by
going to that registered elector's assigned polling place,
completing and signing a notice of change of residence, showing
identification in the form of a current and valid photo
identification, a military identification, or a copy of a
current utility bill, bank statement, government check,
paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of
voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section
3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current
address of the elector, and casting a ballot.

(b) Any registered elector who changes the name of that
registered elector and remains within a precinct on or prior to
the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not
filed a notice of reported the change of name in accordance with
the board of elections section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may
vote in that election by going to that registered elector's
assigned polling place, completing and signing a notice of a
change of name, and casting a provisional ballot under section
3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the registered elector provides
to the precinct election officials proof of a legal name change,
such as a marriage license or court order that includes the
elector's current and prior names, the elector may complete and
sign a notice of change of name and cast a regular ballot.

(2) Any registered elector who moves from one precinct to another within a county or moves from one precinct to another and changes the name of that registered elector on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate, in accordance with the board of elections section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election if that registered elector complies with division (E) of this section or does all of the following:

(a) Appears at any time during regular business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections, appears at any time during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of the election at either of the following locations:

(i) The polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides;

(ii) The office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections.

(b) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot
envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence or change of name, whichever is appropriate;

(c) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code at the polling place, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, whichever is appropriate, using the address to which that registered elector has moved or the name of that registered elector as changed, whichever is appropriate;

(d) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, on or prior to the day of the election, has voted a provisional ballot at the polling place for the precinct in which that registered elector resides, at the office of the board of elections, or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, whichever is appropriate, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location for that particular election.

(C) Any registered elector who moves from one county to another county within the state on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not registered to vote in the county to which that registered elector moved reported the change of residence in accordance with section 3503.19 of the Revised Code may vote in that election if that registered elector complies with division (E) of this
section or does all of the following:

   (1) Appears at any time during regular business hours on or after the twenty-eighth day prior to the election in which that registered elector wishes to vote or, if the election is held on the day of a presidential primary election, the twenty-fifth day prior to the election, through noon of the Saturday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, appears during regular business hours on the Monday prior to the election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, or appears on the day of the election at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections;

   (2) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, the written affirmation on the provisional ballot envelope, which shall serve as a notice of change of residence;

   (3) Votes a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of
the office of the board of elections, using the address to which that registered elector has moved;

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that that registered elector has moved from one county to another county within the state on or prior to the day of the election, has voted at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location instead of the office of the board of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other location for that particular election.

(D) A person who votes by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division \((G)-(E)\) of this section shall not make written application for the ballots pursuant to Chapter 3509. of the Revised Code. Ballots cast pursuant to division \((G)-(E)\) of this section shall be set aside in a special envelope and counted during the official canvass of votes in the manner provided for in sections 3505.32 and 3509.06 of the Revised Code insofar as that manner is applicable. The board shall examine the pollbooks to verify that no ballot was cast at the polls or by absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or 3511. of the Revised Code by an elector who has voted by absent voter's ballots pursuant to division \((G)-(E)\) of this section. Any ballot determined to be insufficient for any of the reasons stated above or stated in section 3509.07 of the Revised Code shall not be counted.

Subject to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code, a board of elections may lease or otherwise acquire a site different from the office of the board at which registered electors may vote pursuant to division (B) or (C) of this
(E) Upon receiving a notice of change of residence or change of name, the board of elections shall immediately send the registrant an acknowledgment notice. If the change of residence or change of name notice is valid, the board shall update the voter's registration as appropriate. If that form is incomplete, the board shall inform the registrant in the acknowledgment notice specified in this division of the information necessary to complete or update that registrant's registration.

(F) Change of residence and change of name forms shall be available at each polling place, and when these forms are completed, noting changes of residence or name, as appropriate, they shall be filed with election officials at the polling place. Election officials shall return completed forms, together with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections.

The board of elections shall provide change of residence and change of name forms to the probate court and court of common pleas. The court shall provide the forms to any person eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order of the court or who applies for a marriage license. The court shall forward all completed forms to the board of elections within five days after receiving them.

(G) A registered elector who otherwise would qualify to vote under division (B) or (C) of this section but is unable to appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location, on account of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, may vote
on the day of the election if that registered elector does all of the following:

(1) Makes a written application that includes all of the information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code to the appropriate board for an absent voter's ballot on or after the twenty-seventh day prior to the election in which the registered elector wishes to vote through noon of the Saturday tenth day prior to that election and requests that the absent voter's ballot be sent to the address to which the registered elector has moved if the registered elector has moved, or to the address of that registered elector who has not moved but has had a change of name;

(2) Declares that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name, whichever is appropriate, and otherwise is qualified to vote under the circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of this section, whichever is appropriate, but that the registered elector is unable to appear at the board of elections because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity;

(3) Completes and returns along with the completed absent voter's ballot a notice of change of residence indicating the address to which the registered elector has moved, or a notice of change of name, whichever is appropriate;

(4) Completes and signs, under penalty of election falsification, a statement attesting that the registered elector has moved or had a change of name on or prior to the day before the election, has voted by absent voter's ballot because of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity that prevented the registered elector from appearing at the board of elections, and will not vote or attempt to vote at any other
location or by absent voter's ballot mailed to any other location or address for that particular election.

Sec. 3503.19. (A) Persons qualified to register or to change their registration because of a change of address or change of name may register or change their registration in by doing any of the following:

(a) Submitting a voter registration or change of address or change of name form in person or through another person at any state or local office of a designated agency, at the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, at a public high school or vocational school, at a public library, at the office of a county treasurer, or at a branch office established by the board of elections, or in;

(b) Submitting a voter registration or change of address or change of name form in person or through another person at a probate court or a court of common pleas. The board of elections shall provide the forms to the courts, and the courts shall provide the forms to any person eighteen years of age or older who has a change of name by order of the court or who applies for a marriage license.

(c) Submitting a voter registration or change of address or change of name form in person, through another person, or by mail at the office of the secretary of state or at the office of any board of elections. A registered elector may also change the elector's registration on;

(d) Being registered or having the elector's registration updated through the automated voter registration and verification system under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;
(e) Submitting an application through the online voter registration system under section 3503.20 of the Revised Code;

(f) Submitting a voter registration or change of address or change of name form in person to the election officials on election day at any polling place where the elector is eligible to vote, in the manner provided under section 3503.16 of the Revised Code. Voter registration and change of address or change of name forms shall be available at each polling place, and the election officials shall return all completed forms, together with the pollbooks and tally sheets, to the board of elections.

(g) In the case of a person who is eligible to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 U.S.C. 20301, et seq., returning the person's completed voter registration or change of address or change of name form electronically to the office of the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code.

(2) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, a probate court or court of common pleas, or the office of a county treasurer shall transmit any voter registration application or change of registration form that it receives to the board of elections of the county in which the state or local office is located, within five days after receiving the voter registration application or change of registration form.

An—(3)(a) Except as provided in division (A)(3)(b) of this section, an otherwise valid voter registration application that
is returned to the appropriate office other than by mail must be received by a state or local office of a designated agency, the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, the office of a county treasurer, a probate court or court of common pleas, the office of the secretary of state, or the office of a board of elections no later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or general election for the person to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. An otherwise valid registration application received after that day entitles the elector to vote at all subsequent elections.

(b) Information transmitted to the secretary of state by the bureau of motor vehicles under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code concerning a person who is eligible to register to vote must have been submitted to the bureau by the person not later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or general election for the person to be registered to vote and to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. Otherwise valid information transmitted under that division that was submitted after that day entitles the person to be registered to vote and to vote at all subsequent elections.

(4) Any state or local office of a designated agency, the office of the registrar or any deputy registrar of motor vehicles, a public high school or vocational school, a public library, a probate court or court of common pleas, or the office of a county treasurer shall date stamp a registration application or change of name or change of address form it receives using a date stamp that does not disclose the identity of the state or local office that receives the registration.
(5) Voter registration applications, if otherwise valid, that are returned by mail to the office of the secretary of state or to the office of a board of elections must be postmarked no later than the thirtieth day preceding a primary, special, or general election in order for the person to qualify as an elector eligible to vote at that election. If an otherwise valid voter registration application that is returned by mail does not bear a postmark or a legible postmark, the registration shall be valid for that election if received by the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of elections no later than twenty-five days preceding any special, primary, or general election.

(B)(1) Any person may apply in person, by telephone, by mail, or through another person for voter registration forms to the office of the secretary of state or the office of a board of elections. An individual who is eligible to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may apply for voter registration forms by electronic means to the office of the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code.

(2)(a) An applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form in person or by mail to any state or local office of a designated agency, to a public high school or vocational school, to a public library, to the office of a county treasurer, to the office of the secretary of state, or to the office of a board of elections. An applicant who is eligible to vote as a uniformed services voter or an overseas voter in accordance with 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6 also may return the applicant's completed voter registration form electronically to
the office of the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located pursuant to section 3503.191 of the Revised Code.

(b) Subject to division (B)(2)(c) of this section, an applicant may return the applicant's completed registration form through another person to any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state.

(c) A person who receives compensation for registering a voter shall return any registration form entrusted to that person by an applicant to any board of elections or to the office of the secretary of state.

(d) (3) If a board of elections or the office of the secretary of state receives a registration form under division (B)(2)(b) or (c) of this section before the thirtieth day before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to register to vote within ten days after receiving the application. If a board of elections or the office of the secretary of state receives a registration form under division (B)(2)(b) or (c) of this section on or after the thirtieth day before an election, the board or the office of the secretary of state, as applicable, shall forward the registration to the board of elections of the county in which the applicant is seeking to register to vote within thirty days after that election.

(C)(1) A board of elections that receives a voter registration application or change of address or change of name form and is satisfied as to the truth of the statements made in the registration form shall register the applicant or update the
elector's registration, as applicable, not later than twenty business days after receiving the application, unless that application is received during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election. The board shall promptly notify the applicant in writing of each of the following:

(a) The fact that the person has been registered to vote or had the person's registration updated, as applicable;

(b) The precinct in which the applicant is to vote;

(c) In bold type as follows:

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than this notification, that shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the above forms of identification, including a social security number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election falsification and by casting a provisional ballot."

(d) If the person was registered to vote or had the person's registration updated through the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, all of the following:

(i) The fact that the person has been registered to vote or has had the person's registration updated, as applicable, for purposes of the next election occurring at least thirty days
after the date the person submitted the person's information under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;

(ii) The process to decline the registration or update or to submit corrected registration information by signing and returning the notice to the secretary of state or the board of elections;

(iii) A statement that if the person declines to be registered to vote or to have the person's registration updated, that fact will remain confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes;

(iv) A statement that if the person wishes to be registered to vote or to have the person's registration updated, the office at which the person submitted the person's information will remain confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.

The notification shall be by nonforwardable mail. If the mail is returned to the board, it shall investigate and cause the notification to be delivered to the correct address.

(2) If, after investigating as required under division (C) (1) of this section, the board is unable to verify the voter's correct address, it shall cause the voter's name in the official registration list and in the poll list or signature pollbook to be marked to indicate that the voter's notification was returned to the board.

At the first election at which a voter whose name has been so marked appears to vote, the voter shall be required to provide identification to the election officials and to vote by provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code. If the provisional ballot is counted pursuant to division (B)(3)
of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the board shall correct that voter's registration, if needed, and shall remove the indication that the voter's notification was returned from that voter's name on the official registration list and on the poll list or signature pollbook. If the provisional ballot is not counted pursuant to division (B)(4)(a)(i), (v), or (vi) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code, the voter's registration shall be canceled. The board shall notify the voter by United States mail of the cancellation.

(3) If a notice of the disposition of an otherwise valid registration application is sent by nonforwardable mail and is returned undelivered, the person shall be registered as provided in division (C)(2) of this section and sent a confirmation notice by forwardable mail. If the person fails to respond to the confirmation notice, update the person's registration, or vote by provisional ballot as provided in division (C)(2) of this section in any election during the period of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice, the person's registration shall be canceled.

(4)(a) If a person who was registered to vote through the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code declines the registration under division (C)(1)(d)(ii) of this section, the board shall treat the declination as a request to cancel the person's voter registration.

(b) If an elector who had the elector's registration updated through the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code declines the update under division (C)(1)(d)(ii) of this section, the board shall correct the elector's voter registration.
registration to reflect the name, address, and signature that it
contained before the board updated the elector's voter
registration under that section.

Sec. 3503.21. (A) The registration of a registered elector
shall be canceled upon the occurrence of any of the following:

(1) The filing by a registered elector of a written
request with a board of elections or the secretary of state, on
a form prescribed by the secretary of state and signed by the
elector, that the registration be canceled. The filing of such a
request does not prohibit an otherwise qualified elector from
reregistering to vote at any time.

(2) The filing of a notice of the death of a registered
elector as provided in section 3503.18 of the Revised Code;

(3) The filing with the board of elections of a certified
copy of the death certificate of a registered elector by the
deceased elector's spouse, parent, or child, by the
administrator of the deceased elector's estate, or by the
executor of the deceased elector's will;

(4) The conviction of the registered elector of a felony
under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United
States as provided in section 2961.01 of the Revised Code;

(5) The adjudication of incompetency of the registered
elector for the purpose of voting as provided in section
5122.301 of the Revised Code;

(6) The change of residence of the registered elector to a
location outside the county of registration in accordance with
division (B) of this section;

(a) The failure of the registered elector, after having
been mailed a confirmation notice, to do either one or more of
the following at least once during a period of four consecutive
years, which period shall include two federal general elections:

(a) (i) Respond to such a confirmation notice and vote at
least once during a period of four consecutive years, which
period shall include two general federal elections;

(b) (ii) Update the elector's registration and vote at
least once during a period of four consecutive years, which
period shall include two general federal elections;

(iii) Have the elector's registration updated under
section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;

(iv) Conduct a transaction with the registrar of motor
vehicles or a deputy registrar, as described in division (E)(2)
of section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;

(v) Vote in an election;

(vi) Sign any petition that is filed with a public office
for the purpose of becoming a candidate for any nomination or
office or for the purpose of holding an election on any issue,
so long as the board of elections verifies the signatures on the
petition and determines that the elector's signature is valid.

(b) The registration of a registered elector described
in division (A)(6)(a) of this section shall be canceled not
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second
federal general election occurring after the elector is mailed a
confirmation notice or not later than one hundred twenty days
after the expiration of the four-year period described in that
division, whichever is later, provided that the registration
shall not be canceled during the ninety days immediately
preceding a federal primary or general election.
(7) The declination of an elector who has been registered under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code to register to vote, as described in division (C)(4)(a) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code.

(8) The receipt by the board of elections of a cancellation notice or request pursuant to section 111.44 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) The secretary of state shall prescribe procedures to identify and cancel the registration in a prior county of residence of any registrant who changes the registrant's voting residence to a location outside the registrant's current county of registration. Any procedures prescribed in this division shall be uniform and nondiscriminatory, and shall comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The secretary of state may prescribe procedures under this division that include the use of the national change of address service provided by the United States postal system through its licensees. Any program so prescribed shall be completed not later than ninety days prior to the date of any primary or general election for federal office.

(2) The registration of any elector identified as having changed the elector's voting residence to a location outside the elector's current county of registration shall not be canceled unless the registrant is sent a confirmation notice on a form prescribed by the secretary of state and the registrant fails to respond to the confirmation notice or otherwise update the registration and fails to vote in any election during the period of two federal elections subsequent to the mailing of the confirmation notice.

(C) The registration of a registered elector shall not be
canceled except as provided in this section, section 111.44 of
the Revised Code, division (Q) of section 3501.05 of the Revised
Code, division (C)(2) or (C)(4)(a) of section 3503.19 of the
Revised Code, or division (C) of section 3503.24 of the Revised
Code.

(D) Boards of elections shall send their voter
registration information to the secretary of state as required
under section 3503.15 of the Revised Code. The secretary of
state may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to section 111.15
of the Revised Code the format in which the boards of elections
must send that information to the secretary of state. In the
first quarter of each year, the secretary of state shall send
the information to the national change of address service
described in division (B) of this section and request that
service to provide the secretary of state with a list of any
voters sent by the secretary of state who have moved within the
last twelve months. The secretary of state shall transmit to
each appropriate board of elections whatever lists the secretary
of state receives from that service. The board shall send a:
confirmation notice to each person on the list transmitted by
the secretary of state requesting confirmation of the person's
change of address, together with a postage prepaid, preaddressed
return envelope containing a form on which the voter may verify
or correct the change of address information.

(E) The registration of a registered elector described in
division (A)(7) or (B)(2) of this section shall be canceled not
later than one hundred twenty days after the date of the second
general federal election in which the elector fails to vote or
not later than one hundred twenty days after the expiration of
the four-year period in which the elector fails to vote or
respond to a confirmation notice, whichever is later.
(E)(1) When a registration is canceled pursuant to division (A)(2) or (3) of this section, the applicable board of elections shall send a written notice, on a form prescribed by the secretary of state, to the address at which the elector was registered, informing the recipient that the elector's registration has been canceled, of the reason for the cancellation, and that if the cancellation was made in error, the elector may contact the board of elections to correct the error.

(2) If the elector's registration is canceled pursuant to division (A)(2) or (3) of this section in error, it shall be restored and treated as though it were never canceled.

Sec. 3503.28. (A) The secretary of state shall develop an information brochure regarding voter registration. The brochure shall include, but is not limited to, all of the following information:

(1) The applicable deadlines for registering to vote or for returning submitting an applicant's completed registration form application;

(2) The applicable deadline for returning an applicant's completed registration form if the person returning the form is being compensated for registering voters;

(3) The locations to and manner in which a person may return an applicant's completed registration form, register or be registered to vote;

(4) The location to which a person who is compensated for registering voters may return an applicant's completed registration form;

(5) The registration and affirmation requirements
applicable to persons who are compensated for registering voters
under section 3503.29 of the Revised Code;

(6) The manner in which a person may decline in writing to
be registered to vote under the automated voter registration and
verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised
Code;

(7) A notice, which shall be written in bold type, stating
as follows:

"Voters must bring identification to the polls in order to
verify identity. Identification may include a current and valid
photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a
current utility bill, bank statement, government check,
paycheck, or other government document, other than a voter
registration notification sent by a board of elections, that
shows the voter's name and current address. Voters who do not
provide one of these documents will still be able to vote by
casting a provisional ballot. Voters who do not have any of the
above forms of identification, including a social security
number, will still be able to vote by signing an affirmation
swearing to the voter's identity under penalty of election
falsification and by casting a provisional ballot."

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this
section, a board of elections, designated agency, public high
school, public vocational school, public library, office of a
county treasurer, or deputy registrar of motor vehicles shall
distribute a copy of the brochure developed under division (A)
of this section to any person who requests more than two voter
registration forms at one time.

(C)(1) The secretary of state shall provide the
information required to be included in the brochure developed 
under division (A) of this section to any person who prints a 
voter registration form that is made available on a web site of 
the office of the secretary of state.

(2) If a board of elections operates and maintains a web 
site, the board shall provide the information required to be 
included in the brochure developed under division (A) of this 
section to any person who prints a voter registration form that 
is made available on that web site.

(D) A board of elections shall not be required to 
distribute a copy of a brochure under division (B) of this 
section to any of the following officials or employees who are 
requesting more than two voter registration forms at one time in 
the course of the official's or employee's normal duties:

(1) An election official;

(2) A county treasurer;

(3) A deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(4) An employee of a designated agency;

(5) An employee of a public high school;

(6) An employee of a public vocational school;

(7) An employee of a public library;

(8) An employee of the office of a county treasurer;

(9) An employee of the bureau of motor vehicles;

(10) An employee of a deputy registrar of motor vehicles;

(11) An employee of an election official.

(E) As used in this section, "registering voters" includes
any effort, for compensation, to provide voter registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.

Sec. 3503.30. (A) When by mistake a qualified elector has caused himself the elector to be registered in a precinct which was that is not his the elector's place of residence, the board of elections, on full and satisfactory proof that such error was committed by mistake, may, on his the elector's personal application and proof of his the elector's true residence, correct his the elector's registration form. The board may correct all errors occurring in the registration of electors when it finds that the errors subject to correction were not of fraudulent intent.

(B) When by mistake a qualified elector has been registered under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code in a precinct or under a name that is not the elector's place of residence or name, the board of elections, upon application of the elector and proof of the elector's true residence or name, as applicable, shall correct the elector's registration form. If the elector casts a provisional ballot because the elector's registration has been updated erroneously under those sections, the elector's provisional ballot shall be eligible to be counted, as described in division (E) of section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3503.33. (A) If an elector applying for registration is already registered in another state or in another county within this state, the elector shall declare this fact to the registration officer and shall sign on the registration form, which shall operate as an authorization to cancel the previous registration on a form prescribed by the secretary of state.
(B) When the board of elections registers a person to vote or updates a person's registration under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code, if the board is aware of the person's previous residence address and that address is located in another state or in another county within this state, the board shall create a notice to cancel the previous registration for the purpose of complying with division (C) of this section.

(C) The director of the board of elections shall mail all such authorizations and notices described in division (A) or (B) of this section to the board of elections or comparable agency of the proper state and county. In the case of a notice described in division (B) of this section, the board shall include with the notice a copy of the elector's most recent registration form. Upon the receipt of this authorization from the forwarding county, the director of a board of elections in Ohio, upon a comparison of the elector's signature with the elector's signature as it appears on the registration files, shall remove the elector's registration from the files, and place it with the cancellation authorization in a separate file which shall be kept for a period of two calendar years.

The board shall notify the elector at the present address as shown on the cancellation authorization or notice that his the elector's prior registration has been canceled.

(D) If, after the cancellation of an elector's prior registration under division (C)(1) of this section, the board of elections that sent the notice under division (B) of this section receives a declination to register or to update the elector's registration under division (C)(4) of section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, the board shall notify the board of elections or comparable agency to which the board sent the
notice under division (B) of this section to restore the
elector's previous registration and treat it as though it were
never canceled.

Sec. 3505.183. (A) When the ballot boxes are delivered to
the board of elections from the precincts, the board shall
separate the provisional ballot envelopes from the rest of the
ballots. Teams of employees of the board consisting of one
member of each major political party shall place the sealed
provisional ballot envelopes in a secure location within the
office of the board. The sealed provisional ballot envelopes
shall remain in that secure location until the validity of those
ballots is determined under division (B) of this section. While
the provisional ballot is stored in that secure location, and
prior to the counting of the provisional ballots, if the board
receives information regarding the validity of a specific
provisional ballot under division (B) of this section, the board
may note, on the sealed provisional ballot envelope for that
ballot, whether the ballot is valid and entitled to be counted.

(B)(1) To determine whether a provisional ballot is valid
and entitled to be counted, the board shall examine its records
and determine whether the individual who cast the provisional
ballot is registered and eligible to vote in the applicable
election. The board shall examine the information contained in
the written affirmation executed by the individual who cast the
provisional ballot under division (B)(2) of section 3505.181 of
the Revised Code. The following information shall be included in
the written affirmation in order for the provisional ballot to
be eligible to be counted:

(a) The individual's printed name, signature, date of
birth, and current address;
(b) A statement that the individual is a registered voter in the precinct in which the provisional ballot is being voted;

(c) A statement that the individual is eligible to vote in the election in which the provisional ballot is being voted.

(2) In addition to the information required to be included in an affirmation under division (B)(1) of this section, in determining whether a provisional ballot is valid and entitled to be counted, the board also shall examine any additional information for determining ballot validity provided by the provisional voter on the affirmation, provided by the provisional voter to an election official under section 3505.182 of the Revised Code, or provided to the board of elections during the seven days after the day of the election under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, to assist the board in determining the individual's eligibility to vote.

(3) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section and comparing the information required under division (B)(1) of this section with the elector's information in the statewide voter registration database, the board determines that all of the following apply, the provisional ballot envelope shall be opened, and the ballot shall be placed in a ballot box to be counted:

(a) The individual named on the affirmation is properly registered to vote.

(b) The individual named on the affirmation is eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct and for the election...
in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.

    (c) The individual provided all of the information required under division (B)(1) of this section in the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the individual cast the provisional ballot.

    (d) The last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number are not different from the last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number contained in the statewide voter registration database.

    (e) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the month and day of the elector's date of birth are not different from the day and month of the elector's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database.

This division does not apply to an elector's provisional ballot if either of the following is true:

    (i) The elector's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800.

    (ii) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at least three of its members, that the elector has met all other requirements of division (B)(3) of this section.

    (f) The elector's current address is not different from the elector's address contained in the statewide voter registration database, unless the elector indicated that the elector is casting a provisional ballot because the elector has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of address, as described in division (A)(6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code, and except as otherwise provided in division (E) of this
(g) If applicable, the individual provided any additional information required under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of the election.

(4)(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (D) and (E) of this section, if, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section and comparing the information required under division (B)(1) of this section with the elector's information in the statewide voter registration database, the board determines that any of the following applies, the provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be counted:

(i) The individual named on the affirmation is not qualified or is not properly registered to vote.

(ii) The individual named on the affirmation is not eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.

(iii) The individual did not provide all of the information required under division (B)(1) of this section in the affirmation that the individual executed at the time the individual cast the provisional ballot.

(iv) The individual has already cast a ballot for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.

(v) If applicable, the individual did not provide any additional information required under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code within seven days after the day of the election.
(vi) The individual failed to provide a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, with the voter's name and current address, the individual's driver's license or state identification card number, or the last four digits of the individual's social security number or to execute an affirmation under division (B) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(vii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number are different from the last four digits of the elector's social security number or the elector's driver's license number or state identification card number contained in the statewide voter registration database.

(viii) Except as otherwise provided in this division, the month and day of the elector's date of birth are different from the day and month of the elector's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database.

This division does not apply to an elector's provisional ballot if either of the following is true:

(I) The elector's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800.

(II) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at least three of its members, that the elector has met all of the requirements of division (B)(3) of this section, other than the requirements of division (B)(3)(e) of this section.

(ix) The elector's current address is different from the
elector's address contained in the statewide voter registration database, unless the elector indicated that the elector is casting a provisional ballot because the elector has moved and has not submitted a notice of change of address, as described in division (A)(6) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(b) If, in examining a provisional ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section and comparing the information required under division (B)(1) of this section with the elector's information in the statewide voter registration database, the board is unable to determine either of the following, the provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot shall not be counted:

(i) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is qualified or properly registered to vote;

(ii) Whether the individual named on the affirmation is eligible to cast a ballot in the precinct or for the election in which the individual cast the provisional ballot.

(C) For each provisional ballot rejected under division (B)(4) of this section, the board shall record the name of the provisional voter who cast the ballot, the identification number of the provisional ballot envelope, the names of the election officials who determined the validity of that ballot, the date and time that the determination was made, and the reason that the ballot was not counted, unless the board has already recorded that information in another database.

(D)(1) If an individual cast a provisional ballot in a precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible to vote, but in the correct polling location for the precinct in
which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, and the 
election official failed to direct the individual to the correct 
precinct, the individual's ballot shall be remade under division 
(D)(2) of this section. The election official shall be deemed to 
have directed the individual to the correct precinct if the 
election official correctly completed the form described in 
division (C)(2) of section 3505.181 of the Revised Code.

(2) A board of elections that remakes a provisional ballot 
under division (D)(1) of this section shall remake the 
provisional ballot on a ballot for the appropriate precinct to 
reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the 
individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the 
individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remade 
ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for 
which the individual was eligible to vote.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in division (E)(2) of 
this section, if an individual cast a provisional ballot in a 
precinct in which the individual is not registered and eligible 
to vote and in the incorrect polling location for the precinct 
in which the individual is registered and eligible to vote, the 
provisional ballot envelope shall not be opened, and the ballot 
shall not be counted.

(E) Provisional 
(E)(1) If the board determines that a 
provisional ballot is not eligible to be counted under this 
section because the individual's address provided on the 
provisional ballot affirmation is different from the address 
contained in the statewide voter registration database, because 
the individual's name and signature provided on the provisional 
ballot affirmation are different from the name and signature 
contained in the statewide voter registration database, or both,
and both of the following are true, the board shall correct the individual's voter registration record to reflect the information provided in the provisional ballot affirmation, and the provisional ballot nonetheless shall be eligible to be counted:

(a) The individual's voter registration was most recently updated through the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code and not at the request of the individual or using information the individual submitted to the board of elections or the secretary of state;

(b) The individual's voter registration correctly reflected the individual's address, name, and signature, as provided on the provisional ballot affirmation, immediately before that update occurred.

(2) If an individual who cast a provisional ballot that is eligible to be counted under division (E)(1) of this section cast that ballot in the precinct indicated by the individual's voter registration record as updated through the automated voter registration and verification system, and not in the precinct in which the individual resides, the board shall remake the provisional ballot on a ballot for the precinct in which the individual resides to reflect the offices, questions, and issues for which the individual was eligible to cast a ballot and for which the individual attempted to cast a provisional ballot. The remake ballot shall be counted for each office, question, and issue for which the individual was eligible to vote.

(F) Provisional ballots that are rejected under division (B)(4) of this section shall not be counted but shall be preserved in their provisional ballot envelopes unopened until
the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the
destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which
ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed.

(F) Provisional ballots that the board determines are
eligible to be counted under division (B)(3) or (D) of this
section shall be counted in the same manner as provided for
other ballots under section 3505.27 of the Revised Code. No
provisional ballots shall be counted in a particular county
until the board determines the eligibility to be counted of all
provisional ballots cast in that county under division (B) of
this section for that election. Observers, as provided in
section 3505.21 of the Revised Code, may be present at all times
that the board is determining the eligibility of provisional
ballots to be counted and counting those provisional ballots
determined to be eligible. No person shall recklessly disclose
the count or any portion of the count of provisional ballots in
such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual
ballot.

(G) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (G) of
(2) of this section, nothing in this section shall prevent a
board of elections from examining provisional ballot
affirmations and additional information under divisions (B)(1)
and (2) of this section to determine the eligibility of
provisional ballots to be counted during the ten days after the
day of an election.

(2) A board of elections shall not examine the provisional
ballot affirmation and additional information under divisions-
(B)(1) and (2) of this section of any provisional ballot cast by
an individual who must provide additional information to the
board of elections under division (B)(7) of section 3505.181 of

the Revised Code for the board to determine the individual's eligibility until the individual provides that information or until the eleventh day after the day of the election, whichever is earlier.

**Sec. 3506.24.** (A) As used in this section:

1. **"Elected official"** means an elected officer of the state, any political subdivision, or the United States, other than a member of a central committee of a political party.

2. **"Voter registration system"** means software and any related equipment used by a board of elections or the secretary of state to process, store, organize, maintain, or retrieve voter registration records.

(B) (1) No voter registration system, voting machine, marking device, or automatic tabulating equipment shall be used for the purpose of conducting elections in this state if an elected official or the spouse of an elected official is a partner, owner, or member of the person or entity that manufactured, assembled, or otherwise made the system, machine, device, or equipment or of the person or entity from which the system, machine, device, or equipment is acquired.

(2) For purposes of division (B)(1) of this section, an elected official or the spouse of an elected official is not considered an owner of a publicly traded person or entity if the elected official's and the spouse's combined ownership interest in the person or entity is less than ten per cent.

**Sec. 3509.01.** (A) The board of elections of each county shall provide absent voter's ballots for use at every primary and general election, or special election to be held on the day specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code
for the holding of a primary election, designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the voters of the state. Those ballots shall be the same size, shall be printed on the same kind of paper, and shall be in the same form as has been approved for use at the election for which those ballots are to be voted; except that, in counties using marking devices, ballot cards may be used for absent voter's ballots, and those absent voters shall be instructed to record the vote in the manner provided on the ballot cards.

(B) The rotation of names of candidates and questions and issues shall be substantially complied with on absent voter's ballots, within the limitation of time allotted. Those ballots shall be designated as "Absent Voter's Ballots." Except as otherwise provided in division (D) of this section, those ballots shall be printed and ready for use as follows:

(1) For overseas voters and absent uniformed services voters eligible to vote under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, Pub. L. No. 99-410, 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff, et seq., as amended, ballots shall be printed and ready for use other than in person on the forty-sixth day before the day of the election.

(2) For all other voters, other than overseas voters and absent uniformed services voters, who are applying to vote absent voter's ballots other than in person, ballots shall be printed and ready for use on the first day after the close of voter registration before the election.

(3) For all voters who are applying to vote absent voter's ballots in person, ballots shall be printed and ready for use beginning on the first day after the close of voter registration.
before the election.

If, at the time for the close of in-person absent voting on a particular day, there are voters waiting in line to cast their ballots, the in-person absent voting location shall be kept open until such waiting voters have cast their absent voter's ballots.

(C) Absent voter's ballots provided for use at a general or primary election, or special election to be held on the day specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the voters of the state, shall include only those questions, issues, and candidacies that have been lawfully ordered submitted to the electors voting at that election.

(D) If the laws governing the holding of a special election on a day other than the day on which a primary or general election is held make it impossible for absent voter's ballots to be printed and ready for use by the deadlines established in division (B) of this section, absent voter's ballots for those special elections shall be ready for use as many days before the day of the election as reasonably possible under the laws governing the holding of that special election.

(E) A copy of the absent voter's ballots shall be forwarded by the director of the board in each county to the secretary of state at least twenty-five days before the election.

Sec. 3509.02. (A) Any qualified elector may vote by absent voter's ballots at an election.
(B) Any qualified elector who is unable to appear at the office of the board of elections or, if pursuant to division (C) of section 3501.10 of the Revised Code the board has designated another location in the county at which registered electors may vote, at that other location on account of personal illness, physical disability, or infirmity, and who moves from one precinct to another within a county, changes the elector's name and moves from one precinct to another within a county, or moves from one county to another county within the state, on or prior to the day of a general, primary, or special election and has not filed a notice of change of residence or change of name may vote by absent voter's ballots in that election as specified in division (G) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3509.03. (A) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of section 3509.08 sections 3509.031, 3509.051, 3511.02, and 3511.021 of the Revised Code, any qualified elector desiring to vote absent voter's ballots at an election shall make deliver a written application for those ballots, either in person or by mail, to the director board of elections of the county in which the elector's voting residence is located.

(B) Except as otherwise provided in division (C) of this section, the application need not be in any particular form but shall contain all of the following:

(1) The elector's name;

(2) The elector's signature;

(3) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;

(4) The elector's date of birth;

(5) One of the following:
(a) The elector's driver's license or state identification card number;
(b) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;
(c) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector.
(6) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;
(7) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;
(8) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;
(9) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed.
(C) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the elector may provide the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.
(D) Except as otherwise provided in division (A) of section 3509.051 and in division (B) of section 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an application for to receive absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director office of the board.
or submitted through the online system described in section 3509.031 of the Revised Code, as applicable, not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the elections for which the absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, whichever is earlier, and not later than twelve noon of the third tenth day before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, or not later than six p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in person to the office of the board.

(E) A board of elections that mails an absent voter's ballot application to an elector under this section—No public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall not prepay the return postage for that an application for absent voter's ballots.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on an application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the secretary of state or a board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the application.

Sec. 3509.031. (A)(1) The secretary of state shall establish a secure online system for electors to apply for absent voter's ballots. The online system shall be available in
addition to the procedures prescribed under section 3511.021 of the Revised Code to allow a uniformed services or overseas absent voter or a relative of such an absent voter to apply for ballots by electronic means.

(2) The online system shall permit an elector to submit the application not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the election or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election, whichever is earlier, and not later than the tenth day before the day of the election.

(B)(1) The online application for absent voter's ballots shall require an elector to provide all of the following:

(a) The elector's name;

(b)(i) Except as otherwise provided under division (B)(1)(b)(ii) of this section, the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(ii) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the elector may provide the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(ii) If the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the elector may provide the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(c) The elector's date of birth;

(d) The elector's Ohio driver's license or state identification card number;

(e) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;

(f) An indication of the election for which the absent voter's ballots are requested;
(g) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation.

(2) The application shall require the applicant to check a box affirming under penalty of election falsification that the applicant is a qualified elector.

(C) The secretary of state shall transmit each completed application submitted through the online system to the board of elections of the county in which the elector resides.

(D) The secretary of state shall employ security measures necessary to ensure the integrity and accuracy of information submitted electronically pursuant to this section. Errors in processing applications for absent voter's ballots in the online system shall not prevent an elector from receiving absent voter's ballots.

Sec. 3509.04. (A) If a director of a board of elections receives an application for absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required information, the director board promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional information required to be provided by the applicant to complete that application.

(B) Upon receipt by the director board of elections of an application for absent voter's ballots that contains all of the required information, as provided by sections 3509.03 and 3509.031 and division (G) (E) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code, the director board, if the director board finds that the applicant is a qualified elector, shall deliver to the applicant in person or mail directly to the applicant by special delivery mail, air mail, or regular mail, postage prepaid, proper absent voter's ballots. The director board shall deliver
or mail with the ballots an unsealed identification envelope upon the face of which shall be printed a form substantially as follows:

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter

I, ________________________(Name of voter), declare under penalty of election falsification that the within ballot or ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed in the identification envelope, and sealed in that envelope.

My voting residence in Ohio is

________________________________________________________________
(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number)
of ________________________________ (City, Village, or Township)
Ohio, which is in Ward ___________

Precinct ____________ in that city, village, or township.

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am providing my program participant identification number instead of my residence address: _______________________

The primary election ballots, if any, within this envelope are primary election ballots of the ___________ Party.

Ballots contained within this envelope are to be voted at the __________ (general, special, or primary) election to be held on the __________________________ day of ____________________________

My date of birth is _______________ (Month and Day),

_______ (Year).

(Voter must provide one two forms of identification from
the following list:

My driver's license or state identification card number is: ____________ (Driver's license number).

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are: ____________ (Last four digits of Social Security Number).

In lieu of providing a driver's license number or the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am enclosing a copy of one of the following in the return envelope in which this identification envelope will be mailed: a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows my name and address. If you provide a copy of one or more of those documents, enclose it in the return envelope along with the identification envelope.

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the statements above are true, as I verily believe.

_________________________ (Signature of Voter)

WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE."

The director board shall mail with the ballots and the unsealed identification envelope an unsealed return envelope upon the face of which shall be printed the official title and post-office address of the director board. In the upper left corner on the face of the return envelope, several blank lines shall be printed upon which the voter may write the voter's name and return address. The return envelope shall be of such size that the identification envelope can be conveniently placed.
within it for returning the identification envelope to the director board.

A board of elections that mails or otherwise delivers absent voter's ballots to an elector under this section No public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity, shall not prepay the return postage for those any absent voter's ballots.

Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an identification envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an elector's name and address on an identification envelope statement of voter before mailing absent voter's ballots to the elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the elector's address on the identification envelope statement of voter.

Sec. 3509.05. (A) When an elector receives an absent voter's ballot pursuant to the elector's application or request, the elector shall, before placing any marks on the ballot, note whether there are any voting marks on it. If there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the ballot to be marked, folded in a manner that the stub on it and the indorsements and facsimile signatures of the members of the board of elections on the back of it are visible, and placed and sealed within the identification envelope received from the director board of elections for that purpose. Then, the elector
shall cause the statement of voter on the outside of the identification envelope to be completed and signed, under penalty of election falsification.

If the elector does not provide the two forms of identification from among the following acceptable forms of identification:

1. The elector's driver's license or state identification card number or the provided on the statement of voter on the identification envelope;

2. The last four digits of the elector's social security number provided on the statement of voter on the identification envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope with the identification envelope a;

3. A copy of the elector's current valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector, included in the return envelope with the identification envelope.

(C)(1) The elector shall mail the identification envelope to the director from whom it was received in the return envelope, postage prepaid, or the elector may personally deliver it to the director office of the board, or the spouse of the elector, the father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother, or sister of the whole or half blood, or the son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, uncle,
aunt, nephew, or niece of the elector may deliver it to the

director office of the board. The return envelope shall be
transmitted to the director returned by no other person, in no
other manner, and to no other location, except as otherwise
provided in division (C)(2) of this section and in section
3509.08 of the Revised Code.

When absent voter's ballots are delivered to an elector at
the office of the board, the elector may retire to a voting-
compartment provided by the board and there mark the ballots.
Thereupon, the elector shall fold them, place them in the
identification envelope provided, seal the envelope, fill in and
sign the statement on the envelope under penalty of election
falsification, and deliver the envelope to the director of the
board.

(2) During the period of a statewide emergency declared by
the governor, the board of elections may establish a single
secure outdoor drop box at the office of the board for the
purpose of receiving ballots under this section, so long as the
drop box is monitored by video surveillance twenty-four hours a
day during the time that ballots may be deposited in the drop
box. Only the elector or the elector's relative listed in
division (C)(1)(a) of this section may deposit the elector's
ballots in the drop box.

(D)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (D)(2)
of this section, all other envelopes containing marked absent
voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director office of the
board not later than the close of the polls on the day of an
election. Absent voter's ballots delivered to the director-
office of the board later than the times specified shall not be
counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed
identification envelopes in which they are delivered to the director, until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed.

(B)(1) (2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B) (2)(D)(2)(b) of this section, any return envelope that is postmarked prior to the day of the election shall be delivered to the director office of the board prior to the eleventh day after the election. Ballots delivered in envelopes postmarked prior to the day of the election that are received after the close of the polls on election day through the tenth day thereafter shall be counted on the eleventh day at the board of elections in the manner provided in divisions (C) and (D) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or in the manner provided in division (E) of that section, as applicable. Any such ballots that are received by at the director office of the board later than the tenth day following the election shall not be counted, but shall be kept by the board in the sealed identification envelopes as provided in division (A) of this section.

(2)(b) Division (B)(1) (D)(2)(a) of this section shall not apply to any mail that is postmarked using a postage evidencing system, including a postage meter, as defined in 39 C.F.R. 501.1.

Sec. 3509.051. An elector may appear at the office of the board of elections to cast absent voter's ballots in person instead of applying for those ballots under section 3509.03 or 3509.031 of the Revised Code. Notwithstanding section 3509.05 or any other provision of the Revised Code to the contrary, all of the following shall apply to the casting of absent voter's
ballots in person:

(A) In-person absent voting shall be permitted during the period beginning on the first day after the close of voter registration before the election and ending on the Sunday before the day of the election.

(2) If, at the time for the close of in-person absent voting on a particular day, there are voters waiting in line to cast their ballots, the in-person absent voting location shall be kept open until such waiting voters have cast their absent voter's ballots.

(B) An in-person absent voter shall provide identification to the election officials in the same manner as accordance with one of the following:

(1) As a voter who casts a ballot in person on the day of an election is required to provide The voter shall provide a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3505.18-3503.19 of the Revised Code, or that shows the name and current address of the voter.

(2) As a voter who casts an absent voter's ballot is required to submit a completed written application for an absent voter's ballot under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code The voter shall provide both of the following:

(a) The voter's driver's license or state identification card number;

(b) The last four digits of the voter's social security number.
(B) (C) The absent voter shall not be required to complete a written application for absent voter's ballots or a statement of voter on an absent voter's ballot identification envelope.

(C) (D) The board of elections shall provide a signature book to be signed by absent voters who are casting their ballots in person.

(D) (E) No person other than an election official shall be permitted to challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a ballot in person. An election official may challenge the right to vote of an absent voter who is casting a ballot in person in the same manner as a precinct election official may challenge the right to vote of an elector on the day of an election under section 3505.20 or 3513.19 of the Revised Code.

(E) (F) No absent voter may receive a replacement ballot after the voter's absent voter's ballot has been scanned or entered into automatic tabulating equipment.

Sec. 3509.06. (A) The board of elections shall determine whether absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted in each precinct, at the office of the board, or at some other location designated by the board, and shall proceed accordingly under division (B), (C), or (E) of this section, as applicable.

(B)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2) of this section, when the board of elections determines that absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted in each precinct, the board shall deliver to the voting location manager of each precinct on election day identification envelopes purporting to contain absent voter's ballots of electors whose voting residence appears from the statement of voter on the
outside of each of those envelopes, to be located in that manager's precinct, and which were received by the director board not later than the close of the polls on election day. The director board shall deliver to the voting location manager a list containing the name and voting residence of each person whose voting residence is in such precinct to whom absent voter's ballots were mailed.

(2) The director board shall not deliver to the voting location manager identification envelopes cast by electors who provided a program participant identification number instead of a residence address on the identification envelope and shall not inform the voting location manager of the names and voting residences of persons who have confidential voter registration records. Those identification envelopes shall be examined and processed as described in division (E) of this section.

(C) When the board of elections determines that absent voter's ballots shall be processed and counted at the office of the board of elections or at another location designated by the board, special election officials shall be appointed by the board for that purpose having the same authority as is exercised by precinct election officials. The votes so cast shall be added to the vote totals by the board, and the absent voter's ballots shall be preserved separately by the board, in the same manner and for the same length of time as provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code.

(D) Each of the identification envelopes purporting to contain absent voter's ballots delivered to the voting location manager of the precinct or the special election official appointed by the board of elections shall be handled as follows:

(1) The election officials shall compare the signature of
the elector on the outside of the identification envelope with the signature of that elector on the elector's registration form and verify that the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code.

(2) (a) Any of the precinct officials may challenge the right of the elector named on the identification envelope to vote the absent voter's ballots upon the ground that the signature on the envelope is not the same as the signature on the registration form, that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete, or upon any other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged.

(b) If the elector's name does not appear in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook, the precinct officials shall deliver the absent voter's ballots to the director of the board of elections to be examined and processed in the manner described in division (E) of this section.

(3) (a) An identification envelope statement of voter shall be considered incomplete if it does not include all of the following:

(i) The voter's name;

(ii) The voter's residence address or, if the voter has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the voter's program participant identification number;

(iii) The voter's date of birth. The requirements of this division are satisfied if the voter provided a date of birth and any of the following is true:

(I) The month and day of the voter's date of birth on the
identification envelope statement of voter are not different from the month and day of the voter's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database.

(II) The voter's date of birth contained in the statewide voter registration database is January 1, 1800.

(III) The board of elections has found, by a vote of at least three of its members, that the voter has met the requirements of divisions (D)(3)(a)(i), (ii), (iv), and (v) of this section.

(iv) The voter's signature; and

(v) One of the following forms of identification from among the following:

(I) The voter's driver's license or state identification card number;

(II) The last four digits of the voter's social security number; or

(III) A copy of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows the voter's name and address.

(b) If the election officials find that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that the information contained in that statement does not conform to the information contained in the statewide voter registration database concerning the voter, the election officials shall mail a written notice to the voter, informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that in order
for the voter's ballot to be counted, the voter must provide the necessary information to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state not later than the seventh day after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail. If the voter provides the necessary information to the board of elections not later than the seventh day after the day of the election and the ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the voter's ballot shall be processed and counted in accordance with this section.

(4) If no such challenge is made, or if such a challenge is made and not sustained, the voting location manager shall open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without mutilating the ballots in it, and shall remove the ballots contained in it and proceed to count them.

(5)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (D)(5)(b) of this section, the name of each person voting who is entitled to vote only an absent voter's presidential ballot shall be entered in a pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook followed by the words "Absentee Presidential Ballot." The name of each person voting an absent voter's ballot, other than such persons entitled to vote only a presidential ballot, shall be entered in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook and the person's registration card marked to indicate that the person has voted.

(b) If the person voting has a confidential voter registration record, the person's registration card shall be marked to indicate that the person has voted, but the person's name shall not be entered in the pollbook or poll list or signature pollbook.
(6) The date of such election shall also be entered on the elector's registration form. If any such challenge is made and sustained, the identification envelope of such elector shall not be opened, shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reasons the ballots were not counted, and shall be delivered to the board.

(E)(1) When the board of elections receives absent voter's ballots from an elector who has provided a program participant identification number instead of a residence address on the identification envelope statement of voter, the director and the deputy director personally shall examine and process the identification envelope statement of voter in the manner prescribed in division (D) of this section.

(2) If the director and the deputy director find that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete or that the information contained in that statement does not conform to the information contained in the statewide voter registration database concerning the voter or to the information contained in the voter's confidential voter registration record, the director and the deputy director shall mail a written notice to the voter informing the voter of the nature of the defect. The notice shall inform the voter that in order for the voter's ballot to be counted the voter must provide the necessary information to the board of elections in writing and on a form prescribed by the secretary of state not later than the seventh day after the day of the election. The voter may deliver the form to the office of the board in person or by mail. If the voter provides the necessary information to the board of elections not later than the seventh day after the day of the election and the ballot is not successfully challenged on another basis, the voter's ballot shall be counted in accordance with this section.
(3) The director or the deputy director may challenge the ballot on the ground that the signature on the envelope is not the same as the signature on the registration form, that the identification envelope statement of voter is incomplete, or upon any other of the grounds upon which the right of persons to vote may be lawfully challenged. If such a challenge is made, the board of elections shall decide whether to sustain the challenge.

(4) If neither the director nor the deputy director challenges the ballot, or if such a challenge is made and not sustained, the director and the deputy director shall open the envelope without defacing the statement of voter and without mutilating the ballots in it, shall remove the ballots contained in it, and shall transmit the ballots to the election officials to be counted with other absent voter's ballots from that precinct.

(F) The board of elections may process absent voter's ballots before the time for counting those ballots, but the board shall not tabulate or count the votes on those ballots before that time. As used in this section and section 3511.11 of the Revised Code, processing an absent voter's ballot means any of the following:

(1) Examining the identification envelope statement of voter in order to verify that the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code;

(2) Opening the identification envelope, if the absent voter's ballot is eligible to be counted;

(3) Determining the validity of the absent voter's ballot
under section 3509.07 of the Revised Code;

(4) Preparing and sorting the absent voter's ballot for scanning by automatic tabulating equipment;

(5) Scanning the absent voter's ballot by automatic tabulating equipment, if the equipment used by the board of elections permits an absent voter's ballot to be scanned without tabulating or counting the votes on the ballots scanned.

(G) Special election officials, employees or members of the board of elections, or observers shall not disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots prior to the time of the closing of the polling places. No person shall recklessly disclose the count or any portion of the count of absent voter's ballots in such a manner as to jeopardize the secrecy of any individual ballot.

(H) (1) Except as otherwise provided in division (H)(2) of this section, observers may be appointed under section 3505.21 of the Revised Code to witness the examination and opening of identification envelopes and the processing and counting of absent voters' ballots under this section.

(2) Observers shall not be permitted to witness the examination and opening of identification envelopes returned by, and the processing and counting of absent voter's ballots cast by, electors who have confidential voter registration records in a manner that would permit the observers to learn the identities or residence addresses of those electors.

Sec. 3509.07. If election officials find that any of the following are true concerning an absent voter's ballot or absent voter's presidential ballot and, if applicable, the person did not provide any required additional information to the board of
elections not later than the seventh day after the day of the election, as permitted under division (D)(3)(b) or (E)(2) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code, the ballot shall not be accepted or counted:

(A) The statement accompanying the ballot is incomplete as described in division (D)(3)(a) of section 3509.06 of the Revised Code or is insufficient;

(B) The signatures do not correspond with the person's registration signature;

(C) The applicant is not a qualified elector in the precinct;

(D) The ballot envelope contains more than one ballot of any one kind, or any voted ballot that the elector is not entitled to vote;

(E) Stub A is detached from the absent voter's ballot or absent voter's presidential ballot; or

(F) The elector has not included two forms of identification with the elector's ballot as required under section 3509.05 or 3511.09 of the Revised Code.

The vote of any absent voter may be challenged for cause in the same manner as other votes are challenged, and the election officials shall determine the legality of that ballot. Every ballot not counted shall be endorsed on its back "Not Counted" with the reasons the ballot was not counted, and shall be enclosed and returned to or retained by the board of elections along with the contested ballots.

Sec. 3509.08. (A) Any qualified elector, who, on account of the elector's own personal illness, physical disability, or
infirmity, or on account of the elector's confinement in a jail or workhouse under sentence for a misdemeanor or awaiting trial on a felony or misdemeanor, will be unable to travel from the elector's home or place of confinement to the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or primary election may make application in writing for an absent voter's ballot to the director of the board of elections of the elector's county in the manner described in section 3509.03 of the Revised Code. The application shall include all of the information required under section 3509.03 of the Revised Code and shall state the nature of the elector's illness, physical disability, or infirmity, or the fact that the elector is confined in a jail or workhouse and the elector's resultant inability to travel to the election booth in the elector's precinct on election day. The application shall not be valid if it is delivered to the director before the ninetieth day or after twelve noon of the third day before the day of the election at which the ballot is to be voted.

The absent voter's ballot may be mailed directly to the applicant at the applicant's voting residence or place of confinement as stated in the applicant's application, or the board may designate two board employees belonging to the two major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board, unless the applicant is confined to a public or private institution within the county, in which case the board shall designate two board employees belonging to the two major political parties for the purpose of delivering the ballot to the disabled or confined elector and returning it to the board. In all other instances, the ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05.
of the Revised Code.

Any disabled or confined elector who declares to the two board employees belonging to the two major political parties that the elector is unable to mark the elector's ballot by reason of physical infirmity that is apparent to the employees to be sufficient to incapacitate the voter from marking the elector's ballot properly, may receive, upon request, the assistance of the employees in marking the elector's ballot, and they shall thereafter give no information in regard to this matter. Such assistance shall not be rendered for any other cause.

When two board employees belonging to the two major political parties deliver a ballot to a disabled or confined elector, each of the employees shall be present when the ballot is delivered, when assistance is given, and when the ballot is returned to the office of the board, and shall subscribe to the declaration on the identification envelope.

The secretary of state shall prescribe the form of application for absent voter's ballots under this division.

This chapter applies to disabled and confined absent voter's ballots except as otherwise provided in this section.

(B)(1) Any qualified elector who is unable to travel to the voting booth in the elector's precinct on the day of any general, special, or primary election may apply to the director of the board of elections of the county where the elector is a qualified elector to vote in the election by absent voter's ballot if either of the following apply:

(a) The elector is confined in a hospital as a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency occurring before
the election;

(b) The elector's minor child is confined in a hospital as a result of an accident or unforeseeable medical emergency occurring before the election.

(2) The application authorized under division (B)(1) of this section shall be made in writing, shall include all of the information required under in the manner described in section 3509.03 of the Revised Code, and except that the application shall be delivered to the director office of the board not later than three p.m. on the day of the election. The application shall indicate the hospital where the applicant or the applicant's child is confined, the date of the applicant's or the applicant's child's admission to the hospital, and the offices for which the applicant is qualified to vote. The applicant may also request that a member of the applicant's family, as listed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, deliver the absent voter's ballot to the applicant. The director board, after establishing to the director's board's satisfaction the validity of the circumstances claimed by the applicant, shall supply an absent voter's ballot to be delivered to the applicant. When the applicant or the applicant's child is in a hospital in the county where the applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a member of the family to deliver the ballot, the director board shall arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the applicant, and for its return to the office of the board, by two board employees belonging to the two major political parties according to the procedures prescribed in division (A) of this section. When the applicant or the applicant's child is in a hospital outside the county where the applicant is a qualified elector and no request is made for a member of the family to deliver the ballot, the
The board shall arrange for the delivery of an absent voter's ballot to the applicant by mail, and the ballot shall be returned to the office of the board in the manner prescribed in section 3509.05 of the Revised Code.

(3) Any qualified elector who is eligible to vote under division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code but is unable to do so because of the circumstances described in division (B)(2) of this section may vote in accordance with division (B)(1) of this section if that qualified elector states in the application for absent voter's ballots that that qualified elector moved or had a change of name under the circumstances described in division (B) or (C) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and if that qualified elector complies with divisions (C)(1) to (4) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code.

(C) Any qualified elector described in division (A) or (B) (1) of this section who needs no assistance to vote or to return absent voter's ballots to the board of elections may apply for absent voter's ballots under section 3509.03, 3509.031, or 3509.051 of the Revised Code instead of applying for them under this section.

Sec. 3509.09. (A) The poll list or signature pollbook for each precinct shall identify each registered elector in that precinct who has requested an absent voter's ballot for that election, other than an elector who has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code.

(B)(1) If a registered elector appears to vote in that precinct and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot for that election but the director of elections has not
received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that election.

(2) If a registered elector appears to vote in that precinct and that elector has requested an absent voter's ballot for that election and the director board has received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that election.

(C)(1) In counting absent voter's ballots under section 3509.06 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall compare the signature of each elector from whom the director board has received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted absent voter's ballots for that election to the signature on that elector's registration form. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(3) of this section, if the board of elections determines that the absent voter's ballot in the sealed identification envelope is valid, it shall be counted. If the board of elections determines that the signature on the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted absent voter's ballot does not match the signature on the elector's registration form, the ballot shall be set aside and the board shall examine, during the time prior to the beginning of the official canvass, the poll list or signature pollbook from the precinct in which the elector is registered to vote to determine if the elector also cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in
that precinct on the day of the election.

(2) The board of elections shall count the provisional ballot, instead of the absent voter's ballot, if both of the following apply:

(a) The board of elections determines that the signature of the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in which the absent voter's ballots are enclosed does not match the signature of the elector on the elector's registration form;

(b) The elector cast a provisional ballot in the precinct on the day of the election.

(3) If the board of elections does not receive the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted absent voter's ballot by the applicable deadline established under section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, the provisional ballot cast under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of the election shall be counted as valid, if that provisional ballot is otherwise determined to be valid pursuant to section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

(D) If the board of elections counts a provisional ballot under division (C)(2) or (3) of this section, the returned identification envelope of that elector shall not be opened, and the ballot within that envelope shall not be counted. The identification envelope shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reason the ballot was not counted.

Sec. 3511.02. (A) Notwithstanding any section of the Revised Code to the contrary, whenever any person applies for registration as a voter on a form adopted in accordance with federal regulations relating to the "Uniformed and Overseas
Citizens Absentee Voting Act," 100 Stat. 924, 42 U.S.C.A. 1973ff (1986), this application shall be sufficient for voter registration and as a request for an absent voter's ballot. Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots may be obtained by any person meeting the requirements of section 3511.011 of the Revised Code by applying electronically to the secretary of state or to the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located in accordance with section 3511.021 of the Revised Code or by applying to the director of the board of elections of the county in which the person's voting residence is located, in one of the following ways:

(1) That person may make written application for those ballots. The person may personally deliver the application to the office of the board or may mail it, send it by facsimile machine, send it by electronic mail, send it through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send it to the director. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the application need not be in any particular form but shall contain all of the following information:

(a) The elector's name;
(b) The elector's signature;
(c) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;
(d) The elector's date of birth;
(e) One of the following:
   (i) The elector's driver's license or state identification card number;
(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;

(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector.

(f) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;

(g) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;

(h) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6;

(i) A statement of the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near the service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, whichever is applicable;

(j) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;

(k) If the elector desires ballots to be mailed to the elector, the address to which those ballots shall be mailed;
(1) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by facsimile machine, the telephone number to which they shall be so sent;

(m) If the elector desires ballots to be sent to the elector by electronic mail or, if offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, through internet delivery, the elector's electronic mail address or other internet contact information.

(2) A voter or any relative of a voter listed in division (A)(3) of this section may use a single federal post card application to apply for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for use at the primary and general elections in a given year and any special election to be held on the day in that year specified by division (E) of section 3501.01 of the Revised Code for the holding of a primary election, designated by the general assembly for the purpose of submitting constitutional amendments proposed by the general assembly to the voters of the state. A single federal postcard application shall be processed by the board of elections pursuant to section 3511.04 of the Revised Code the same as if the voter had applied separately for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for each election.

(3) Application to have uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots mailed or sent by facsimile machine to such a person may be made by the spouse, father, mother, father-in-law, mother-in-law, grandfather, grandmother, brother or sister of the whole blood or half blood, son, daughter, adopting parent, adopted child, stepparent, stepchild, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of such a person. The application shall be in writing upon a blank form furnished only
The director board shall furnish that blank form to any of the relatives specified in this division desiring to make the application, only upon the request of such a relative made in person at the office of the board or upon the written request of such a relative mailed to the office of the board. Except as otherwise provided in division (B) of this section, the application, subscribed and sworn to by the applicant, shall contain all of the following:

(a) The full name of the elector for whom ballots are requested;

(b) A statement that the elector is an absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter as defined in 42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6;

(c) The address at which the elector is registered to vote;

(d) A statement identifying the elector's length of residence in the state immediately preceding the commencement of service, immediately preceding the date of leaving to be with or near a service member, or immediately preceding leaving the United States, or a statement that the elector's parent or legal guardian resided in this state long enough to establish residency for voting purposes immediately preceding leaving the United States, as the case may be;

(e) The elector's date of birth;

(f) One of the following:

(i) The elector's driver's license or state identification
card number;

(ii) The last four digits of the elector's social security number;

(iii) A copy of the elector's current and valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector.

(g) A statement identifying the election for which absent voter's ballots are requested;

(h) A statement that the person requesting the ballots is a qualified elector;

(i) If the request is for primary election ballots, the elector's party affiliation;

(j) A statement that the applicant bears a relationship to the elector as specified in division (A)(3) of this section;

(k) The address to which ballots shall be mailed, the telephone number to which ballots shall be sent by facsimile machine, the electronic mail address to which ballots shall be sent by electronic mail, or, if internet delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, the internet contact information to which ballots shall be sent through internet delivery;

(l) The signature and address of the person making the application.

(B) If the elector has a confidential voter registration
record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the application may include the elector's program participant identification number instead of the address at which the elector is registered to vote.

(C) Each application for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots shall be delivered to the director of the board not earlier than the first day of January of the year of the elections for which the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots are requested or not earlier than ninety days before the day of the election at which the ballots are to be voted, whichever is earlier, and An application to receive uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots by mail or by another method permitted under section 3511.021 of the Revised Code shall be delivered to the office of the board not later than twelve noon of the third tenth day preceding the day of the election, or not later than six p.m. on the last Friday before the day of the election at which those ballots are to be voted if the application is delivered in person to the office of the board.

(D) If the voter for whom the application is made is entitled to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors only, the applicant shall submit to the director of the board in addition to the requirements of division (A) of this section, a statement to the effect that the voter is qualified to vote for presidential and vice-presidential electors and for no other offices.

(E) A board of elections that mails a federal post card application or other absent voter's ballot application to an elector under this section No public office, and no public official or employee who is acting in an official capacity,
shall not prepay the return postage for that application for absent voter's ballots.

(F) Except as otherwise provided in this section and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots on behalf of an applicant. The secretary of state or a board of elections may preprint only an applicant's name and address on a federal post card application or other application for absent voter's ballots before mailing that application to the applicant, except that if the applicant has a confidential voter registration record, the secretary of state or the board of elections shall not preprint the applicant's address on the application.

Sec. 3511.04. (A) If a director of a board of elections receives an application for uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots that does not contain all of the required information, the director promptly shall notify the applicant of the additional information required to be provided by the applicant to complete that application.

(B) Not later than the forty-sixth day before the day of each general or primary election, and at the earliest possible time before the day of a special election held on a day other than the day on which a general or primary election is held, the director of the board of elections shall mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use as provided for in section 3511.03 of the Revised Code and for which the
director board has received valid applications prior to that time. Thereafter, and until twelve noon of the third tenth day preceding the day of election, the director board shall promptly, upon receipt of valid applications for them, mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send to the proper persons all uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use.

If, after the seventieth day before the day of a general or primary election, any other question, issue, or candidacy is lawfully ordered submitted to the electors voting at the general or primary election, the board shall promptly provide a separate official issue, special election, or other election ballot for submitting the question, issue, or candidacy to those electors, and the director board shall promptly mail, send by facsimile machine, send by electronic mail, send through internet delivery if such delivery is offered by the board of elections or the secretary of state, or otherwise send each such separate ballot to each person to whom the director board has previously mailed or sent other uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots.

A board of elections that mails or otherwise delivers uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots to an elector under this section shall not prepay the return postage for those any absent voter's ballots. In mailing uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the director board shall use the fastest mail service available, but the director board shall not mail them by certified mail.
Sec. 3511.05. (A) The director of the board of elections shall place uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots sent by mail in an unsealed identification envelope, gummed ready for sealing. The director board shall include with uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots sent electronically, including by facsimile machine, an instruction sheet for preparing a gummed envelope in which the ballots shall be returned. The envelope for returning ballots sent by either means shall have printed or written on its face a form substantially as follows:

"Identification Envelope Statement of Voter

I, ________________________(Name of voter), declare under penalty of election falsification that the within ballot or ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received them, and I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed in the identification envelope, and sealed in that envelope.

My voting residence in Ohio is

________________________________________________________________

(Street and Number, if any, or Rural Route and Number)

of ______________________________ (City, Village, or Township) of Ohio, which is in Ward ___________ Precinct ____________
in that city, village, or township.

If I have a confidential voter registration record, I am providing my program participant identification number instead of my residence address: ______________________

The primary election ballots, if any, within this envelope are primary election ballots of the ________ Party.

Ballots contained within this envelope are to be voted at
the __________ (general, special, or primary) election to be held on the __________________________ day of __________________________, ___

My date of birth is _______________ (Month and Day), __________ (Year).

(Voter must provide one-two forms of identification from the following list:)

My driver's license or state identification card number is: _______________ (Driver's license number).

The last four digits of my Social Security Number are: _______________ (Last four digits of Social Security Number).

In lieu of providing a driver's license number or the last four digits of my Social Security Number, I am enclosing a copy of one of the following in the return envelope in which this identification envelope will be mailed: a current and valid photo identification, a military identification, or a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections, that shows my name and address. If you provide a copy of one or more of those documents, enclose it in the return envelope along with the identification envelope.

I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that the statements above are true, as I verily believe.

________________________

(Signature of Voter)

WHOEVER COMMITTS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE."
(B) The director board shall also mail with the ballots and the unsealed identification envelope sent by mail an unsealed return envelope, gummed, ready for sealing, for use by the voter in returning the voter's marked ballots to the director office of the board. The director board shall send with the ballots and the instruction sheet for preparing a gummed envelope sent electronically, including by facsimile machine, an instruction sheet for preparing a second gummed envelope as described in this division, for use by the voter in returning that voter's marked ballots to the director board. The return envelope shall have two parallel lines, each one quarter of an inch in width, printed across its face paralleling the top, with an intervening space of one quarter of an inch between such lines. The top line shall be one and one-quarter inches from the top of the envelope. Between the parallel lines shall be printed: "OFFICIAL ELECTION UNIFORMED SERVICES OR OVERSEAS ABSENT VOTER'S BALLOTS -- VIA AIR MAIL." Three blank lines shall be printed in the upper left corner on the face of the envelope for the use by the voter in placing the voter's complete military, naval, or mailing address on these lines, and beneath these lines there shall be printed a box beside the words "check if out-of-country." The voter shall check this box if the voter will be outside the United States on the day of the election. The official title and the post-office address of the director to whom the envelope shall be returned office of the board shall be printed on the face of such envelope in the lower right portion below the bottom parallel line.

(C) On the back of each identification envelope and each return envelope shall be printed the following:

"Instructions to voter:
If the flap on this envelope is so firmly stuck to the back of the envelope when received by you as to require forcible opening in order to use it, open the envelope in the manner least injurious to it, and, after marking your ballots and enclosing same in the envelope for mailing them to the director of the board of elections, reclose the envelope in the most practicable way, by sealing or otherwise, and sign the blank form printed below.

The flap on this envelope was firmly stuck to the back of the envelope when received, and required forced opening before sealing and mailing.

____________________
(Signature of voter)"

(D) Division (C) of this section does not apply when absent voter's ballots are sent electronically, including by facsimile machine.

(E) Except as otherwise provided in this division and in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an identification envelope statement of voter or an absent voter's ballot on behalf of an elector. A board of elections may preprint only an elector's name and address on an identification envelope statement of voter before mailing or electronically transmitting absent voter's ballots to the elector, except that if the elector has a confidential voter registration record, as described in section 111.44 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall not preprint the elector's address on the identification envelope statement of voter.

Sec. 3511.06. The return envelope provided for in section
3511.05 of the Revised Code shall be of such size that the identification envelope can be conveniently placed within it for returning the identification envelope to the director of the board of elections. The envelope in which the two envelopes and the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots are mailed to the elector shall have two parallel lines, each one quarter of an inch in width, printed across its face, paralleling the top, with an intervening space of one-quarter of an inch between such lines. The top line shall be one and one-quarter inches from the top of the envelope. Between the parallel lines shall be printed: "official uniformed services or overseas absent voter's balloting material--via air mail." The appropriate return address of the director of the board of elections shall be printed in the upper left corner on the face of such envelope. Several blank lines shall be printed on the face of such envelope in the lower right portion, below the bottom parallel line, for writing in the name and address of the elector to whom such envelope is mailed.

Sec. 3511.07. When mailing unsealed identification envelopes and unsealed return envelopes to persons, the director of the board of elections shall insert a sheet of waxed paper or other appropriate insert between the gummed flap and the back of each of such envelopes to minimize the possibility that the flap may become firmly stuck to the back of the envelope by reason of moisture, humid atmosphere, or other conditions to which they may be subjected. If the flap on either of such envelopes should be so firmly stuck to the back of the envelope when it is received by the voter as to require forcible opening of the envelope in order to use it, the voter shall open such envelope in the manner least injurious to it, and, after marking his voter's ballots and enclosing them in the envelope for mailing
to the director board, he the voter shall reclose such envelope in the most practicable way, by sealing it or otherwise, and shall sign the blank form printed on the back of such envelope.

Sec. 3511.08. The director of the board of elections shall keep a record of the name and address of each person to whom the director board mails or delivers uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the kinds of ballots so mailed or delivered, and the name and address of the person who made the application for such ballots. After the director board has mailed or delivered such ballots the director board shall not mail or deliver additional ballots of the same kind to such person pursuant to a subsequent request unless such subsequent request contains the statement that an earlier request had been sent to the director board prior to the thirtieth day before the election and that the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots so requested had not been received by such person prior to the fifteenth day before the election, and provided that the director board has not received an identification envelope purporting to contain marked uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots from such person.

Sec. 3511.09. (A) Upon receiving uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, the elector shall cause the questions on the face of the identification envelope to be answered, and, by writing the elector's usual signature in the proper place on the identification envelope, the elector shall declare under penalty of election falsification that the answers to those questions are true and correct to the best of the elector's knowledge and belief. Then, the elector shall note whether there are any voting marks on the ballot. If there are any voting marks, the ballot shall be returned immediately to the board of elections; otherwise, the elector shall cause the
ballot to be marked, folded separately so as to conceal the markings on it, deposited in the identification envelope, and securely sealed in the identification envelope. The elector then shall cause the identification envelope to be placed within the return envelope, sealed in the return envelope, and mailed to the director of the board of elections to whom which it is addressed. The ballot shall be submitted for mailing not later than 12:01 a.m. at the place where the voter completes the ballot, on the date of the election. If the

(B) The elector does not shall provide the two forms of identification from among the following acceptable forms of identification:

(1) The elector's driver's license or state identification card number or the provided on the statement of voter on the identification envelope;

(2) The last four digits of the elector's social security number provided on the statement of voter on the identification envelope, the elector also shall include in the return envelope with the identification envelope a;

(3) A copy of the elector's current valid photo identification, a copy of a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under section 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and address of the elector, included in the return envelope with the identification envelope. Each

(C) Each elector who will be outside the United States on the day of the election shall check the box on the return
envelope indicating this fact and shall mail the return envelope to the director of the board prior to the close of the polls on election day.

(D) Every uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot identification envelope shall be accompanied by the following statement in boldface capital letters: WHOEVER COMMITS ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS GUILTY OF A FELONY OF THE FIFTH DEGREE.

(E) The elector shall cause the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots to be returned to the office of the board of elections in a manner described in division (C) of section 3509.05 of the Revised Code, provided that the elector shall not be required to prepay the postage on the return envelope if, under 39 U.S.C. 3406, no postage is required.

Sec. 3511.10. If, after the first day after the close of voter registration before a general or primary election and before the close of the polls on the day of that election, a valid application for a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots is delivered to the director of the board of elections, the voter may cast absent voter's ballots in person at the office of the board by a person making the application on the person's own behalf, the director shall forthwith deliver to the person all uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots then ready for use, together with an identification envelope of elections under section 3509.051 of the Revised Code. The person shall then immediately retire to a voting booth in the office of the board, and mark the ballots. The person shall then fold each ballot separately so as to conceal the person's markings thereon, and deposit all of the ballots in the identification envelope and securely seal it. Thereupon the person shall fill
in answers to the questions on the face of the identification envelope, and by writing the person's usual signature in the proper place thereon, the person shall declare under penalty of election falsification that the answers to those questions are true and correct to the best of that person's knowledge and belief. The person shall then deliver the identification envelope to the director. If thereafter, and before the third day preceding such election, the board provides additional separate official issue or special election ballots, as provided for in section 3511.04 of the Revised Code, the director of the board shall promptly, and not later than twelve noon of the third day preceding the day of election, mail such additional ballots to such person at the address specified by that person for that purpose. Except as otherwise provided in sections 3505.24 and 3509.08 of the Revised Code, an election official shall not fill out any portion of an application for absent voter's ballots, an identification envelope statement of voter, or an absent voter's ballot requested under this section on behalf of an applicant.

In the event any person serving in the armed forces of the United States is discharged after the closing date of registration, and that person or that person's spouse, or both, meets all the other qualifications set forth in section 3511.011 of the Revised Code, the person or spouse shall be permitted to vote prior to the date of the election in the office of the board in the person’s or spouse's county, as set forth in this section.

Sec. 3511.11. (A) Upon receipt of any return envelope bearing the designation "Official Election Uniformed Services or Overseas Absent Voter's Ballot" prior to the eleventh day after the day of any election, the director of the board of elections shall open it but shall not open the identification envelope.

3504 3505 3506 3507 3508 3509 3510 3511 3512 3513 3514 3515 3516 3517 3518 3519 3520 3521 3522 3523 3524 3525 3526 3527 3528 3529 3530 3531 3532 3533 3534
contained in it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the director board finds ballots in it that are not enclosed in and properly sealed in the identification envelope, the director board shall not look at the markings upon the ballots and shall promptly place them in the identification envelope and promptly seal it. If, upon so opening the return envelope, the director board finds that ballots are enclosed in the identification envelope but that it is not properly sealed, the director board shall not look at the markings upon the ballots and shall promptly seal the identification envelope.

(B) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots delivered to the director not later than the close of the polls on election day shall be processed and counted in the manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code.

(C) A return envelope is not required to be postmarked in order for a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot contained in it to be valid. Except as otherwise provided in this division, whether or not the return envelope containing the ballot is postmarked, contains a late postmark, or contains an illegible postmark, a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot that is received after the close of the polls on election day through the tenth day after the election day shall be processed and counted on the eleventh day after the election day at the office of the board of elections in the manner provided in section 3509.06 of the Revised Code if the voter signed the identification envelope by the time specified in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code. However, if a return envelope containing a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot is so received and so indicates, but the identification envelope in it is signed after the close of the polls on election day, the uniformed services or overseas absent
voter's ballot shall not be counted.

(D) The following types of uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots shall not be counted:

(1) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots contained in return envelopes that bear the designation "Official Election Uniformed Services or Overseas Absent Voter's Ballots," that are received by the director board of elections after the close of the polls on the day of the election, and that contain an identification envelope that is signed after the time specified in section 3511.09 of the Revised Code;

(2) Uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots contained in return envelopes that bear that designation and that are received after the tenth day following the election.

The uncounted ballots shall be preserved in their identification envelopes unopened until the time provided by section 3505.31 of the Revised Code for the destruction of all other ballots used at the election for which ballots were provided, at which time they shall be destroyed.

Sec. 3511.13. (A) The poll list or signature pollbook for each precinct shall identify each registered elector in that precinct who has requested a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that election.

(B)(1) If a registered elector appears to vote in that precinct and that elector has requested a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that election but the director board of elections has not received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast a
provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that election.

(2) If a registered elector appears to vote in that precinct and that elector has requested a uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot for that election and the director board has received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for that election, the elector shall be permitted to cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of that election.

(C)(1) In counting uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots under section 3511.11 of the Revised Code, the board of elections shall compare the signature of each elector from whom the director board has received a sealed identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots for that election to the signature on the elector's registration form. Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(3) of this section, if the board of elections determines that the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot in the sealed identification envelope is valid, it shall be counted. If the board of elections determines that the signature on the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot does not match the signature on the elector's registration form, the ballot shall be set aside and the board shall examine, during the time prior to the beginning of the official canvass, the poll list or signature pollbook from the precinct in which the elector is registered to vote to determine if the elector also cast a provisional ballot under section 3505.181 of the Revised
Code in that precinct on the day of the election.

(2) The board of elections shall count the provisional ballot, instead of the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot, of an elector from whom the board has received an identification envelope purporting to contain that elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots, if both of the following apply:

(a) The board of elections determines that the signature of the elector on the outside of the identification envelope in which the uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballots are enclosed does not match the signature of the elector on the elector's registration form;

(b) The elector cast a provisional ballot in the precinct on the day of the election.

(3) If the board of elections does not receive the sealed identification envelope purporting to contain the elector's voted uniformed services or overseas absent voter's ballot by the applicable deadline established under section 3511.11 of the Revised Code, the provisional ballot cast under section 3505.181 of the Revised Code in that precinct on the day of the election shall be counted as valid, if that provisional ballot is otherwise determined to be valid pursuant to section 3505.183 of the Revised Code.

(D) If the board of elections counts a provisional ballot under division (C)(2) or (3) of this section, the returned identification envelope of that elector shall not be opened, and the ballot within that envelope shall not be counted. The identification envelope shall be endorsed "Not Counted" with the reason the ballot was not counted.
Sec. 3513.05. Each person desiring to become a candidate for a party nomination at a primary election or for election to an office or position to be voted for at a primary election, except persons desiring to become joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor and except as otherwise provided in section 3513.051 of the Revised Code, shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the primary election, file a declaration of candidacy and petition and pay the fees required under divisions (A) and (B) of section 3513.10 of the Revised Code. The declaration of candidacy and all separate petition papers shall be filed at the same time as one instrument. When the offices are to be voted for at a primary election, persons desiring to become joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the primary election, comply with section 3513.04 of the Revised Code. The prospective joint candidates' declaration of candidacy and all separate petition papers of candidacies shall be filed at the same time as one instrument. The secretary of state or a board of elections shall not accept for filing a declaration of candidacy and petition of a person seeking to become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy or a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or has become a candidate by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the declaration of candidacy is for a state or county office, or for any municipal or township office, if the declaration of candidacy is for a municipal or township office.

If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy which is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state, the
petition, including a petition for joint candidates for the
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by
at least one thousand qualified electors who are members of the
same political party as the candidate or joint candidates, and
the declaration of candidacy and petition shall be filed with
the secretary of state; provided that the secretary of state
shall not accept or file any such petition appearing on its face
to contain signatures of more than three thousand electors.

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, if the
declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only
to electors within a district, political subdivision, or portion
thereof, the petition shall be signed by not less than fifty
qualified electors who are members of the same political party
as the political party of which the candidate is a member. If
the declaration of candidacy is for party nomination as a
candidate for member of the legislative authority of a municipal
corporation elected by ward, the petition shall be signed by not
less than twenty-five qualified electors who are members of the
political party of which the candidate is a member.

No such petition, except the petition for a candidacy that
is to be submitted to electors throughout the entire state,
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain on its
face signatures of more than three times the minimum number of
signatures. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed
invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the
petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures
accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures
required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying
signatures on petitions when the number of verified signatures
equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.
If the declaration of candidacy declares a candidacy for party nomination or for election as a candidate of a minor party, the minimum number of signatures on such petition is one-half the minimum number provided in this section, except that, when the candidacy is one for election as a member of the state central committee or the county central committee of a political party, the minimum number shall be the same for a minor party as for a major party.

If a declaration of candidacy is one for election as a member of the state central committee or the county central committee of a political party, the petition shall be signed by five qualified electors of the district, county, ward, township, or precinct within which electors may vote for such candidate. The electors signing such petition shall be members of the same political party as the political party of which the candidate is a member.

For purposes of signing or circulating a petition of candidacy for party nomination or election, an elector is considered to be a member of a political party if the elector voted in that party's primary election within the preceding two calendar years, or if the elector did not vote in any other party's primary election within the preceding two calendar years.

If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only to electors within a county, or within a district or subdivision or part thereof smaller than a county, the petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the county. If the declaration of candidacy is of one that is to be submitted only to electors of a district or subdivision or part thereof that is situated in more than one county, the petition
shall be filed with the board of elections of the county within which the major portion of the population thereof, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, is located.

A petition shall consist of separate petition papers, each of which shall contain signatures of electors of only one county. Petitions or separate petition papers containing signatures of electors of more than one county shall not thereby be declared invalid. In case petitions or separate petition papers containing signatures of electors of more than one county are filed, the board shall determine the county from which the majority of signatures came, and only signatures from such county shall be counted. Signatures from any other county shall be invalid.

Each separate petition paper shall be circulated by one person only, who shall be the candidate or a joint candidate or a member of the same political party as the candidate or joint candidates, and each separate petition paper shall be governed by the rules set forth in section 3501.38 of the Revised Code.

The secretary of state shall promptly transmit to each board such separate petition papers of each petition accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with the secretary of state as purport to contain signatures of electors of the county of such board. The board of the most populous county of a district shall promptly transmit to each board within such district such separate petition papers of each petition accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport to contain signatures of electors of the county of each such board. The board of a county within which the major portion of the population of a subdivision, situated in more than one county, is located, shall promptly transmit to the board of each
other county within which a portion of such subdivision is located such separate petition papers of each petition accompanying a declaration of candidacy filed with it as purport to contain signatures of electors of the portion of such subdivision in the county of each such board.

All petition papers so transmitted to a board and all petitions accompanying declarations of candidacy filed with a board shall, under proper regulations, be open to public inspection until four p.m. of the eightieth day before the day of the next primary election. Each board shall, not later than the seventy-eighth day before the day of that primary election, examine and determine the validity or invalidity of the signatures on the petition papers so transmitted to or filed with it and shall return to the secretary of state all petition papers transmitted to it by the secretary of state, together with its certification of its determination as to the validity or invalidity of signatures thereon, and shall return to each other board all petition papers transmitted to it by such board, together with its certification of its determination as to the validity or invalidity of the signatures thereon. All other matters affecting the validity or invalidity of such petition papers shall be determined by the secretary of state or the board with whom such petition papers were filed.

Protests against the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy for party nomination or for election to an office or position, as provided in this section, may be filed by any qualified elector who is a member of the same political party as the candidate and who is eligible to vote at the primary election for the candidate whose declaration of candidacy the elector objects to, or by the controlling committee of that political party. The protest shall be in
writing, and shall be filed not later than four p.m. of the 
seventy-fourth day before the day of the primary election. The 
protest shall be filed with the election officials with whom the 
declaration of candidacy and petition was filed. Upon the filing 
of the protest, the election officials with whom it is filed 
shall promptly fix the time for hearing it, and shall forthwith 
mail notice of the filing of the protest and the time fixed for 
hearing to the person whose candidacy is so protested. They 
shall also forthwith mail notice of the time fixed for such 
hearing to the person who filed the protest. At the time fixed, 
such election officials shall hear the protest and determine the 
validity or invalidity of the declaration of candidacy and 
petition. If they find that such candidate is not an elector of 
the state, district, county, or political subdivision in which 
the candidate seeks a party nomination or election to an office 
or position, or has not fully complied with this chapter, the 
candidate's declaration of candidacy and petition shall be 
determined to be invalid and shall be rejected; otherwise, it 
shall be determined to be valid. That determination shall be 
final.

A protest against the candidacy of any persons filing a 
declaration of candidacy for joint party nomination to the 
offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall be filed, 
heard, and determined in the same manner as a protest against 
the candidacy of any person filing a declaration of candidacy 
singly.

The secretary of state shall, on the seventieth day before 
the day of a primary election, certify to each board in the 
state the forms of the official ballots to be used at the 
primary election, together with the names of the candidates to 
be printed on the ballots whose nomination or election is to be
determined by electors throughout the entire state and who filed valid declarations of candidacy and petitions.

The board of the most populous county in a district comprised of more than one county but less than all of the counties of the state shall, on the seventieth day before the day of a primary election, certify to the board of each county in the district the names of the candidates to be printed on the official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose nomination or election is to be determined only by electors within the district and who filed valid declarations of candidacy and petitions.

The board of a county within which the major portion of the population of a subdivision smaller than the county and situated in more than one county is located shall, on the seventieth day before the day of a primary election, certify to the board of each county in which a portion of that subdivision is located the names of the candidates to be printed on the official ballots to be used at the primary election, whose nomination or election is to be determined only by electors within that subdivision and who filed valid declarations of candidacy and petitions.

Sec. 3513.251. Nominations of candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of less than two thousand as ascertained by the next preceding federal census shall be made only by nominating petition and their election shall occur only in nonpartisan elections, unless a majority of the electors of such municipal corporation have petitioned for a primary election. Nominations of candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of two thousand or more shall be made either by
primary election in conjunction with a partisan general election or by nominating petition in conjunction with a nonpartisan general election, as determined under section 3513.01 of the Revised Code.

The nominating petitions of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of less than two thousand, as ascertained by the most recent federal census, shall be signed by not less than ten qualified electors of the municipal corporation. Any nominating petition filed under this section shall be filed with the board of elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the general election, provided that no such nominating petition shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number of signatures required by this section. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code for any other municipal office, or for a township office, for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for member of a governing board of an educational service center. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying signatures when the number of verified signatures reaches three times the minimum number of signatures required.
signatures on a petition equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.

Nomination of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of two thousand or more, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be made only by nominating petition. Nominating petitions of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of two thousand or more but less than five thousand, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be signed by not less than fifty qualified electors of the municipal corporation or ward thereof in the case of the nominating petition of a candidate for election as councilperson from such ward. Nominating petitions of nonpartisan candidates for election as officers of a municipal corporation having a population of five thousand or more, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be signed by not less than fifty qualified electors of the municipal corporation or ward thereof in the case of the nominating petition of a candidate for election as councilperson from such ward.

Sec. 3513.253. Nominations of candidates for election as officers of a township shall be made only by nominating petitions, unless a majority of the electors of such township have petitioned for a primary election. The nominating petitions of nonpartisan candidates for township trustee and township fiscal officer shall be signed by not less than twenty-five qualified electors of the township. Such petition shall be filed with the board of elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the general election, provided that no such nominating petition shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures aggregating in number more than
three times the minimum number of signatures required by this section. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code for any other township office, or for a municipal office, for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for member of a governing board of an educational service center. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying signatures when the number of verified signatures on a petition equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.

Sec. 3513.254. (A) The name of each candidate for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education shall appear on the nonpartisan ballot. Nominating petitions of candidates for member of a board of education of a local or exempted village school district shall be signed by twenty-five qualified electors of the school district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a board of education of a city school district having a population of less than twenty thousand, as ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be signed by twenty-five qualified electors of the school district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a board of education of a city school district having a population
of twenty thousand or more but less than fifty thousand, as
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be
signed by seventy-five qualified electors of the school
district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a
board of education of a city school district having a population
of fifty thousand or more but less than one hundred thousand, as
ascertained by the next preceding federal census, shall be
signed by one hundred fifty qualified electors of the school
district. Nominating petitions for candidates for member of a
board of education of a city school district having a population
of one hundred thousand or more, as ascertained by the next
preceding federal census, shall be signed by three hundred
qualified electors of the school district.

(B) Nominating petitions shall be filed with the board of
elections not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before
the day of the general election, provided that no such petition
shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures
aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number
of signatures required by this section. A board of elections
shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if
that person, for the same election, has already filed a
declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-
in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a
candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by
the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the
Revised Code for any other position as a member of a city,
local, or exempted village board of education or position as a
member of a governing board of an educational service center, or
for a municipal or township office. When a petition of a
candidate has been accepted for filing by a board of elections,
the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification
of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying petitions when the number of verified signatures equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.

(C) This section is subject to section 3513.256 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3513.255. This section is subject to section 3513.256 of the Revised Code. The name of each candidate for election as a member of a governing board of an educational service center shall appear on the nonpartisan ballot. Each nominating petition shall be signed by fifty qualified electors who reside in one of the following, as applicable:

(A) The school districts over which the educational service center governing board has jurisdiction, in the case of any candidate running for a position on any educational service center governing board other than a governing board established in accordance with section 3311.054 of the Revised Code;

(B) The subdistrict in which the candidate is running, in the case of a position on a governing board of an educational service center established in accordance with section 3311.054 of the Revised Code.

Each nominating petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the county in which the central administrative offices of the educational service center governing board are located not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the general election, provided that no such petition shall be accepted for filing if it appears to contain signatures.
aggregating in number more than three times the minimum number of signatures required by this section. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code for any other position as a member of a governing board of an educational service center or position as a member of a city, local, or exempted village board of education, or for a municipal or township office. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying petitions when the number of verified signatures equals the minimum required number of qualified signatures.

Sec. 3513.257. Each person desiring to become an independent candidate for an office for which candidates may be nominated at a primary election, except persons desiring to become independent joint candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor and for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States, shall file no later than four p.m. of the day before the day of the primary election immediately preceding the general election at which such candidacy is to be voted for by the voters, a statement of candidacy and nominating petition as provided in section 3513.261 of the Revised Code. Persons desiring to become
independent joint candidates for the offices of governor and
lieutenant governor shall file, not later than four p.m. of the
day before the day of the primary election, one statement of
candidacy and one nominating petition for the two of them.
Persons desiring to become independent joint candidates for the
offices of president and vice-president of the United States
shall file, not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before
the day of the general election at which the president and vice-
president are to be elected, one statement of candidacy and one
nominating petition for the two of them. The prospective
independent joint candidates' statement of candidacy shall be
filed with the nominating petition as one instrument.

The statement of candidacy and separate petition papers of
each candidate or pair of joint candidates shall be filed at the
same time as one instrument.

The nominating petition shall contain signatures of
qualified electors of the district, political subdivision, or
portion of a political subdivision in which the candidacy is to
be voted on in an amount to be determined as follows:

(A) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors
throughout the entire state, the nominating petition, including
the nominating petition of independent joint candidates for the
offices of governor and lieutenant governor, shall be signed by
no less than five thousand qualified electors, provided that no
petition shall be accepted for filing if it purports to contain
more than fifteen thousand signatures.

(B) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors in any
district, political subdivision, or part thereof in which less
than five thousand electors voted for the office of governor at
the most recent election for that office, the nominating
petition shall contain signatures of not less than twenty-five qualified electors of the district, political subdivision, or part thereof, or a number of qualified signatures equal to at least five per cent of that vote, if this number is less than twenty-five.

(C) If the candidacy is to be voted on by electors in any district, political subdivision, or part thereof in which five thousand or more electors voted for the office of governor at the most recent election for that office, the nominating petition shall contain a number of signatures equal to at least one per cent of those electors.

All nominating petitions of candidates for offices to be voted on by electors throughout the entire state shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state. No nominating petition for the offices of president and vice-president of the United States shall be accepted for filing unless there is submitted to the secretary of state, at the time of filing the petition, a slate of presidential electors sufficient in number to satisfy the requirement of the United States Constitution. The secretary of state shall not accept for filing the statement of candidacy of a person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office of governor unless it also shows the joint candidacy of a person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office of lieutenant governor, shall not accept for filing the statement of candidacy of a person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office of lieutenant governor unless it also shows the joint candidacy of a person who desires to be an independent candidate for the office of governor or lieutenant governor who, for the same election,
has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a statement of candidacy, or has become a candidate by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised Code for any other state office or any federal or county office.

Nominating petitions of candidates for offices to be voted on by electors within a district or political subdivision comprised of more than one county but less than all counties of the state shall be filed with the boards of elections of that county or part of a county within the district or political subdivision which had a population greater than that of any other county or part of a county within the district or political subdivision according to the last federal decennial census.

Nominating petitions for offices to be voted on by electors within a county or district smaller than a county shall be filed with the board of elections for such county.

No petition other than the petition of a candidate whose candidacy is to be considered by electors throughout the entire state shall be accepted for filing if it appears on its face to contain more than three times the minimum required number of signatures. A board of elections shall not accept for filing a nominating petition of a person seeking to become a candidate if that person, for the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy, a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a nominating petition, or has become a candidate by the filling of a vacancy under section 3513.30 of the Revised Code for any federal, state, or county office, if the nominating petition is for a state or county office, or for any municipal or township office, for member of a city, local,
or exempted village board of education, or for member of a
governing board of an educational service center, if the
nominating petition is for a municipal or township office, or
for member of a city, local, or exempted village board of
education, or for member of a governing board of an educational
service center. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted
for filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be
deemed invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in
the petition, the board of elections finds the number of
signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of
signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue
verifying signatures when the number of verified signatures on a
petition equals the minimum required number of qualified
signatures.

Any nonjudicial candidate who files a nominating petition
may request, at the time of filing, that the candidate be
designated on the ballot as a nonparty candidate or as an other-
party candidate, or may request that the candidate's name be
placed on the ballot without any designation. Any such candidate
who fails to request a designation either as a nonparty
candidate or as an other-party candidate shall have the
candidate's name placed on the ballot without any designation.

The purpose of establishing a filing deadline for
independent candidates prior to the primary election immediately
preceding the general election at which the candidacy is to be
voted on by the voters is to recognize that the state has a
substantial and compelling interest in protecting its electoral
process by encouraging political stability, ensuring that the
winner of the election will represent a majority of the
community, providing the electorate with an understandable
ballot, and enhancing voter education, thus fostering informed
and educated expressions of the popular will in a general
election. The filing deadline for independent candidates
required in this section prevents splintered parties and
unrestrained factionalism, avoids political fragmentation, and
maintains the integrity of the ballot. The deadline, one day
prior to the primary election, is the least drastic or
restrictive means of protecting these state interests. The
general assembly finds that the filing deadline for independent
candidates in primary elections required in this section is
reasonably related to the state's purpose of ensuring fair and
honest elections while leaving unimpaired the political, voting,
and associational rights secured by the first and fourteenth
amendments to the United States Constitution.

Sec. 3513.259. Nominations of candidates for the office of
member of the state board of education shall be made only by
nominating petition. The nominating petition of a candidate for
the office of member of the state board of education shall be
signed by not less than one hundred qualified electors.

No such nominating petition shall be accepted for filing
if it appears on its face to contain signatures aggregating in
number more than three times the minimum number of signatures
required by this section. A board of elections shall not accept
for filing a nominating petition of a person if that person, for
the same election, has already filed a declaration of candidacy,
a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate, or a
nominating petition, or has become a candidate through party
nomination at a primary election or by the filling of a vacancy
under section 3513.30 or 3513.31 of the Revised Code, to be a
candidate for any other state office or any federal or county
office. When a petition of a candidate has been accepted for
filing by a board of elections, the petition shall not be deemed
invalid if, upon verification of signatures contained in the petition, the board of elections finds the number of signatures accepted exceeds three times the minimum number of signatures required. A board of elections may discontinue verifying signatures when the number of verified signatures equals the minimum required number of signatures. Such petition shall be filed with the board of elections of the most populous county in such district not later than four p.m. of the ninetieth day before the day of the general election at which state board of education members are elected.

Each nominating petition shall be signed by qualified electors residing in the district in which the candidate designated therein would be a candidate for election to the office of member of the state board of education. Each candidate shall be a qualified elector residing in the district in which the candidate seeks election to such office.

As the word "district" is used in this section, it refers to a district created under section 3301.01 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 3599.11. (A) No—(1) Subject to division (A)(2) of this section, no person shall knowingly do any of the following:

(a) Knowingly register or make application or attempt to register in a precinct in which the person is not a qualified voter; or knowingly

(b) Knowingly aid or abet any person to so register; or attempt

(c) Knowingly attempt to register or knowingly induce or attempt to induce any person to so register; or knowingly

(d) Knowingly impersonate another or write or assume the name of another, real or fictitious, in registering or
attempting to register; or by

(e) By false statement or other unlawful means, knowingly
procure, aid, or attempt to procure the erasure or striking out
on the register or duplicate list of the name of a qualified
elector therein; or knowingly

(f) Knowingly induce or attempt to induce a registrar or
other election authority to refuse registration in a precinct to
an elector thereof; or knowingly

(g) Knowingly swear or affirm falsely upon a lawful
examination by or before any registering officer; or make

(h) Knowingly make, print, or issue any false or
counterfeit certificate of registration or knowingly alter any
certificate of registration.

No person shall knowingly;

(i) Knowingly register under more than one name or
knowingly induce any person to so register.

No person shall knowingly;

(j) Knowingly make any false statement on any form for
registration or change of registration or upon any application
or return envelope for an absent voter's ballot.

(2)(a) A person whose voter registration or voter
registration update is processed through the automated voter
registration and verification system described in section
3503.11 of the Revised Code and who is not a qualified voter in
the precinct or under the name indicated violates division (A)
(1) of this section only if the person knowingly provides or
attempts to provide false information with the intention of
registering or submitting a registration update using that.
information.

(b) A person who aids, abets, induces, or attempts to induce another person to have the other person's voter registration or voter registration update processed through the automated voter registration and verification system described in section 3503.11 of the Revised Code when the other person is not a qualified voter in the precinct or under the name indicated violates division (A)(1) of this section only if the person knowingly causes or attempts to cause the other person to be registered to vote or to have the other person's registration updated using information the person knows is false.

(3) Whoever violates this division (A)(1) of this section is guilty of a felony of the fifth degree.

(B)(1) No person who helps another person register outside an official voter registration place shall knowingly destroy, or knowingly help another person to destroy, any completed registration form.

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election falsification, a felony of the fifth degree.

(2)(a) No person who helps another person register outside an official voter registration place shall knowingly fail to return any registration form entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days after that registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth day before the election, whichever day is earlier, unless the registration form is received by the person within twenty-four hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case the person shall return the registration form to any board of elections or
the office of the secretary of state within ten days of its receipt.

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)(2)(a), (B)(2)(b), (C)(1), or (C)(2) of this section, the violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(b) Subject to division (C)(2) of this section, no person who helps another person register outside an official registration place shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state.

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)(2)(a), (B)(2)(b), (C)(1), or (C)(2) of this section, the violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(C)(1) No person who receives compensation for registering a voter shall knowingly fail to return any registration form entrusted to that person to any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days after that voter registration form is completed, or on or before the thirtieth
day before the election, whichever is earlier, unless the registration form is received by the person within twenty-four hours of the thirtieth day before the election, in which case the person shall return the registration form to any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state within ten days of its receipt.

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)(2)(a), (B)(2)(b), (C)(1), or (C)(2) of this section, the violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(2) No person who receives compensation for registering a voter shall knowingly return any registration form entrusted to that person to any location other than any board of elections or the office of the secretary of state.

Whoever violates this division is guilty of election falsification, a felony of the fifth degree, unless the person has not previously been convicted of a violation of division (B)(2)(a), (B)(2)(b), (C)(1), or (C)(2) of this section, the violation of this division does not cause any person to miss any voter registration deadline with regard to any election, and the number of voter registration forms that the violator has failed to properly return does not exceed forty-nine, in which case the violator is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

(D) As used in division (C) of this section, "registering a voter" includes any effort, for compensation, to provide voter
registration forms or to assist persons in completing or returning those forms.

Sec. 3599.12. (A) No person shall do any of the following:

(1) Vote or attempt to vote in any primary, special, or general election in a precinct in which that person is not a legally qualified elector;

(2) Vote or attempt to vote more than once at the same election by any means, including voting or attempting to vote both by absent voter's ballots under division (C)-(E) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by regular ballot at the polls at the same election, or voting or attempting to vote both by absent voter's ballots under division (C)-(E) of section 3503.16 of the Revised Code and by absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3509. or armed service absent voter's ballots under Chapter 3511. of the Revised Code at the same election;

(3) Impersonate or sign the name of another person, real or fictitious, living or dead, and vote or attempt to vote as that other person in any such election;

(4) Cast a ballot at any such election after objection has been made and sustained to that person's vote;

(5) Knowingly vote or attempt to vote a ballot other than the official ballot.

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a felony of the fourth degree.

Sec. 3599.18. (A) No election official, person assisting in the registration of electors, or police officer shall knowingly do any of the following:

(1) Refuse, neglect, or unnecessarily delay, hinder, or
prevent the registration of a qualified elector, who in a lawful manner applies for registration or who should be registered or have the elector's registration updated under section 3503.11 of the Revised Code;

(2) Enter or consent to the entry of a fictitious name on a voter registration list;

(3) Alter the name on or remove or destroy the registration card or form of any qualified elector;

(4) Neglect, unlawfully execute, or fail to execute any duty enjoined upon that person as an election official, person assisting in the registration of electors, or police officer.

(B) Whoever violates division (A) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Section 2. That existing sections 3501.01, 3501.05, 3501.09, 3503.09, 3503.12, 3503.13, 3503.14, 3503.15, 3503.16, 3503.19, 3503.21, 3503.28, 3503.30, 3503.33, 3505.183, 3509.01, 3509.02, 3509.03, 3509.04, 3509.05, 3509.051, 3509.06, 3509.07, 3509.08, 3509.09, 3511.02, 3511.04, 3511.05, 3511.06, 3511.07, 3511.08, 3511.10, 3511.11, 3511.13, 3513.05, 3513.251, 3513.253, 3513.254, 3513.255, 3513.257, 3513.259, 3599.11, 3599.12, and 3599.18 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

Section 3. That section 3503.11 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

Section 4. The Secretary of State shall implement the automated voter registration and verification program created by this act not later than one year after this section takes effect.

Section 5. This act shall be known as the Ohio Election
Security and Modernization Act.

Section 6. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the following sections, presented in this act as composites of the sections as amended by the acts indicated, are the resulting versions of the sections in effect prior to the effective date of the sections as presented in this act:

Section 3503.21 of the Revised Code as amended by both H.B. 359 and S.B. 63 of the 131st General Assembly.

Section 3511.10 of the Revised Code as amended by both S.B. 205 and S.B. 238 of the 130th General Assembly.