



99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB4208

by Rep. Robyn Gabel

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/1A-16.6

Amends the Election Code. Provides that specified government agencies shall assist individuals to register to vote unless the individual chooses to not register. Provides that employees of designated government agencies must inform the applicant of his or her right to opt out of this voter registration. Provides that employees must inform the applicant that if he or she is not a citizen of the United States, he or she must opt out. Provides that applicants opting out of the automatic voter registration shall not be required to disclose whether he or she is a citizen of the United States or his or her reason for opting out.

LRB099 12124 MGM 34822 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Section
5 1A-16.6 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.6)

7 (This Section may contain text from a Public Act with a
8 delayed effective date)

9 Sec. 1A-16.6. Government agency voter registration.

10 (a) By April 1, 2016, the State Board of Elections shall
11 establish and maintain a portal for government agency
12 registration that permits an eligible person to electronically
13 apply to register to vote or to update his or her existing
14 voter registration whenever he or she conducts business, either
15 online or in person, with a designated government agency. The
16 portal shall interface with the online voter registration
17 system established in Section 1A-16.5 of this Code and shall be
18 capable of receiving and processing voter registration
19 application information, including electronic signatures, from
20 a designated government agency. The State Board of Elections
21 shall modify the online voter registration system as necessary
22 to implement this Section.

23 Voter registration data received from a designated

1 government agency through the online registration system shall
2 be processed as provided for in Section 1A-16.5 of this Code.

3 Whenever the registration interface is accessible to the
4 general public, including, but not limited to, online
5 transactions, the interface shall allow the applicant to
6 complete the process as provided for in Section 1A-16.5 of this
7 Code. The online interface shall be capable of providing the
8 applicant with the applicant's voter registration status with
9 the State Board of Elections and, if registered, the
10 applicant's current registration address. The applicant shall
11 not be required to re-enter any registration data, such as
12 name, address, and birth date, if the designated government
13 agency already has that information on file. The applicant
14 shall be informed that by choosing to register to vote or to
15 update his or her existing voter registration, the applicant
16 consents to the transfer of the applicant's personal
17 information to the State Board of Elections.

18 Whenever a government employee is accessing the
19 registration system while servicing the applicant, the
20 government employee shall notify the applicant of the
21 applicant's registration status with the State Board of
22 Elections and, if registered, the applicant's current
23 registration address. Unless the applicant elects not ~~If the~~
24 ~~applicant elects~~ to register to vote or to update his or her
25 existing voter registration, the government employee shall
26 collect the needed information and assist the applicant with

1 his or her registration. The applicant shall be informed that
2 unless he or she indicates otherwise ~~by choosing to register to~~
3 ~~vote or to update his or her existing voter registration,~~ the
4 applicant consents to the transfer of the applicant's personal
5 information to the State Board of Elections. Employees of
6 designated government agencies must inform the applicant of his
7 or her right to opt out of this voter registration. Employees
8 must inform the applicant that if he or she is not a citizen of
9 the United States, he or she must opt out. Applicants opting
10 out of the automatic voter registration shall not be required
11 to disclose whether he or she is a citizen of the United States
12 or his or her reason for opting out.

13 In accordance with technical specifications provided by
14 the State Board of Elections, each designated government agency
15 shall maintain a data transfer mechanism capable of
16 transmitting voter registration application information,
17 including electronic signatures where available, to the online
18 voter registration system established in Section 1A-16.5 of
19 this Code. Each designated government agency shall establish
20 and operate a voter registration system capable of transmitting
21 voter registration application information to the portal as
22 described in this Section by July 1, 2016.

23 (b) Whenever an applicant's data is transferred from a
24 designated government agency, the agency must transmit a
25 signature image if available. If no signature image was
26 provided by the agency or if no signature image is available in

1 the Secretary of State's database or the statewide voter
2 registration database, the applicant must be notified that
3 their registration will remain in a pending status and the
4 applicant will be required to provide identification and a
5 signature to the election authority on Election Day in the
6 polling place or during early voting.

7 (c) The State Board of Elections shall track registration
8 data received through the online registration system that
9 originated from a designated government agency for the purposes
10 of maintaining statistics required by the federal National
11 Voter Registration Act of 1993, as amended.

12 (d) The State Board of Elections shall submit a report to
13 the General Assembly and the Governor by December 1, 2015
14 detailing the progress made to implement the government agency
15 voter registration portal described in this Section.

16 (e) The Board shall adopt rules, in consultation with the
17 impacted agencies.

18 (f) As used in this Section, a "designated government
19 agency" means the Secretary of State's Driver Services and
20 Vehicle Services Departments, the Department of Human
21 Services, the Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the
22 Department of Employment Security, and the Department on Aging.
23 (Source: P.A. 98-1171, eff. 6-1-15.)