

**STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

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**ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Bernadette M. Matthews**

November 29, 2021

Dear Members of the General Assembly,

Public Act 100-0464 (SB1933), established Automatic Voter Registration (AVR), and mandates that the Illinois State Board of Elections submit an annual public report to the General Assembly and the Governor detailing the progress made towards implementing AVR. In addition to a progress update, this report shall provide certain statistics regarding AVR applications, as well as the number of those who submitted an application through the State Board of Elections' Online Voter Application (OVA) website (see 10ILCS 5/1A-16.7(o)). Enclosed herewith, please find an update on the progress to implement AVR at each designated AVR agency and the requested statistics for the period of November 28, 2020 through November 29, 2021.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please do not hesitate to contact me at dschultz@elections.il.gov or 217.782.1568.

Sincerely,

Dustin Schultz

Election Specialist III/AVR Coordinator

Public Act 100-0464, otherwise known as Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) was signed into law by Governor Bruce Rauner on August 28, 2017. This report will overview the progress of the State Board of Elections' (SBE) efforts to implement AVR, as well as offer a status update for each agency required to participate in AVR.

The SBE has developed and offers three different platforms, batch, webservice, and website transfer, for agencies to submit voter registration application information to the SBE. Each agency is provided technical specifications for a batch, webservice, and website transfer connection so the agency is able to consider their current technological abilities and statutory requirements when determining which platform to connect with the SBE for registration application submission. Batch and webservice processing require the agency to collect all relevant registration information, while a website transfer allows registration information to be transferred and pre-populated to the SBE online voter registration website for completion by the applicant.

In addition, the SBE has had to modify the statewide registration database, otherwise known as the Illinois Voter Registration System (IVRS) to accommodate applications submitted directly to the SBE from agencies. Prior to AVR, agencies such the Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) would submit voter registration applications directly from Driver Services facilities to one of 108 election authorities by a paper process through the United States Postal Service. This application process was an inefficient and time-consuming method of registration that required each election authority to data enter the voter registration application information into their local registration database. The implementation of AVR has created an electronic pathway whereby all registration applications originating from an agency are transmitted directly to the SBE, who then immediately distributes the registration application to the appropriate election authority electronically. In order for the SBE to serve as a conduit of application information to election authorities, the data distribution portion of IVRS also had to be modified. One small such example is if an agency application does not have an electronic signature, the IVRS database is automatically searched for an existing registration that may be on file for the applicant from which the signature for the applicant can be obtained.

The numerous updates to IVRS required the SBE to update policies and procedures for election authorities to process electronic agency applications. The updated procedures for the registration of agency applications has been very well received by election authorities as each election authority no longer has to handle paper, and in many cases, no data entry is required on the part of the election authority due to connectivity between their local registration system and IVRS.

AVR also places additional requirements on the SBE. Some examples are to propose Administrative Rules, submit annual reports, and create website content about AVR. This annual report

will be the fourth annual AVR report submitted since AVR was enacted into law. Although progress to implement AVR at each required agency is ongoing in some cases, the SBE has met its AVR requirements and has fulfilled numerous audit requests pertaining to AVR implementation. Ongoing maintenance and enhancements continue constantly to improve the deployment of AVR by the SBE. On May 5, 2021 the Illinois House Appropriations Committee requested an update on the progress to implement AVR, which was supplied to the committee on May 11, 2021. That report contains AVR statistics from inception (July 1, 2018) through May 11, 2021. The remainder of this report will overview implementation of AVR at each required agency followed by the statistics required by 10ILCS 5/1A-16.7(o) of the Election Code for a period of November 28, 2020 through November 29, 2021.

Secretary of State (SOS)

The Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) has played a key role in voter registration for many years due to requirements under the federal National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), however the AVR statute established several new requirements for the SOS. Most significantly are the directive to inform the applicant for services of their current voter registration status and the requirement to submit voter registration applications electronically to the SBE. As a result, voter registration has been completely incorporated into the Driver's Services process for the applicant. The SBE and SOS went to production with an electronic opt-in (whereby voters attest to eligibility) voter registration application process by the due date of July 2018. Unfortunately, opt-out registration (whereby applicants are automatically registered to vote unless they opt out) was not able to go into production until July 2019. This delay was due to the fusion of opt-out registration with the implementation of REAL ID and an adjustment to the intended implementation regarding SOS's front-end processing.

Over the past four years, the SBE and SOS have worked cooperatively to resolve any technical hurdles that have presented. In 2021, SOS has begun submitting applications to the SBE with an indication for those who have a language preference other than English. Additional language options include Hindi, Mandarin, Spanish, and Urdu. As well, SOS has implemented a front-end age check against an elections date file provided by the SBE. This has eliminated the need for the SBE to inform an applicant for voter registration that they fail to qualify to register to vote based on age. As of this date, 1,406,541 new or updated voter registration applications have been electronically transmitted to the SBE from the SOS since inception. In addition, a data sharing agreement has been executed and jointly adopted rules have been submitted to the Joint Commission on Administrative Rules (JCAR), but have not been implemented due to litigation. Potential revisions to jointly adopted rules are currently under

legal review. SOS has reported that between November 28, 2020 through November 29, 2021, 358,802 people have opted out of voter registration while obtaining a REAL ID.

Department of Human Services (DHS)

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is unique among the agencies required to connect for AVR because the statute specifically designated two divisions within DHS (Family and Community Services and Rehabilitation Services) as being required to connect. Although communication began with DHS early in the fall of 2017, progress on implementing AVR with DHS was stalled until early summer of 2019. Since that time, however, a data sharing agreement was executed with DHS. DHS-Rehabilitation Services went to production with an AVR compliant web service connection utilizing opt-in registration and DHS- Family and Community Services implemented a website transfer mechanism (whereby voter registration information is prepopulated into our online voter registration website) for their applicants utilizing their online process.

Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

The SBE and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) began discussing AVR soon after the initiation of AVR. DNR indicated the current agreement with their vendor for hunting and fishing license applications was near its end of life and as such they would not be able to initiate any required AVR changes within their current system. DNR would be looking to meet the AVR requirements through their new Enterprise Licensing System. DNR, in a good faith effort to comply with the spirit of AVR, was able to put into production a website transfer mechanism (whereby voter registration information is prepopulated into our online voter registration application website) for DNR's duck, goose, dove, upland game, and pheasant hunting license systems. In addition, DNR added functionality to their now former hunting and fishing license application to uniquely link applicants to the SBE online voter registration website.

The agreement for a statement of work on the new Enterprise system was delayed significantly and was eventually agreed upon in August 2019. The SBE worked with DNR, the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT), and DNR's Enterprise vendor to incorporate a fully AVR compliant web service with the Enterprise system. The DNR hunt/fish license application went into production with an AVR compliant web service in August 2021. The SBE and DNR have agreed on the principles for a data sharing agreement and DNR indicated a desire for DoIT to also be included as a party to the agreement. Said agreement is currently under review by DoIT.

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR)

The SBE and IDFPR have held several discussions regarding the implementation of AVR. IDFPR has a good understanding of the requirements of AVR, but find themselves in the same position as DNR, with an end of life licensing system, and are awaiting the implementation of the Enterprise Licensing System. IDFPR has indicated a willingness to include the website transfer mechanism (whereby voter registration information is prepopulated into our online voter registration application website) with their current system and have been in discussions with their vendor to initiate the scope of work required. IDFPR has been provided a unique website link to display on their website which re-directs individuals to the SBE's online voter registration website to allow IDFPR to receive credit for the origination of the voter registration application.

Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)

The SBE and IDES have held discussions regarding AVR implementation. The SBE has provided IDES with technical specifications and a sample data sharing agreement. IDES has requested to be the agency responsible for drafting the data sharing agreement, to which the SBE agreed. Progress towards implementing AVR with IDES has advanced throughout 2021. IDES intends to implement an AVR compliant web service and their technical team plans to begin testing and programming early 2022. IDES has been provided a unique website link to display on their website which re-directs individuals to the SBE's online voter registration website to allow IDFPR to receive credit for the origination of the voter registration application.

Statistics

The remainder of this annual report will provide certain statistics as required by 10ILCS 1A-16.7(o). Among the requirements are to provide the number of records transmitted to the SBE by agency, the number of new and updated voter registrations by agency, and the number of applications received through the online voter application (OVA) system. The number of persons who opted out of registration is also required to be reported. Since this information is collected by each agency, the number is reported with the agency update. SOS is the only agency participating in opt-out registration at this time, so the number of individuals who opted out of registration is only reported for SOS.

Name	SOS App's Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	SOS App's Registered	Newly Registered SOS Applications	Updated SOS Applications	SOS App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	395209	366382	141573	224809	23790
Adams County	2472	2374	1024	1350	94
Alexander County	132	98	59	39	4
Bond County	642	533	182	351	32
Boone County	1767	1706	836	870	61
Brown County	154	148	50	98	0
Bureau County	1165	1060	321	739	103
Calhoun County	157	156	42	114	1
Carroll County	624	461	189	272	162
Cass County	398	381	183	198	17
Champaign County	7318	6064	2743	3321	1254
Christian County	1275	1237	351	886	37
Clark County	528	517	171	346	11
Clay County	520	474	117	357	16
Clinton County	1306	1171	362	809	127
Coles County	1793	1776	453	1323	17
Cook County	69191	67881	27118	40763	206
Crawford County	924	873	319	554	49
Cumberland County	306	305	82	223	0
DeKalb County	4224	3266	1090	2176	958
DeWitt County	442	367	109	258	70
Douglas County	524	453	130	323	71
DuPage County	26328	25809	9657	16152	264
Edgar County	583	554	185	369	13
Edwards County	223	216	68	148	7
Effingham County	1303	1296	282	1014	7
Fayette County	751	574	192	382	33

Name	SOS App's Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	SOS App's Registered	Newly Registered SOS Applications	Updated SOS Applications	SOS App's Rejected
Ford County	495	473	139	334	18
Franklin County	1239	1171	326	845	24
Fulton County	1556	1507	351	1156	47
Gallatin County	144	111	27	84	1
Greene County	383	372	87	285	7
Grundy County	1621	1594	475	1119	14
Hamilton County	201	173	32	141	9
Hancock County	569	545	218	327	15
Hardin County	158	154	41	113	2
Henderson County	207	173	55	118	2
Henry County	1968	1868	684	1184	51
Iroquois County	910	890	329	561	20
Jackson County	2541	2502	887	1615	39
Jasper County	302	290	83	207	5
Jefferson County	1089	1049	376	673	25
Jersey County	566	561	157	404	3
JoDaviess County	939	855	377	478	84
Johnson County	314	267	89	178	47
Kane County	14119	13666	4922	8744	453
Kankakee County	2725	2629	1036	1593	61
Kendall County	5388	5083	1588	3495	304
Knox County	775	669	190	479	2
Lake County	21752	21054	8958	12096	480
LaSalle County	4040	3830	1216	2614	29
Lawrence County	553	549	232	317	3
Lee County	1188	1043	367	676	128
Livingston County	998	979	321	658	9
Logan County	892	820	263	557	70

Name	SOS App's Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	SOS App's Registered	Newly Registered SOS Applications	Updated SOS Applications	SOS App's Rejected
Macon County	3462	3026	1041	1985	436
Macoupin County	1421	1274	392	882	30
Madison County	9822	9617	3531	6086	205
Marion County	1425	1286	345	941	129
Marshall County	409	394	100	294	8
Mason County	574	567	174	393	7
Massac County	499	456	201	255	4
McDonough County	994	971	219	752	23
McHenry County	9986	9790	3293	6497	174
McLean County	2904	2883	1022	1861	21
Menard County	448	411	146	265	25
Mercer County	626	323	133	190	0
Monroe County	1448	1382	517	865	66
Montgomery County	659	638	185	453	6
Morgan County	1230	1172	302	870	40
Moultrie County	402	363	109	254	39
Ogle County	1798	1461	562	899	52
Peoria County	5109	4849	1482	3367	53
Perry County	664	647	162	485	5
Piatt County	622	530	183	347	89
Pike County	498	468	156	312	25
Pope County	122	104	25	79	1
Pulaski County	128	66	28	38	32
Putnam County	189	84	16	68	6
Randolph County	1137	1085	326	759	45
Richland County	643	634	175	459	9
Rock Island County	4915	4836	2419	2417	49

Name	SOS App's Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	SOS App's Registered	Newly Registered SOS Applications	Updated SOS Applications	SOS App's Rejected
Saline County	840	720	182	538	120
Sangamon County	8574	8460	3025	5435	114
Schuyler County	215	176	69	107	33
Scott County	133	102	21	81	21
Shelby County	652	644	155	489	7
Stark County	190	161	43	118	29
St. Clair County	9508	8232	3429	4803	1226
Stephenson County	1987	1864	549	1315	97
Tazewell County	4705	4532	1349	3183	48
Union County	732	697	269	428	13
Vermilion County	1044	931	286	645	19
Wabash County	408	253	131	122	155
Warren County	590	532	172	360	32
Washington County	397	384	159	225	11
Wayne County	716	548	174	374	164
White County	559	508	170	338	51
Whiteside County	1899	1684	669	1015	214
Will County	23349	22260	7889	14371	1083
Williamson County	2702	2553	764	1789	142
Winnebago County	4723	4562	1906	2656	63
Woodford County	1064	1013	347	666	39
City of Bloomington	3393	3109	1147	1962	171
City of Chicago	74847	61576	28322	33254	12574
City of Danville	624	574	197	377	48
City of East St Louis	506	501	269	232	0
City of Galesburg	1040	1011	370	641	26
City of Rockford	4996	4851	2125	2726	145

Name	DNR App's Received 11/28/2020- 11/29/2021	DNR App's Registered	Newly Registered DNR Applications	Updated DNR Applications	DNR App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	223	160	86	74	32

Name	IDES App's Received 11/28/2020- 11/29/2021	IDES App's Registered	Newly Registered IDES Applications	Updated IDES Applications	IDES App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	146	97	44	53	19

Name	IDFPR App's Received 11/28/2020- 11/29/2021	IDFPR App's Registered	Newly Registered IDFPR Applications	Updated IDFPR Applications	IDFPR App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	14	9	3	6	3

Name	DHS-FCS App's Received 11/28/2020- 11/29/2021	DHS-FCS App's Registered	Newly Registered DHS-FCS Applications	Updated DHS- FCS Applications	DHS-FCS App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	770	586	210	376	69

Name	DHS-RS App's Received 11/28/2020- 11/29/2021	DHS-RS App's Registered	Newly Registered DHS-RS Applications	Updated DHS- RS Applications	DHS-RS App's Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	260	196	196	0	47

Name	Total Online Voter Applications Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	Total Online Voter Applications Registered	Total Online Voter Applications Rejected
STATEWIDE COUNTS	44825	39343	2484
Adams County	115	100	6
Alexander County	7	6	1
Bond County	12	9	1
Boone County	185	164	21
Brown County	12	8	0
Bureau County	59	50	9
Calhoun County	8	4	3
Carroll County	41	33	4
Cass County	35	32	3
Champaign County	907	777	130
Christian County	88	74	14
Clark County	27	23	4
Clay County	20	16	2
Clinton County	117	102	5
Coles County	97	86	11
Cook County	9296	8080	68
Crawford County	21	15	4
Cumberland County	27	25	0
DeKalb County	349	299	50
DeWitt County	45	36	9
Douglas County	40	38	2
DuPage County	4172	3799	34
Edgar County	37	31	6
Edwards County	5	5	0
Effingham County	75	66	9
Fayette County	12	8	0

Name	Total Online Voter Applications Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	Total Online Voter Applications Registered	Total Online Voter Applications Rejected
Ford County	36	31	1
Franklin County	91	84	3
Fulton County	96	84	12
Gallatin County	7	5	0
Greene County	20	19	0
Grundy County	182	163	3
Hamilton County	14	11	3
Hancock County	28	23	0
Hardin County	7	6	1
Henderson County	20	14	1
Henry County	104	93	7
Iroquois County	84	77	7
Jackson County	168	152	15
Jasper County	22	20	0
Jefferson County	85	72	2
Jersey County	41	36	1
JoDaviess County	52	47	5
Johnson County	14	11	3
Kane County	1663	1515	148
Kankakee County	252	219	11
Kendall County	495	448	47
Knox County	52	41	1
Lake County	3178	2906	19
LaSalle County	303	271	3
Lawrence County	26	21	0
Lee County	88	72	6
Livingston County	130	114	0
Logan County	83	74	9

Name	Total Online Voter Applications Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	Total Online Voter Applications Registered	Total Online Voter Applications Rejected
Macon County	271	218	53
Macoupin County	116	96	8
Madison County	866	762	104
Marion County	61	48	3
Marshall County	22	21	0
Mason County	31	27	4
Massac County	22	22	0
McDonough County	74	63	7
McHenry County	1094	982	106
McLean County	375	341	34
Menard County	39	36	1
Mercer County	30	11	0
Monroe County	114	101	13
Montgomery County	80	58	20
Morgan County	60	53	2
Moultrie County	30	28	2
Ogle County	161	107	13
Peoria County	596	528	5
Perry County	30	24	0
Piatt County	52	46	6
Pike County	18	17	0
Pope County	5	3	0
Pulaski County	6	4	1
Putnam County	9	2	1
Randolph County	47	38	1
Richland County	15	15	0
Rock Island County	262	233	5
Saline County	48	39	9

Name	Total Online Voter Applications Received 11/28/2020-11/29/2021	Total Online Voter Applications Registered	Total Online Voter Applications Rejected
Sangamon County	1052	938	114
Schuyler County	10	7	1
Scott County	10	9	1
Shelby County	50	47	3
Stark County	13	10	3
St. Clair County	641	542	94
Stephenson County	131	113	14
Tazewell County	380	330	8
Union County	48	42	2
Vermilion County	91	67	14
Wabash County	12	8	4
Warren County	31	28	1
Washington County	31	27	2
Wayne County	22	15	4
White County	28	23	5
Whiteside County	218	175	43
Will County	2200	1998	202
Williamson County	171	151	20
Winnebago County	430	378	9
Woodford County	139	128	3
City of Bloomington	312	275	2
City of Chicago	10612	9150	776
City of Danville	44	39	3
City of East St Louis	16	14	1
City of Galesburg	45	38	2
City of Rockford	404	353	51