

1 **Voting Registration Amendments**

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Trevor Lee

Senate Sponsor:

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill addresses provisions related to voter registration.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

- 8 ▶ defines terms;
- 9 ▶ enables an individual to register or preregister to vote when purchasing a hunting or

10 fishing license; and

- 11 ▶ requires a county clerk to provide copies of the voter registration form to Division of

12 Wildlife Resources offices in the county.

13 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

14 None

15 **Other Special Clauses:**

16 None

17 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

18 AMENDS:

19 **20A-2-102.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 45

20 **20A-2-301**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 31

21 **20A-2-304**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 156

22 **20A-2-506**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 297

23 ENACTS:

24 **20A-2-208**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27 Section 1. Section **20A-2-102.5** is amended to read:

28 **20A-2-102.5 . Voter registration deadline.**

- 29 (1) Except as otherwise provided in Chapter 16, Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act,
30 an individual who fails to timely submit a correctly completed voter registration form

31 may not vote in the election.

32 (2) The voter registration deadline is as follows:

33 (a) the voter registration must be received by the county clerk, the municipal clerk, or
34 the lieutenant governor no later than 5 p.m. 11 calendar days before the date of the
35 election, if the individual registers to vote:

36 (i) at the office of the county clerk, in accordance with Section 20A-2-201;

37 (ii) by mail, in accordance with Section 20A-2-202;

38 (iii) via an application for a driver license, in accordance with Section 20A-2-204;

39 (iv) via a public assistance agency or a discretionary voter registration agency, in
40 accordance with Section 20A-2-205;[-or]

41 (v) via electronic registration, in accordance with Section 20A-2-206; or

42 (vi) via purchasing a hunting or fishing license from the Division of Wildlife
43 Resources, in accordance with Section 20A-2-208;

44 (b) before the polls close on the last day of early voting, described in Section 20A-3a-601,
45 if the individual registers by casting a provisional ballot at an early voting location in
46 accordance with Section 20A-2-207; or

47 (c) before polls close on the date of the election, if the individual registers to vote on the
48 date of the election by casting a provisional ballot, in accordance with Section
49 20A-2-207.

50 Section 2. Section **20A-2-208** is enacted to read:

51 **20A-2-208 . Registering to vote when purchasing a hunting or fishing license.**

52 (1) As used in this section, "applicant" means an individual seeking to purchase a hunting
53 or fishing license who is eligible to register to vote under Section 20A-2-101 or
54 preregister to vote under Section 20A-2-101.1.

55 (2) An applicant may register or preregister to vote when purchasing a hunting or fishing
56 license at a Division of Wildlife Resources office.

57 (3) Each Division of Wildlife Resources office shall provide to applicants, either as part of
58 existing forms or on a separate form, the following information in substantially the
59 following form:

60 "REGISTERING TO VOTE

61 If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to
62 register or preregister to vote here today? Yes _____ No _____ IF YOU DO NOT CHECK
63 EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO
64 REGISTER OR PREREGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME. If you would like help in

65 filling out the voter registration form, we will help you. The decision about whether to
 66 seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private. If you
 67 believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or preregister or to decline
 68 to register or preregister to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or
 69 preregister, or in applying to register or preregister to vote, or your right to choose your
 70 own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with the
 71 Office of the Lieutenant Governor, State Capitol Building, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114.
 72 (The phone number of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor)."

73 (4) Unless an applicant declines to register or preregister to vote, each Division of Wildlife
 74 Resources office shall:

- 75 (a) distribute a voter registration form to every applicant;
- 76 (b) assist applicants in completing the voter registration form unless the applicant
 77 refuses assistance;
- 78 (c) accept completed forms for transmittal to the appropriate election official; and
- 79 (d) transmit a copy of each voter registration form to the appropriate election official
 80 within five days after the day on which the Division of Wildlife Resources office
 81 receives the voter registration form.

82 (5) An employee of the Division of Wildlife Resources who helps an applicant complete
 83 the voter registration form may not:

- 84 (a) seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration;
- 85 (b) display any political preference or party allegiance; or
- 86 (c) make any statement to an applicant or take any action that has the purpose or effect
 87 of discouraging the applicant from registering to vote.

88 (6) If the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form under this
 89 section no later than 5 p.m. 11 calendar days before the date of an election, the county
 90 clerk shall:

- 91 (a) accept and process the voter registration form;
- 92 (b) unless the applicant named in the form is preregistering to vote:
 - 93 (i) enter the applicant's name on the list of registered voters for the voting precinct in
 94 which the individual resides; and
 - 95 (ii) notify the applicant that the applicant is registered to vote in the upcoming
 96 election; and
- 97 (c) if the applicant named in the form is preregistering to vote, comply with Section
 98 20A-2-101.1.

- 99 (7) If the county clerk receives a correctly completed voter registration form after the
100 deadline described in Subsection (6), the county clerk shall:
101 (a) accept the application for registration of the applicant; and
102 (b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), if possible, promptly inform the
103 applicant that the applicant will not be registered to vote in the pending election,
104 unless the applicant registers to vote by provisional ballot during the early voting
105 period, if applicable, or on election day, in accordance with Section 20A-2-207.
106 (8) If the county clerk determines that a voter registration form received from a Division of
107 Wildlife Resources office is incorrect because of an error or because the voter
108 registration form is incomplete, the county clerk shall provide notice to the applicant
109 attempting to register or preregister to vote, stating that the applicant has not been
110 registered or preregistered to vote because of an error or because the voter registration
111 form is incomplete.
112 (9) The Division of Wildlife Resources shall provide a link to the state's online voter
113 registration application to each applicant who purchases a hunting or fishing license on
114 the Internet.

115 Section 3. Section **20A-2-301** is amended to read:

116 **20A-2-301 . County clerk responsibilities -- Voter registration forms.**

- 117 (1) Each county clerk shall provide voter registration forms for use in the voter registration
118 process.
- 119 (2)(a) Each county clerk shall provide a copy of the voter registration form to each
120 public assistance agency and discretionary voter registration agency.
121 (b) Each county clerk shall provide a copy of the voter registration form to each
122 Division of Wildlife Resources office in the county.
123 [~~(b)~~] (c) Each county clerk may provide a copy of the voter registration form to public
124 school districts and nonpublic schools as provided in Section 20A-2-302.
- 125 (3)(a) The clerk shall make a copy of the voter registration form available to any person
126 upon request.
127 (b) A person may make multiple copies of the voter registration form at the person's own
128 expense.
129 (c) A person shall provide all completed voter registration forms in the person's
130 possession to the county clerk at or before 5 p.m. on the day of the voter registration
131 deadline.
- 132 (4) The county clerk may not refuse to register an individual to vote for failing to provide a

133 telephone number on the voter registration form.

134 (5)(a) It is unlawful for any person in possession of a completed voter registration form,
135 other than the person's own completed voter registration form, to willfully fail or
136 refuse to timely deliver the completed voter registration form to the county clerk.

137 (b) A person who violates this Subsection (5) is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

138 Section 4. Section **20A-2-304** is amended to read:

139 **20A-2-304 . County clerk's responsibilities -- Notice of disposition.**

140 Each county clerk shall:

141 (1) register to vote each individual who meets the requirements for registration and who:

142 (a) submits a completed voter registration form to the county clerk;

143 (b) submits a completed voter registration form, as defined in Section 20A-2-204, to the
144 Driver License Division;

145 (c) submits a completed voter registration form to a public assistance agency or a
146 discretionary voter registration agency;

147 (d) submits a completed voter registration form to a Division of Wildlife Resources
148 office; or

149 [~~(d)~~] (e) mails a completed voter registration form to the county clerk; and

150 (2) within 30 days after the day on which the county clerk processes a voter registration
151 form, send a notice to the individual who submits the form that:

152 (a)(i) informs the individual that the individual's voter registration form has been
153 accepted and that the individual is registered to vote;

154 (ii) informs the individual of the procedure for designating or changing the
155 individual's political affiliation;

156 (iii) informs the individual of the procedure to cancel a voter registration;

157 (iv) provides instructions to the voter on how the voter may sign up to receive
158 electronic ballot status notifications via the ballot tracking system described in
159 Section 20A-3a-401.5; and

160 (v) confirms that the individual has chosen to receive electronic ballot status
161 notifications if the individual opted to receive electronic ballot status notifications
162 on the voter registration form;

163 (b) informs the individual that the individual's voter registration form has been rejected
164 and the reason for the rejection; or

165 (c)(i) informs the individual that the individual's voter registration form is being
166 returned to the individual for further action because the form is incomplete; and

167 (ii) gives instructions to the individual on how to properly complete the form.

168 Section 5. Section **20A-2-506** is amended to read:

169 **20A-2-506 . Lieutenant governor and county clerks to preserve records.**

170 (1) As used in this section:

171 (a) "Voter registration record" means a record concerning the implementation of
172 programs and activities conducted for the purpose of ensuring that the official
173 register is accurate and current.

174 (b) "Voter registration record" does not include a record that:

175 (i) relates to a person's decision to decline to register to vote; or

176 (ii) identifies the particular public assistance agency, discretionary voter registration
177 agency, Division of Wildlife Resources office, or Driver License Division through
178 which a particular voter registered to vote.

179 (2) The lieutenant governor and each county clerk shall:

180 (a) preserve for at least two years all records relating to voter registration, including:

181 (i) the official register; and

182 (ii) the name and address of each individual to whom the notice required by Section
183 20A-2-505 was sent and a notation regarding whether the individual responded to
184 the notice;

185 (b) make a voter registration record available for public inspection, except for a voter
186 registration record, or part of a voter registration record that is classified as private
187 under Section 63G-2-302; and

188 (c) allow a record or part of a record described in Subsection (2)(b) that is not classified
189 as a private record to be photocopied for a reasonable cost.

190 (3) The lieutenant governor shall take, and store for at least 22 months, a static copy of the
191 official register made at the following times:

192 (a) the voter registration deadline described in Subsection 20A-2-102.5(2)(a);

193 (b) the day of the election; and

194 (c) the last day of the canvass.

195 Section 6. **Effective Date.**

196 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.