

# HB0479S02 compared with HB0479

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0479 but was omitted in HB0479S02

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0479 but was inserted into HB0479S02

**DISCLAIMER: This document is provided to assist you in your comparison of the two bills. Sometimes this automated comparison will NOT be completely accurate. Therefore, you need to read the actual bills. This automatically generated document could contain inaccuracies caused by: limitations of the compare program; bad input data; or other causes.**

1

**Election Code Modifications**  
2026 GENERAL SESSION  
STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Jefferson S. Burton**  
Senate Sponsor:



2

3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill amends provisions relating to ~~{voting at an election}~~ elections.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ defines terms;

9 ▶ ~~{provides that, after a ballot is mailed}~~ modifies voter registration forms and other forms to allow a ~~{voter, the}~~ voter ~~{is, subject}~~ to ~~{certain exceptions}~~ request, ~~{required to return the ballot in person to a polling place where}~~ for future elections, whether the voter will receive a ballot by mail and whether the voter ~~{must provide valid voter identification}~~ desires to return a ballot by mail;

12 ▶ ~~{provides exceptions}~~ requires a voter to ~~{the requirement}~~ make a request described in the preceding paragraph~~{, including if:}~~ at least every eight years;

14 ▶ provides that, beginning in 2029, a voter:

13 • will not receive a ballot by mail unless the voter makes a timely ~~{applies}~~ request to ~~{return~~ receive a ballot by mail;and

17 •

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

subject to certain exceptions, will not be permitted to return a ballot by mail unless the voter makes a timely request to return a ballot by mail;

- 19       ▶ provides that a voter may return a ballot to a ballot drop box only when the ballot drop box is attended by at least two poll workers;
- 21       ▶ establishes requirements regarding the required number of drop boxes and the days and hours during which voters may return ballots to drop boxes;
- 23       ▶ requires a voter who returns a ballot to a ballot drop box to first provide identification to a poll worker at the ballot drop box;
- 25       ▶ describes the requirements for verification of identity at a ballot drop box;
- 14       • describes the {voter returns} requirements for returning a ballot {as a military or overseas voter; or} by mail;
- 15       • {the voter has other legal grounds;}
- 16       ▶ {subject to certain exceptions, including an exception for an individual with a disability, requires a voter to appear in person and provide valid voter identification when:}
- 27       ▶ describes requirements relating to voting a ballot;
- 18       • describes the requirements for returning a ballot to a polling place or voting at a polling place;
- 19       • {returning a ballot to a polling place; or}
- 20       • {requesting to return a ballot by mail;}
- 21       ▶ {establishes requirements for the number, and hours of operation, of ballot drop boxes in a jurisdiction;}
- 23       ▶ {provides that a ballot may be returned to a ballot drop box only when the ballot drop box is attended by two or more poll workers;}
- 30       ▶ extends emergency ballot provisions to an individual with a disability who is restricted in the individual's ability to travel from the individual's residence;
- 25       ▶ modifies forms, voting requirements, and other provisions to conform with the provisions of this bill;
- 34       ▶ creates a process for an individual to receive a voter registration form and voter registration information when purchasing a hunting or fishing license;
- 27       ▶

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

describes the type of personal identifying information that must be redacted from certain political disclosure reports and provides civil and criminal penalties for publicly disclosing the information; { [and](#) }

39       ▸ **modifies a provision relating to the frequency of an elections audit performed by the Office of the Legislative Auditor General; and**

30       ▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

### 42 Money Appropriated in this Bill:

43       None

### 44 Other Special Clauses:

45       This bill provides a special effective date.

### 46 Utah Code Sections Affected:

47 AMENDS:

48       **10-2a-215 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 6**

50       **20A-1-102 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 6

52       **20A-1-304 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448**

53       **20A-2-104 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448

55       **20A-2-108 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

56       **20A-2-206 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

57       **20A-2-505 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448

59       **20A-3a-201 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

60       **20A-3a-202 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448

62       **20A-3a-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

63       **20A-3a-203 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448

65       **20A-3a-204 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

66       **20A-3a-205 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 31

68       **20A-3a-301 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381

69       **20A-3a-401 (Effective 01/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 6

50       ~~**{20A-3a-401.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381}**~~

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

51 ~~{20A-3a-601, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448}~~  
71 20A-3a-805 (Effective 01/01/27), as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 31  
73 20A-4-101 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 342  
74 20A-4-102 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 156, 297  
76 20A-4-105 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381  
77 20A-4-304 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session,  
Chapter 6  
79 **20A-4-401 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session,  
Chapter 6**

---

81 20A-5-102 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381  
58 ~~{20A-5-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 438}~~  
59 ~~{20A-5-303, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 104, 448}~~  
60 ~~{20A-5-403, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 381}~~  
82 20A-5-403.5 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session,  
Chapter 6  
84 20A-5-407 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 15  
63 ~~{20A-5-601, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 15}~~  
64 ~~{20A-5-605, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 170}~~  
85 20A-6-105 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381, 448  
87 20A-11-1002 (Effective 01/01/27), as last amended by Laws of Utah 2010, Chapter 389  
88 **36-12-15.2 (Effective 01/01/27), as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 156**

---

89 ENACTS:

90 **20A-2-208 (Effective 01/01/27), Utah Code Annotated 1953**  
91 **20A-3a-203.5 (Effective 01/01/27), Utah Code Annotated 1953**  
92 **20A-3a-203.6 (Effective 01/01/27), Utah Code Annotated 1953**  
93 **20A-4-102.5 (Effective 01/01/27), Utah Code Annotated 1953**

---

---

94  
95 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

96 Section 1. Section 10-2a-215 is amended to read:

97 **10-2a-215. Election of officers of new municipality -- Primary and final election dates --  
Notice of election -- County clerk duties -- Candidate duties -- Occupation of office.**

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 100 (1) For the election of municipal officers, the county legislative body shall:
- 101 (a) unless a primary election is prohibited under Subsection 20A-9-404(2), hold a primary election; and
- 103 (b) unless the election may be cancelled in accordance with Section 20A-1-206, hold a final election.
- 105 (2) Each election described in Subsection (1) shall be held:
- 106 (a) consistent with the petition sponsors' determination of the length of each council member's initial
- term; and
- 108 (b) for the incorporation of a city:
- 109 (i) appropriate to the form of government chosen by the voters at the incorporation election;
- 111 (ii) consistent with the voters' decision about whether to elect city council members by district and, if
- applicable, consistent with the boundaries of those districts as determined by the petition sponsors;
- and
- 114 (iii) consistent with the sponsors' determination of the number of city council members to be elected.
- 116 (3)
- (a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), and notwithstanding Subsection 20A-1-201.5(2), the primary election
- described in Subsection (1)(a) shall be held at the earliest of the next:
- 118 (i) regular primary election described in Subsection 20A-1-201.5(1); or
- 119 (ii) municipal primary election described in Section 20A-9-404.
- 120 (b) The county shall hold the primary election, if necessary, on the next election date described in
- Subsection (3)(a) that is after the incorporation election conducted under Section 10-2a-210.
- 123 (4)
- (a) Subject to Subsection (4)(b), the county shall hold the final election described in Subsection (1)(b):
- 125 (i) on the following election date that next follows the date of the incorporation election held under
- Subsection 10-2a-210(1)(a);
- 127 (ii) a regular general election described in Section 20A-1-201; or
- 128 (iii) a regular municipal general election under Section 20A-1-202.
- 129 (b) The county shall hold the final election on the earliest of the next election date that is listed in
- Subsection (4)(a)(i), (ii), or (iii):
- 131 (i) that is after a primary election; or
- 132 (ii) if there is no primary election, that is at least:
- 133 (A) 75 days after the incorporation election under Section 10-2a-210; and
- 134 (B) 65 days after the candidate filing period.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 135 (5) The county clerk shall provide notice of an election under this section for the future municipality, as  
a class A notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least two weeks before the day of the election.
- 138 (6) Until the municipality is incorporated, the county clerk:
- 139 (a) is the election officer for all purposes related to the election of municipal officers;
- 140 (b) may, as necessary, determine appropriate deadlines, procedures, and instructions related to the  
election of municipal officers for a new municipality that are not otherwise contrary to law;
- 143 (c) shall require and determine deadlines for municipal office candidates to file campaign financial  
disclosures in accordance with Section 10-3-208; and
- 145 (d) shall ensure that the ballot for the election includes each office that is required to be included in the  
election for officers of the newly incorporated municipality, including the term of each office.
- 148 (7) An individual who has filed as a candidate for an office described in this section shall comply with:
- 150 (a) the campaign finance disclosure requirements described in Section 10-3-208; and
- 151 (b) the requirements and deadlines established by the county clerk under this section.
- 152 (8) Notwithstanding Section 10-3-201, the officers elected at a final election described in Subsection (4)  
(a) shall take office:
- 154 (a) after taking the oath of office; and
- 155 (b) at noon on the first Monday following the day on which the election official transmits a certificate  
of nomination or election under the officer's seal to each elected candidate in accordance with  
Subsection [~~20A-4-304(6)(b)~~] 20A-4-304(5)(b).

158 Section 2. Section **20A-1-102** is amended to read:

159 **20A-1-102. (Effective 01/01/27)Definitions.**

As used in this title:

- 75 (1) "Active voter" means a registered voter who has not been classified as an inactive voter by the  
county clerk.
- 77 (2) "Automatic tabulating equipment" means apparatus that automatically examines and counts votes  
recorded on ballots and tabulates the results.
- 79 (3)
- (a) "Ballot" means the storage medium, including a paper, mechanical, or electronic storage medium,  
that records an individual voter's vote.
- 81 (b) "Ballot" does not include a record to tally multiple votes.

82

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(4) "Ballot drop box" means a drop box, described in Section 20A-5-403.5, where a poll worker may place a completed remote ballot delivered to the poll worker by a voter in accordance with Section 20A-3a-203.5.

85 [(4)] (5) "Ballot proposition" means a question, issue, or proposal that is submitted to voters on the ballot for their approval or rejection including:

87 (a) an opinion question specifically authorized by the Legislature;

88 (b) a constitutional amendment;

89 (c) an initiative;

90 (d) a referendum;

91 (e) a bond proposition;

92 (f) a judicial retention question;

93 (g) an incorporation of a city or town; or

94 (h) any other ballot question specifically authorized by the Legislature.

95 [(5)] (6) "Bind," "binding," or "bound" means securing more than one piece of paper together using staples or another means in at least three places across the top of the paper in the blank space reserved for securing the paper.

98 [(6)] (7) "Board of canvassers" means the entities established by Sections 20A-4-301 and 20A-4-306 to canvass election returns.

100 [(7)] (8) "Bond election" means an election held for the purpose of approving or rejecting the proposed issuance of bonds by a government entity.

102 [(8)] (9) "Business day" means a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday that is not a holiday.

104 [(9)] (10) "Business reply mail envelope" means an envelope that may be mailed free of charge by the sender.

106 [(10)] (11) "Calendar day" means any day, regardless of whether the day is a weekend, a holiday, a business day, or any other type of day.

108 [(11)] (12) "Canvass" means the review of election returns and the official declaration of election results by the board of canvassers.

110 [(12)] (13) "Canvassing judge" means a poll worker designated to assist in counting ballots at the canvass.

112

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 113 [(13)] (14) "Contracting election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or  
interlocal agreement with a provider election officer.
- 114 [(14)] (15) "Convention" means the political party convention at which party officers and delegates are  
selected.
- 116 [(15)] (16) "Counting center" means one or more locations selected by the election officer in charge of  
the election for the automatic counting of ballots.
- 118 [(16)] (17) "Counting judge" means a poll worker designated to count the ballots during election day.
- 120 [(17)] (18) "Counting room" means a suitable and convenient private place or room for use by the poll  
workers and counting judges to count ballots.
- 122 [(18)] (19) "County officers" means those county officers that are required by law to be elected.
- 124 [(19)] (20) "Date of the election" or "election day" or "day of the election":
- 125 (a) means the day that is specified in the calendar year as the day on which the election occurs; and
- 127 (b) does not include:
- 128 (i) deadlines established for voting by mail, military-overseas voting, or emergency voting; or
- 130 (ii) any early voting or early voting period as provided under Chapter 3a, Part 6, Early Voting.
- 132 [(20)] (21) "Elected official" means:
- 133 (a) a person elected to an office under Section 20A-1-303 or Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate  
Voting Methods Pilot Project;
- 135 (b) a person who is considered to be elected to a municipal office in accordance with Subsection  
20A-1-206(1)(c)(ii); or
- 137 (c) a person who is considered to be elected to a special district office in accordance with Subsection  
20A-1-206(3)(b)(ii).
- 139 [(21)] (22) "Election" means a regular general election, a municipal general election, a statewide special  
election, a local special election, a regular primary election, a municipal primary election, and a  
special district election.
- 142 [(22)] (23) "Election Assistance Commission" means the commission established by the Help America  
Vote Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-252.
- 144 [(23)] (24) "Election cycle" means the period beginning on the first day on which individuals are  
eligible to file declarations of candidacy and ending when the canvass is completed.
- 147 [(24)] (25) "Election judge" means a poll worker that is assigned to:
- 148 (a) preside over other poll workers at a polling place;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 149 (b) act as the presiding election judge; or  
150 (c) serve as a canvassing judge, counting judge, or receiving judge.
- 151 [~~25~~] (26) "Election material" includes:
- 152 (a) the verification documentation described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(9)(b)(iv);  
153 (b) the list of voters contacted to cure a ballot described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(10)(b);  
154 (c) the record of rejected and resolved ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(11)(a);  
155 (d) any chain of custody documentation described in Section 20A-3a-401.1, including:  
156 (i) the count of ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(3); and  
157 (ii) the batch log described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(5);  
158 (e) the record of signature verification audits described in Subsection 20A-3a-402.5(4);  
159 (f) the affidavit of compliance described in Subsection 20A-3a-404(2);  
160 (g) the physical and electronic log of replicated ballots described in Subsection 20A-4-104(3);  
162 (h) the physical or electronic log of adjudicated ballots described in Section 20A-5-802.5;  
163 (i) the record of voter database access described in Subsection 20A-5-905(2);  
164 (j) the reports on military and overseas voters described in Section 20A-16-202;  
165 (k) scanned copies of return envelopes;  
166 (l) a copy of the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5; and  
167 (m) the materials used in the programming of the automatic tabulating equipment.
- 168 [~~26~~] (27) "Election officer" means:
- 169 (a) the lieutenant governor, for all statewide ballots and elections;  
170 (b) the county clerk for:  
171 (i) a county ballot and election; and  
172 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section 20A-5-400.1 or  
20A-5-400.5;  
174 (c) the municipal clerk for:  
175 (i) a municipal ballot and election; and  
176 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section 20A-5-400.1 or  
20A-5-400.5;  
178 (d) the special district clerk or chief executive officer for:  
179 (i) a special district ballot and election; and  
180

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5; or
- 182 (e) the business administrator or superintendent of a school district for:
- 183 (i) a school district ballot and election; and
- 184 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5.
- 186 ~~[(27)]~~ (28) "Election official" means any election officer, election judge, or poll worker.
- 187 ~~[(28)]~~ (29) "Election results" means:
- 188 (a) for an election other than a bond election, the count of votes cast in the election and the election returns requested by the board of canvassers; or
- 190 (b) for bond elections, the count of those votes cast for and against the bond proposition plus any or all of the election returns that the board of canvassers may request.
- 192 ~~[(29)]~~ (30) "Election results database" means the following information generated by voting equipment:
- 194 (a) one or more electronic files that contains a digital interpretation of each ballot that is counted in an election;
- 196 (b) a ballot image; and
- 197 (c) other information related to a ballot that is adjudicated under Section 20A-4-105.
- 198 ~~[(30)]~~ (31) "Election returns" means:
- 199 (a) the pollbook;
- 200 (b) the military and overseas absentee voter registration and voting certificates;
- 201 (c) one of the tally sheets;
- 202 (d) any unprocessed ballots;
- 203 (e) all counted ballots;
- 204 (f) all excess ballots;
- 205 (g) all unused ballots;
- 206 (h) all spoiled ballots;
- 207 (i) all ballot disposition forms, including any provisional ballot disposition forms;
- 208 (j) the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5;
- 209 (k) all return envelopes;
- 210 (l) any provisional ballot envelopes; and
- 211 (m) the total votes cast form.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 212 [(31)] (32) "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or logically  
associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to sign the record.
- 215 [(32)] (33) "Holiday" means a legal holiday described in Subsections 63G-1-301(1) and (2).
- 216 [(33)] (34) "Inactive voter" means a registered voter who is listed as inactive by a county clerk under  
Subsection 20A-2-505(4)(c)(i) or (ii).
- 218 [(34)] (35) "Judicial office" means the office filled by any judicial officer.
- 219 [(35)] (36) "Judicial officer" means any justice or judge of a court of record or any county court judge.
- 221 [(36)] (37) "Local election" means a regular county election, a regular municipal election, a municipal  
primary election, a local special election, a special district election, and a bond election.
- 224 [(37)] (38) "Local political subdivision" means a county, a municipality, a special district, or a local  
school district.
- 226 [(38)] (39) "Local special election" means a special election called by the governing body of a local  
political subdivision in which all registered voters of the local political subdivision may vote.
- 229 (40) "Mail-in return envelope" means an envelope described in Subsection {~~20A-3a-203.6(5)~~}  
20A-3a-203.6(2) that a voter must complete, with the voter's remote ballot sealed inside, to return  
the ballot by mail.
- 232 [(39)] (41) "Manual ballot" means a paper document produced by an election officer on which an  
individual records an individual's vote by directly placing a mark on the paper document using a pen  
or other marking instrument.
- 235 [(40)] (42) "Mechanical ballot" means a record, including a paper record, electronic record, or  
mechanical record, that:
- 237 (a) is created via electronic or mechanical means; and
- 238 (b) records an individual voter's vote cast via a method other than an individual directly placing a mark,  
using a pen or other marking instrument, to record an individual voter's vote.
- 241 [(41)] (43) "Municipal executive" means:
- 242 (a) the mayor in the council-mayor form of government defined in Section 10-3b-102; or
- 243 (b) the mayor in the council-manager form of government defined in Subsection 10-3b-103(6).
- 245 [(42)] (44) "Municipal general election" means the election held in municipalities and, as applicable,  
special districts on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year  
for the purposes established in Section 20A-1-202.

248

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 250 [(43)] (45) "Municipal legislative body" means the council of the city or town in any form of municipal government.
- 251 [(44)] (46) "Municipal office" means an elective office in a municipality.
- 252 [(45)] (47) "Municipal officers" means those municipal officers that are required by law to be elected.
- 253 [(46)] (48) "Municipal primary election" means an election held to nominate candidates for municipal office.
- 254 [(47)] (49) "Municipality" means a city or town.
- 255 [(48)] (50) "Official ballot" means the ballots distributed by the election officer for voters to record their votes.
- 256 [(49)] (51) "Official endorsement" means the information on the ballot that identifies:
- 257 (a) the ballot as an official ballot;
- 258 (b) the date of the election; and
- 259 (c)
- 260 (i) for a ballot prepared by an election officer other than a county clerk, the facsimile signature required by Subsection 20A-6-401(1)(a)(iii); or
- 261 (ii) for a ballot prepared by a county clerk, the words required by Subsection 20A-6-301(1)(b)(iii).
- 262 [(50)] (52) "Official register" means the official record furnished to election officials by the election officer that contains the information required by Section 20A-5-401.
- 263 [(51)] (53) "Political party" means an organization of registered voters that has qualified to participate in an election by meeting the requirements of Chapter 8, Political Party Formation and Procedures.
- 264 [(52)] (54)
- 265 (a) "Poll worker" means a person assigned by an election official to assist with an election, voting, or counting votes.
- 266 (b) "Poll worker" includes election judges.
- 267 (c) "Poll worker" does not include a watcher.
- 268 [(53)] (55) "Pollbook" means a record of the names of voters in the order that the voters appear to cast votes.
- 269 [(54)] (56) "Polling place" means ~~{ [ a ] [building where voting is conducted]~~ structure, or a portion of a structure, where a voter may obtain and vote a ballot in person ~~{ [ ] }~~ ~~;~~
- 270 { (a) a standard polling place; or }
- 271 { (b) a ballot drop box. }

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 279 [~~(55)~~] (57) "Position" means a square, circle, rectangle, or other geometric shape on a ballot in which  
the voter marks the voter's choice.
- 281 [~~(56)~~] (58) "Presidential Primary Election" means the election established in Chapter 9, Part 8,  
Presidential Primary Election.
- 283 [~~(57)~~] (59) "Primary convention" means the political party conventions held during the year of the  
regular general election.
- 285 [~~(58)~~] (60) "Protective counter" means a separate counter, which cannot be reset, that:
- 286 (a) is built into a voting machine; and
- 287 (b) records the total number of movements of the operating lever.
- 288 [~~(59)~~] (61) "Provider election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or interlocal  
agreement with a contracting election officer to conduct an election for the contracting election  
officer's local political subdivision in accordance with Section 20A-5-400.1.
- 292 [~~(60)~~] (62) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot voted provisionally by a person:
- 293 (a) whose name is not listed on the official register at the polling place;
- 294 (b) whose legal right to vote is challenged as provided in this title; or
- 295 (c) whose identity was not sufficiently established by a poll worker.
- 296 [~~(61)~~] (63) "Provisional ballot envelope" means an envelope printed in the form required by Section  
20A-6-105 that is used to identify provisional ballots and to provide information to verify a person's  
legal right to vote.
- 299 [~~(62)~~] (64)
- (a) "Public figure" means an individual who, due to the individual being considered for, holding, or  
having held a position of prominence in a public or private capacity, or due to the individual's  
celebrity status, has an increased risk to the individual's safety.
- 303 (b) "Public figure" does not include an individual:
- 304 (i) elected to public office; or
- 305 (ii) appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected public office.
- 306 [~~(63)~~] (65) "Qualify" or "qualified" means to take the oath of office and begin performing the duties of  
the position for which the individual was elected.
- 308 [~~(64)~~] (66) "Receiving judge" means the poll worker that checks the voter's name in the official register  
at a polling place and provides the voter with a ballot.
- 310

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

311 [(65)] (67) "Registration form" means a form by which an individual may register to vote under this  
title.

312 [(66)] (68) "Regular ballot" means a ballot that is not a provisional ballot.

313 [(67)] (69) "Regular general election" means the election held throughout the state on the first Tuesday  
after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year for the purposes established in  
Section 20A-1-201.

316 [(68)] (70) "Regular primary election" means the election, held on the date specified in Section  
20A-1-201.5, to nominate candidates of political parties and candidates for nonpartisan local school  
board positions to advance to the regular general election.

319 (71)

(a) "Remote ballot" means a ballot that is mailed to a voter to be returned, after the voter has completed  
the ballot and sealed the ballot in a return envelope, as follows:

321 (i) to a {standard} polling place;

322 (ii) to a ballot drop box;

323 (iii) by mail, if the ballot is sealed in a mail-in return envelope; or

324 (iv) in any other manner permitted by law.

325 (b) "Remote ballot" does not include a ballot obtained and voted at a {standard} polling place.

327 [(69)] (72) "Resident" means a person who resides within a specific voting precinct in Utah.

328 [(70)] (73) "Return envelope" means~~[the envelope, described in Subsection 20A-3a-202(4), provided to  
a voter with a manual ballot]:~~

330 (a) a standard return envelope; or

331 (b) a mail-in return envelope.

332 [(a) ~~into which the voter places the manual ballot after the voter has voted the manual ballot in order to  
preserve the secrecy of the voter's vote; and]~~

334 [(b) ~~that includes the voter affidavit and a place for the voter's signature.]]~~

335 [(71)] (74) "Sample ballot" means a mock ballot similar in form to the official ballot, published as  
provided in Section 20A-5-405.

337 [(72)] (75) "Special district" means a local government entity under Title 17B, Limited Purpose Local  
Government Entities - Special Districts, and includes a special service district under Title 17D,  
Chapter 1, Special Service District Act.

340

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

[~~(73)~~] (76) "Special district officers" means those special district board members who are required by law to be elected.

342 [~~(74)~~] (77) "Special election" means an election held as authorized by Section 20A-1-203.

343 [~~(75)~~] (78) "Spoiled ballot" means each ballot that:

344 (a) is spoiled by the voter;

345 (b) is unable to be voted because it was spoiled by the printer or a poll worker; or

346 (c) lacks the official endorsement.

347 {~~(79)~~ {"Standard polling place" means a structure at which a voter may obtain and vote a ballot in person.}}

349 (80){~~(79)~~} "Standard return envelope" means an envelope, described in Subsection 20A-3a-202(4), in which a voter places a ballot after voting at a {standard} polling place or when returning a ballot to a ballot drop box or a polling place.

352 [~~(76)~~] (81){~~(80)~~} "Statewide special election" means a special election called by the governor or the Legislature in which all registered voters in Utah may vote.

354 [~~(77)~~] (82){~~(81)~~} "Tabulation system" means a device or system designed for the sole purpose of tabulating votes cast by voters at an election.

356 [~~(78)~~] (83){~~(82)~~} "Ticket" means a list of:

357 (a) political parties;

358 (b) candidates for an office; or

359 (c) ballot propositions.

360 [~~(79)~~] (84){~~(83)~~} "Transfer case" means the sealed box used to transport voted ballots to the counting center.

362 [~~(80)~~] (85){~~(84)~~} "Vacancy" means:

363 (a) except as provided in Subsection [~~(80)~~](b) {~~(85)~~}(b) (84)(b), the absence of an individual to serve in a position created by state constitution or state statute, whether that absence occurs because of death, disability, disqualification, resignation, or other cause; or

366 (b) in relation to a candidate for a position created by state constitution or state statute, the removal of a candidate due to the candidate's death, resignation, or disqualification.

369 [~~(81)~~] (86){~~(85)~~} "Valid voter identification" means:

370 (a) a form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter which may include:

372 (i) a currently valid Utah driver license;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 373 (ii) a currently valid identification card issued under Title 53, Chapter 3, Part 8, Identification Card Act;
- 375 (iii) a currently valid identification card that is issued by:
- 376 (A) the state; or
- 377 (B) a branch, department, or agency of the United States;
- 378 (iv) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;
- 379 (v) a currently valid United States passport; or
- 380 (vi) a currently valid United States military identification card;
- 381 (b) one of the following identification cards, regardless of whether the card includes a photograph of the voter:
- 383 (i) a valid tribal identification card;
- 384 (ii) a Bureau of Indian Affairs card; or
- 385 (iii) a tribal treaty card; or
- 386 (c) two forms of identification not listed under Subsection ~~[(81)(a) or (b)]~~ ~~{(86)(a)}~~ (85)(a) or (b) but that bear the name of the voter and provide evidence that the voter resides in the voting precinct, which may include:
- 389 [(i) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a current utility bill, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;]
- 391 [(ii) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a bank or other financial account statement, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;]
- 393 [(iii)] (i) a certified birth certificate;
- 394 [(iv)] (ii) a valid social security card;
- 395 [(v)] (iii) an original or copy of a check issued by the state or the federal government, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 397 [(vi)] (iv) an original or copy of a paycheck from the voter's employer, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 399 [(vii)] (v) a currently valid Utah hunting or fishing license;
- 400 [(viii)] (vi) certified naturalization documentation;
- 401 [(ix)] (vii) a currently valid license issued by an authorized agency of the United States;
- 402 [(x)] (viii) a certified copy of court records showing the voter's adoption or name change;
- 403 [(xi)] (ix) a valid Medicaid card, Medicare card, or Electronic Benefits Transfer ~~[Card]~~ card;
- 404 [(xii)] (x) a currently valid identification card issued by:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 405 (A) a local government within the state;
- 406 (B) an employer for an employee; or
- 407 (C) a college, university, technical school, or professional school located within the state; or
- 409 ~~[(xiii)]~~ (xi) a current Utah vehicle registration.
- 410 ~~[(82)]~~ (87)~~{(86)}~~ "Valid write-in candidate" means a candidate who has qualified as a write-in  
candidate by following the procedures and requirements of this title.
- 412 ~~[(83)]~~ (88)~~{(87)}~~ "Vote by mail" means to vote, using a manual ballot that is mailed to the voter, by:
- 414 (a) mailing the ballot to the location designated in the mailing; or
- 415 (b) depositing the ballot in a ballot drop box designated by the election officer.
- 416 ~~[(84)]~~ (89)~~{(88)}~~ "Voter" means an individual who:
- 417 (a) meets the requirements for voting in an election;
- 418 (b) meets the requirements of election registration;
- 419 (c) is registered to vote; and
- 420 (d) is listed in the official register.
- 421 ~~[(85)]~~ (90)~~{(89)}~~ "Voter registration deadline" means the registration deadline provided in Section  
20A-2-102.5.
- 423 ~~[(86)]~~ (91)~~{(90)}~~ "Voting area" means the area within six feet of the voting booths, voting machines,  
and ballot box.
- 425 ~~[(87)]~~ (92)~~{(91)}~~ "Voting booth" means:
- 426 (a) the space or compartment within a polling place that is provided for the preparation of ballots,  
including the voting enclosure or curtain; or
- 428 (b) a voting device that is free standing.
- 429 ~~[(88)]~~ (93)~~{(92)}~~ "Voting device" means any device provided by an election officer for a voter to vote a  
mechanical ballot.
- 431 ~~[(89)]~~ (94)~~{(93)}~~ "Voting precinct" means the smallest geographical voting unit, established under  
Chapter 5, Part 3, Duties of the County and Municipal Legislative Bodies.
- 433 ~~[(90)]~~ (95)~~{(94)}~~ "Watcher" means an individual who complies with the requirements described in  
Section 20A-3a-801 to become a watcher for an election.
- 435 ~~[(91)]~~ (96)~~{(95)}~~ "Write-in ballot" means a ballot containing any write-in votes.
- 436 ~~[(92)]~~ (97)~~{(96)}~~ "Write-in vote" means a vote cast for an individual, whose name is not printed on the  
ballot, in accordance with the procedures established in this title.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

523 Section 3. Section 20A-1-304 is amended to read:

524 **20A-1-304. Tie votes.**

525 [~~(1) This section does not apply to a race conducted by instant runoff voting under Chapter 4, Part 6,~~  
Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project.]

527 [~~(2)~~ (1) Except as provided in Subsection [~~(3)~~ (2), if, after conducting a recount under Subsection  
[~~20A-4-401(5)~~] 20A-4-401(4), a tie vote occurs, the election officer shall, in a public meeting held  
no later than the first business day that is at least three calendar days after the day on which the  
recount canvass is completed:

531 (a) determine the winning candidate, by lot, in whatever manner the election officer determines; and

533 (b) provide notice and an opportunity for each candidate involved in the tie to observe the casting or  
drawing of the lot or to send a representative to observe the casting or drawing of the lot.

536 [~~(3)~~ (2)

(a) If, after conducting a recount under Subsection [~~20A-4-401(5)~~] 20A-4-401(4), a tie vote occurs  
in a primary election race for a national, statewide, or other office that represents more than one  
county, the governor, lieutenant governor, and attorney general shall, at a public meeting called by  
the governor and held no later than the first business day that is at least three calendar days after the  
day on which the recount canvass is completed:

542 (i) determine the winning nominee, by lot, in whatever manner the governor determines; and

544 (ii) provide notice and an opportunity for each candidate involved in the tie to observe the casting  
or drawing of the lot or to send a representative to observe the casting or drawing of the lot.

547 (b) If, after conducting a recount under Subsection [~~20A-4-401(5)~~] 20A-4-401(4), a tie vote occurs in a  
primary election race for a county office, the district court judges of the district in which the county  
is located shall, at a public meeting called by the judges and held no later than the first business day  
that is at least three calendar days after the day on which the recount canvass is completed:

552 (i) determine the winning nominee, by lot, in whatever manner the judges determine; and

554 (ii) provide notice and an opportunity for each candidate involved in the tie to observe the casting or  
drawing of the lot or to send a representative to observe the casting or drawing of the lot.

557 Section 4. Section 20A-2-104 is amended to read:

558 **20A-2-104. (Effective 05/06/26) Voter registration form -- Registered voter lists -- Fees for  
copies.**

440 (1) As used in this section:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 441 (a) "Candidate for public office" means an individual:  
442 (i) who files a declaration of candidacy for a public office;  
443 (ii) who files a notice of intent to gather signatures under Section 20A-9-408; or  
444 (iii) employed by, under contract with, or a volunteer of, an individual described in Subsection (1)(a)(i)  
or (ii) for political campaign purposes.
- 446 (b) "Dating violence" means the same as that term is defined in Section 78B-7-402 and the federal  
Violence Against Women Act of 1994, as amended.
- 448 (c) "Domestic violence" means the same as that term is defined in Section 77-36-1 and the federal  
Violence Against Women Act of 1994, as amended.
- 450 (d) "Hash [~~Code~~ code]" means a code generated by applying an algorithm to a set of data to produce a  
code that:  
452 (i) uniquely represents the set of data;  
453 (ii) is always the same if the same algorithm is applied to the same set of data; and  
454 (iii) cannot be reversed to reveal the data applied to the algorithm.
- 455 (e) "Protected individual" means an individual:  
456 (i) who submits a withholding request form with the individual's voter registration record, or to the  
lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the individual indicates on the form that the individual, or  
an individual who resides with the individual, is a victim of domestic violence or dating violence or  
is likely to be a victim of domestic violence or dating violence;  
461 (ii) who submits a withholding request form with the individual's voter registration record, or to  
the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the individual indicates on the form and provides  
verification that the individual, or an individual who resides with the individual, is a law  
enforcement officer, a member of the armed forces as defined in Section 20A-1-513, a public figure,  
or protected by a protective order or protection order; or  
467 (iii) whose voter registration record was classified as a private record at the request of the individual  
before May 12, 2020.
- 469 (2)  
(a) An individual applying for voter registration, or an individual preregistering to vote, shall complete  
a voter registration form in substantially the following form:

471 -----  
472 UTAH ELECTION REGISTRATION FORM

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

473 Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes No

474 If you checked "no" to the above question, do not complete this form.

475 Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? Yes No

476 If you checked "no" to the above question, are you 16 or 17 years of age and preregistering to  
vote? Yes No

477 If you checked "no" to both of the prior two questions, do not complete this form.

478 Name of Voter

479 \_\_\_\_\_

480 First Middle Last

481 Utah Driver License or Utah Identification Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

482 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

483 Street Address of Principal Place of Residence

484 \_\_\_\_\_

485 City County State Zip Code

486 Telephone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

487 Email Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

488 Last four digits of Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

489 Last former address at which I was registered to vote (if  
known) \_\_\_\_\_

490 \_\_\_\_\_

491 City County State Zip Code

492 Political Party

493 (a listing of each registered political party, as defined in Section 20A-8-101 and maintained by  
the lieutenant governor under Section 67-1a-2, with each party's name preceded by a checkbox)

494  Unaffiliated (no political party preference)  Other (Please  
specify) \_\_\_\_\_

501 I do swear (or affirm), subject to penalty of law for false statements, that the information  
contained in this form is true, and that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the state  
of Utah, residing at the above address. Unless I have indicated above that I am preregistering  
to vote in a later election, I will be at least 18 years of age and will have resided in Utah for

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

30 calendar days immediately before the next election. I am not a convicted felon currently incarcerated for commission of a felony.

507 Signed and sworn

508 \_\_\_\_\_

509 Voter's Signature

510 \_\_\_\_\_(month/day/year).

511 **PRIVACY INFORMATION**

512 Voter registration records contain some information that is available to the public, such as your name and address, some information that is available only to government entities, and some information that is available only to certain third parties in accordance with the requirements of law.

516 Your driver license number, identification card number, social security number, email address, full date of birth, and phone number are available only to government entities. Your year of birth is available to political parties, candidates for public office, certain third parties, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, in accordance with the requirements of law.

520 You may request that all information on your voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by indicating here:

523 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I request that all information on my voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers.

526 **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVACY PROTECTION**

527 In addition to the protections provided above, you may request that identifying information on your voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form, and any required verification, as described in the following paragraphs.

532 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form with this registration record, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is or is likely to be, or resides with a person who is or is likely to be, a victim of domestic violence or dating violence.

538

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form and any required verification with this registration form, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is, or resides with a person who is, a law enforcement officer, a member of the armed forces, a public figure, or protected by a protective order or a protection order.

544

### CITIZENSHIP AFFIDAVIT

545

Name:

546

Name at birth, if different:

547

Place of birth:

548

Date of birth:

549

Date and place of naturalization (if applicable):

550

I hereby swear and affirm, under penalties for voting fraud set forth below, that I am a citizen and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information above is true and correct.

553

\_\_\_\_\_

554

Signature of Applicant

555

In accordance with Section 20A-2-401, the penalty for willfully causing, procuring, or allowing yourself to be registered or preregistered to vote if you know you are not entitled to register or preregister to vote is up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.

558

**NOTICE: IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED TO VOTE, YOU MUST PRESENT VALID VOTER IDENTIFICATION TO THE POLL WORKER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF LAW.**

561

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

562

Type of I.D. \_\_\_\_\_

563

Voting Precinct \_\_\_\_\_

564

Voting I.D. Number \_\_\_\_\_

565

-----

566

(b) The voter registration form described in Subsection (2)(a) shall include:

567

(i) a section in substantially the following form:

568

"-----

569

BALLOT NOTIFICATIONS

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

570 Do you consent to receive communications about the status of your ballot and other official  
communications, by text, at the phone number you provided above? Yes No

572 -----";  
and

574 (ii) ~~no later than November 5, 2025,~~ the following, immediately after the question described in  
Subsection (2)(b)(i):

696 "How would you like to receive your ballot and vote in upcoming elections?"

576 ["Indicate below how you want to {f} vote in { } receive your ballot for } upcoming elections:

577 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me.]

578 \_\_\_\_\_ Do not mail a ballot to me. I will obtain a ballot at a polling place and vote in person.["

701 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me. After receiving a ballot by mail (choose one):

702 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot to a polling place or a ballot drop box.

703 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot by mail (Warning: If you return a ballot by mail, there is a risk that the  
ballot may arrive too late to be counted)."

580 (c)

(i) Except as provided under Subsection (2)(c)(ii), the county clerk shall retain a copy of each voter  
registration form in a permanent countywide alphabetical file, which may be electronic or some  
other recognized system.

583 (ii) The county clerk may transfer a superseded voter registration form to the Division of Archives and  
Records Service created under Section 63A-12-101.

585 (3)

(a) Each county clerk shall retain lists of currently registered voters.

586 (b) The lieutenant governor shall maintain a list of registered voters in electronic form.

587 (c) If there are any discrepancies between the two lists, the county clerk's list is the official list.

589 (d) The lieutenant governor and the county clerks may charge the fees established under the authority of  
Subsection 63G-2-203(10) to individuals who wish to obtain a copy of the list of registered voters.

592 (4)

(a) As used in this Subsection (4), "qualified person" means:

593 (i) a government official or government employee acting in the government official's or  
government employee's capacity as a government official or a government employee;

596 (ii) a health care provider, as defined in Section 26B-8-501, or an agent, employee, or independent  
contractor of a health care provider;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 598 (iii) an insurance company, as defined in Section 67-4a-102, or an agent, employee, or independent  
contractor of an insurance company;
- 600 (iv) a financial institution, as defined in Section 7-1-103, or an agent, employee, or independent  
contractor of a financial institution;
- 602 (v) a political party, or an agent, employee, or independent contractor of a political party;
- 604 (vi) a candidate for public office, or an employee, independent contractor, or volunteer of a  
candidate for public office;
- 606 (vii) a person described in Subsections (4)(a)(i) through (vi) who, after obtaining a year of birth  
from the list of registered voters:
- 608 (A) provides the year of birth only to a person described in Subsections (4)(a)(i) through (vi);
- 610 (B) verifies that the person described in Subsection (4)(a)(vii)(A) is a person described in Subsections  
(4)(a)(i) through (vi);
- 612 (C) ensures, using industry standard security measures, that the year of birth may not be accessed by a  
person other than a person described in Subsections (4)(a)(i) through (vi);
- 615 (D) verifies that each person described in Subsections (4)(a)(ii) through (iv) to whom the person  
provides the year of birth will only use the year of birth to verify the accuracy of personal  
information submitted by an individual or to confirm the identity of a person in order to prevent  
fraud, waste, or abuse;
- 619 (E) verifies that each person described in Subsection (4)(a)(i) to whom the person provides the year of  
birth will only use the year of birth in the person's capacity as a government official or government  
employee; and
- 622 (F) verifies that each person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) to whom the person provides the  
year of birth will only use the year of birth for a political purpose of the political party or candidate  
for public office; or
- 625 (viii) a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) who, after obtaining information under  
Subsection (4)(n) and (o):
- 627 (A) provides the information only to another person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi);
- 629 (B) verifies that the other person described in Subsection (4)(a)(viii)(A) is a person described in  
Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi);
- 631 (C) ensures, using industry standard security measures, that the information may not be accessed by a  
person other than a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi); and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 634 (D) verifies that each person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) to whom the person provides the  
information will only use the information for a political purpose of the political party or candidate  
for public office.
- 637 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(j)(iv), and except as provided in Subsection  
63G-2-302(1)(k) or (l), the lieutenant governor or a county clerk shall, when providing the list of  
registered voters to a qualified person under this section, include, with the list, the years of birth of  
the registered voters, if:
- 641 (i) the lieutenant governor or a county clerk verifies the identity of the person and that the person is a  
qualified person; and
- 643 (ii) the qualified person signs a document that includes the following:
- 644 (A) the name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the list of registered voters;
- 646 (B) an indication of the type of qualified person that the person requesting the list claims to be;
- 648 (C) a statement regarding the purpose for which the person desires to obtain the years of birth;
- 650 (D) a list of the purposes for which the qualified person may use the year of birth of a registered voter  
that is obtained from the list of registered voters;
- 652 (E) a statement that the year of birth of a registered voter that is obtained from the list of registered  
voters may not be provided or used for a purpose other than a purpose described under Subsection  
(4)(b)(ii)(D);
- 655 (F) a statement that if the person obtains the year of birth of a registered voter from the list of registered  
voters under false pretenses, or provides or uses the year of birth of a registered voter that is  
obtained from the list of registered voters in a manner that is prohibited by law, is guilty of a class A  
misdemeanor and is subject to a civil fine;
- 660 (G) an assertion from the person that the person will not provide or use the year of birth of a registered  
voter that is obtained from the list of registered voters in a manner that is prohibited by law; and
- 663 (H) notice that if the person makes a false statement in the document, the person is punishable by law  
under Section 76-8-504.
- 665 (c) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk:
- 666 (i) may not disclose the year of birth of a registered voter to a person that the lieutenant governor or  
county clerk reasonably believes:
- 668 (A) is not a qualified person or a person described in Subsection (4)(l); or
- 669 (B) will provide or use the year of birth in a manner prohibited by law; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 670 (ii) may not disclose information under [~~Subsections~~] Subsection (4)(n) or (o) to a person that the  
lieutenant governor or county clerk reasonably believes:
- 672 (A) is not a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi); or
- 673 (B) will provide or use the information in a manner prohibited by law.
- 674 (d) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk may not disclose the voter registration form of a person,  
or information included in the person's voter registration form, whose voter registration form is  
classified as private under Subsection (4)(h) to a person other than:
- 678 (i) a government official or government employee acting in the government official's or government  
employee's capacity as a government official or government employee; or
- 681 (ii) subject to Subsection (4)(e), a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) for a political  
purpose.
- 683 (e)
- (i) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(e)(ii), when disclosing a record or information under  
Subsection (4)(d)(ii), the lieutenant governor or county clerk shall exclude the information described  
in Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(j), other than the year of birth.
- 687 (ii) If disclosing a record or information under Subsection (4)(d)(ii) in relation to the voter registration  
record of a protected individual, the lieutenant governor or county clerk shall comply with  
Subsections (4)(n) through (p).
- 690 (f) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk may not disclose a withholding request form, described  
in Subsections (7) and (8), submitted by an individual, or information obtained from that form, to a  
person other than a government official or government employee acting in the government official's  
or government employee's capacity as a government official or government employee.
- 695 (g) A person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor if the person:
- 696 (i) obtains from the list of registered voters, under false pretenses, the year of birth of a registered voter  
or information described in Subsection (4)(n) or (o);
- 698 (ii) uses or provides the year of birth of a registered voter, or information described in Subsection (4)(n)  
or (o), that is obtained from the list of registered voters in a manner that is not permitted by law;
- 701 (iii) obtains a voter registration record described in Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(k) under false pretenses;
- 703 (iv) uses or provides information obtained from a voter registration record described in Subsection  
63G-2-302(1)(k) in a manner that is not permitted by law;

705

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (v) unlawfully discloses or obtains a voter registration record withheld under Subsection (7) or a withholding request form described in Subsections (7) and (8); or
- 708 (vi) unlawfully discloses or obtains information from a voter registration record withheld under Subsection (7) or a withholding request form described in Subsections (7) and (8).
- 711 (h) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk shall classify the voter registration record of a voter as a private record if the voter:
- 713 (i) submits a written application, created by the lieutenant governor, requesting that the voter's voter registration record be classified as private;
- 715 (ii) requests on the voter's voter registration form that the voter's voter registration record be classified as a private record; or
- 717 (iii) submits a withholding request form described in Subsection (7) and any required verification.
- 719 (i) Except as provided in Subsections (4)(d)(ii) and (e)(ii), the lieutenant governor or a county clerk may not disclose to a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) a voter registration record, or information obtained from a voter registration record, if the record is withheld under Subsection (7).
- 723 (j) In addition to any criminal penalty that may be imposed under this section, the lieutenant governor may impose a civil fine against a person who violates a provision of this section, in an amount equal to the greater of:
- 726 (i) the product of 30 and the square root of the total number of:
- 727 (A) records obtained, provided, or used unlawfully, rounded to the nearest whole dollar; or
- 729 (B) records from which information is obtained, provided, or used unlawfully, rounded to the nearest whole dollar; or
- 731 (ii) \$200.
- 732 (k) A qualified person may not obtain, provide, or use the year of birth of a registered voter, if the year of birth is obtained from the list of registered voters or from a voter registration record, unless the person:
- 735 (i) is a government official or government employee who obtains, provides, or uses the year of birth in the government official's or government employee's capacity as a government official or government employee;
- 738 (ii) is a qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(ii), (iii), or (iv) and obtains or uses the year of birth only to verify the accuracy of personal information submitted by an individual or to confirm the identity of a person in order to prevent fraud, waste, or abuse;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 742 (iii) is a qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) and obtains, provides, or uses the year  
of birth for a political purpose of the political party or candidate for public office; or
- 745 (iv) is a qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(vii) and obtains, provides, or uses the year  
of birth to provide the year of birth to another qualified person to verify the accuracy of personal  
information submitted by an individual or to confirm the identity of a person in order to prevent  
fraud, waste, or abuse.
- 749 (l) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk may provide a year of birth to a member of the media,  
in relation to an individual designated by the member of the media, in order for the member of the  
media to verify the identity of the individual.
- 752 (m) A person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) may not use or disclose information from a voter  
registration record for a purpose other than a political purpose.
- 755 (n) Notwithstanding Subsection 63G-2-302(1)(k) or (l), the lieutenant governor or a county clerk shall,  
when providing the list of registered voters to a qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)  
(v) or (vi), include, from the record of a voter whose record is withheld under Subsection (7), the  
information described in Subsection (4)(o), if:
- 760 (i) the lieutenant governor or a county clerk verifies the identity of the person and that the person is a  
qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi); and
- 762 (ii) the qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi) signs a document that includes the  
following:
- 764 (A) the name, address, and telephone number of the person requesting the list of registered voters;
- 766 (B) an indication of the type of qualified person that the person requesting the list claims to be;
- 768 (C) a statement regarding the purpose for which the person desires to obtain the information;
- 770 (D) a list of the purposes for which the qualified person may use the information;
- 771 (E) a statement that the information may not be provided or used for a purpose other than a purpose  
described under Subsection (4)(n)(ii)(D);
- 773 (F) a statement that if the person obtains the information under false pretenses, or provides or uses the  
information in a manner that is prohibited by law, the person is guilty of a class A misdemeanor and  
is subject to a civil fine;
- 776 (G) an assertion from the person that the person will not provide or use the information in a manner that  
is prohibited by law; and

778

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (H) notice that if the person makes a false statement in the document, the person is punishable by law under Section 76-8-504.
- 780 (o) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(p), the information that the lieutenant governor or a county clerk is required to provide, under Subsection (4)(n), from the record of a protected individual is:
- 783 (i) a single hash code, generated from a string of data that includes both the voter's voter identification number and residential address;
- 785 (ii) the voter's residential address;
- 786 (iii) the voter's mailing address, if different from the voter's residential address;
- 787 (iv) the party affiliation of the voter;
- 788 (v) the precinct number for the voter's residential address;
- 789 (vi) the voter's voting history; and
- 790 (vii) a designation of which age group, of the following age groups, the voter falls within:
- 792 (A) 25 or younger;
- 793 (B) 26 through 35;
- 794 (C) 36 through 45;
- 795 (D) 46 through 55;
- 796 (E) 56 through 65;
- 797 (F) 66 through 75; or
- 798 (G) 76 or older.
- 799 (p) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk may not disclose:
- 800 (i) information described in Subsection (4)(o) that, due to a small number of voters affiliated with a particular political party, or due to another reason, would likely reveal the identity of a voter if disclosed; or
- 803 (ii) the address described in Subsection (4)(o)(iii) if the lieutenant governor or the county clerk determines that the nature of the address would directly reveal sensitive information about the voter.
- 806 (q) A qualified person described in Subsection (4)(a)(v) or (vi), may not obtain, provide, or use the information described in Subsection (4)(n) or (o), except to the extent that the qualified person uses the information for a political purpose of a political party or candidate for public office.
- 810 (5) When political parties not listed on the voter registration form qualify as registered political parties under Chapter 8, Political Party Formation and Procedures, the lieutenant governor shall inform the

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

county clerks of the name of the new political party and direct the county clerks to ensure that the voter registration form is modified to include that political party.

- 815 (6) Upon receipt of a voter registration form from an applicant, the county clerk or the clerk's designee shall:
- 817 (a) review each voter registration form for completeness and accuracy; and
- 818 (b) if the county clerk believes, based upon a review of the form, that an individual may be seeking to register or preregister to vote who is not legally entitled to register or preregister to vote, refer the form to the county attorney for investigation and possible prosecution.
- 822 (7) The lieutenant governor or a county clerk shall withhold from a person, other than a person described in Subsection (4)(a)(i), the voter registration record, and information obtained from the voter registration record, of a protected individual.
- 825 (8)
- (a) The lieutenant governor shall design and distribute a withholding request form for the purpose described in Subsections (1)(e)(i), (1)(e)(ii), (7), and this Subsection (8) to each election officer and to each agency that provides a voter registration form.
- 828 (b) An individual described in Subsection (1)(e)(i) is not required to provide verification, other than the individual's attestation and signature on the withholding request form, that the individual, or an individual who resides with the individual, is a victim of domestic violence or dating violence or is likely to be a victim of domestic violence or dating violence.
- 833 (c) The director of elections within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall make rules, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, establishing requirements for providing the verification described in Subsection (1)(e)(ii).
- 837 (9) An election officer or an employee of an election officer may not encourage an individual to submit, or discourage an individual from submitting, a withholding request form.
- 840 (10)
- (a) The lieutenant governor shall make and execute a plan to provide notice to registered voters who are protected individuals, that includes the following information:
- 843 (i) that the voter's classification of the record as private remains in effect;
- 844 (ii) that certain non-identifying information from the voter's voter registration record may, under certain circumstances, be released to political parties and candidates for public office;

847

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (iii) that the voter's name, driver license or identification card number, social security number, email address, phone number, and the voter's day, month, and year of birth will remain private and will not be released to political parties or candidates for public office;
- 851 (iv) that a county clerk will only release the information to political parties and candidates in a manner that does not associate the information with a particular voter; and
- 854 (v) that a county clerk may, under certain circumstances, withhold other information that the county clerk determines would reveal identifying information about the voter.
- 857 (b) The lieutenant governor may include in the notice described in this Subsection (10) a statement that a voter may obtain additional information on the lieutenant governor's website.
- 860 (c) The plan described in Subsection (10)(a) may include providing the notice described in Subsection (10)(a) by:
- 862 (i) publication on the Utah Public Notice Website, created in Section 63A-16-601;
- 863 (ii) publication on the lieutenant governor's website or a county's website;
- 864 (iii) posting the notice in public locations;
- 865 (iv) publication in a newspaper;
- 866 (v) sending notification to the voters by electronic means;
- 867 (vi) sending notice by other methods used by government entities to communicate with citizens; or
- 869 (vii) providing notice by any other method.
- 870 (d) The lieutenant governor shall provide the notice included in a plan described in this Subsection (10) before June 16, 2023.

997 Section 5. Section **20A-2-108** is amended to read:

998 **20A-2-108. (Effective 05/06/26)Driver license or state identification card registration form**  
**-- Transmittal of information.**

875 (1) As used in this section, "qualifying form" means:

876 (a) a driver license application form; or

877 (b) a state identification card application form.

878 (2) The lieutenant governor and the Driver License Division shall design each qualifying form to include:

880 (a)

(i) the following question, which an applicant is required to answer: "Do you authorize the use of information in this form for voter registration purposes? YES\_\_\_\_ NO\_\_\_\_"; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

883 (ii) ~~[no later than November 5, 2025, ]~~the following:

1009 "How would you like to receive your ballot and vote in upcoming elections?"

884 ~~["Indicate below how you want to {f} vote in{ } receive your ballot for } upcoming elections:~~

885 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me.]~~

886 \_\_\_\_\_ Do not mail a ballot to me. I will obtain a ballot at a polling place and vote in person.

1013 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me. After receiving a ballot by mail (choose one):

1014 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot to a polling place or a ballot drop box.

1015 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot by mail (Warning: If you return a ballot by mail, there is a risk that the ballot may arrive too late to be counted).";

888 (b) the following statement:

889 "PRIVACY INFORMATION

890 Voter registration records contain some information that is available to the public, such as your name and address, some information that is available only to government entities, and some information that is available only to certain third parties in accordance with the requirements of law.

894 Your driver license number, identification card number, social security number, email address, full date of birth, and phone number are available only to government entities. Your year of birth is available to political parties, candidates for public office, certain third parties, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, in accordance with the requirements of law.

898 You may request that all information on your voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by indicating here:

901 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I request that all information on my voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers.

904 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVACY PROTECTION

905 In addition to the protections provided above, you may request that identifying information on your voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form, and any required verification, as described in the following paragraphs.

910 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form with this registration record, or to the

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is or is likely to be, or resides with a person who is or is likely to be, a victim of domestic violence or dating violence.

916 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be  
withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees,  
and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form and any required verification with this  
registration form, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is, or resides with  
a person who is, a law enforcement officer, a member of the armed forces, a public figure, or  
protected by a protective order or a protection order."; and

922 (c) a section in substantially the following form:

923 "-----

924 **BALLOT NOTIFICATIONS**

925 Do you consent to receive communications about the status of your ballot and other official  
communications, by text, at the phone number you provided above? Yes No

927 -----".

928 (3) The lieutenant governor and the Driver License Division shall ensure that a qualifying form  
contains:

930 (a) a place for an individual to affirm the individual's citizenship, voting eligibility, and Utah residency,  
and that the information provided in the form is true;

932 (b) a records disclosure that is similar to the records disclosure on a voter registration form described in  
Section 20A-2-104;

934 (c) a statement that if an applicant declines to register or preregister to vote, the fact that the applicant  
has declined to register or preregister will remain confidential and will be used only for voter  
registration purposes;

937 (d) a statement that if an applicant does register or preregister to vote, the office at which the applicant  
submits a voter registration application will remain confidential and will be used only for voter  
registration purposes; and

940 (e) if the applicant answers "yes" to the question described in Subsection (2)(a), a space where an  
individual may, if desired:

942 (i) indicate the individual's desired political affiliation from a listing of each registered political party, as  
defined in Section 20A-8-101;

944

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(ii) specify a political party that is not listed under Subsection (3)(e)(i) with which the individual desires to affiliate; or

946 (iii) indicate that the individual does not wish to affiliate with a political party.

1076 Section 6. Section 20A-2-206 is amended to read:

1077 20A-2-206. (Effective 05/06/26) **Electronic registration -- Requesting to receive a ballot by mail.**

949 (1) The lieutenant governor shall create and maintain an electronic system that is publicly available on the [~~Internet~~] internet for an individual to:

951 (a) apply for voter registration or preregistration; ~~[or]~~

952 (b) ~~[beginning no later than July 1, 2025,]~~ request to receive a ballot by mail ~~[.]~~ ; or

1083 (c) beginning no later than July 1, 2026, request to return a ballot by mail.

953 (2) The electronic system described in Subsection (1) shall require, to register to vote, the applicant to:

955 (a) enter the applicant's name, address, date of birth, driver license number or state identification card number, and any other information determined to be necessary by the lieutenant governor;

958 (b) provide the information required by Section 20A-2-104, except that the applicant's signature may be obtained in the manner described in Subsections (2)(d) and (5);

960 (c) attest to the truth of the information provided; and

961 (d) authorize the lieutenant governor's and county clerk's use of the applicant's:

962 (i) driver license or identification card signature, obtained under Title 53, Chapter 3, Uniform Driver License Act, for voter registration or preregistration purposes; or

964 (ii) signature on file in the lieutenant governor's statewide voter registration database developed under Section 20A-2-502, for voter registration or preregistration purposes.

967 (3) Notwithstanding Section 20A-2-104, an applicant using the electronic system described in Subsection (1) is not required to complete a printed registration form.

969 (4) A system created and maintained under this section shall provide to an individual who is registering to vote the notices concerning a voter's presentation of identification described in Subsection 20A-2-104(2).

972 (5) The lieutenant governor shall, in relation to an individual who is registering to vote:

973 (a) obtain a digital copy of the applicant's driver license signature or identification card signature from the Driver License Division; or

975

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (b) ensure that the applicant's signature is on file in the lieutenant governor's statewide voter registration database developed under Section 20A-2-502.
- 977 (6) The lieutenant governor shall send the information described in Subsections (2) and (5) to the  
county clerk for the county in which the applicant's principal place of residence is found for further  
action as required by Section 20A-2-304 after:
- 980 (a) receiving all information from an applicant; and
- 981 (b)
- (i) receiving all information from the Driver License Division, if applicable; and
- 982 (ii) ensuring that the applicant's signature is on file in the lieutenant governor's statewide voter  
registration database developed under Section 20A-2-502.
- 984 (7) The lieutenant governor may use additional security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity  
of information submitted electronically under this section.
- 986 (8) If an individual applies to register under this section no later than 11 calendar days before the date of  
an election, the county clerk shall:
- 988 (a) accept and process the voter registration form;
- 989 (b) unless the individual named in the form is preregistering to vote:
- 990 (i) enter the applicant's name on the list of registered voters for the voting precinct in which the  
applicant resides; and
- 992 (ii) notify the individual that the individual is registered to vote in the upcoming election; and
- 994 (c) if the individual named in the form is preregistering to vote, comply with Section 20A-2-101.1.
- 996 (9) If an individual applies to register under this section after the deadline described in Subsection (8),  
the county clerk shall, unless the individual is preregistering to vote:
- 998 (a) accept the application for registration; and
- 999 (b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), if possible, promptly inform the individual that  
the individual will not be registered to vote in the pending election, unless the individual registers  
to vote by provisional ballot during the early voting period, if applicable, on election day, in  
accordance with Section 20A-2-207.
- 1003 (10) The lieutenant governor shall provide a means by which a registered voter shall sign the  
application form.
- 1005 (11) For an individual who is registering to vote or is already registered to vote, the electronic system  
described in Subsection (1) shall include the following:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

1138 "How would you like to receive your ballot and vote in upcoming elections?"  
1007 ~~["Indicate below how you want to-{} vote in{} receive your ballot for }-upcoming elections:~~  
1008 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me.]  
1009 \_\_\_\_\_ Do not mail a ballot to me. I will obtain a ballot at a polling place and vote in person.  
1142 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me. After receiving a ballot by mail, I will (choose one):  
1143 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot to a polling place or a ballot drop box.  
1144 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot by mail (Warning: If you return a ballot by mail, there is a risk that the  
ballot may arrive too late to be counted)."

1146 Section 7. Section 7 is enacted to read:

1147 **20A-2-208. Voter registration forms and information available at Division of Wildlife**

### **Resources offices.**

1149 (1) As used in this section:

1150 (a) "Applicant" means an individual who is:

1151 (i) seeking to purchase a hunting or fishing license in-person at a Division of Wildlife Resources office;  
and

1153 (ii) eligible to register to vote under Section 20A-2-101 or to preregister to vote under Section  
20A-2-101.1.

1155 (b) "Voter registration information" means information provided by the lieutenant governor, including:

1157 (i) instructions for registering to vote;

1158 (ii) voter registration deadlines; and

1159 (iii) contact information for questions about voter registration.

1160 (2) The lieutenant governor shall provide voter registration forms and voter registration information to  
each Division of Wildlife Resources office.

1162 (3)

(a) An applicant may receive a voter registration form when purchasing a hunting or fishing license at a  
Division of Wildlife Resources office in accordance with this Subsection (3).

1165 (b) Each Division of Wildlife Resources office shall provide to each applicant, either as part of an  
existing form or on a separate form, the following text in substantially the following form:

1168 "REGISTERING TO VOTE

1169 \_\_\_\_\_ If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like a form to register or  
preregister to vote? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_.

1171

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

IF YOU DO NOT CHECK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO RECEIVE A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM AT THIS TIME.

1174 If you would like help in filling out the voter registration form, contact the Office of the Lieutenant  
Governor, State Capitol Building, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114, or by phone at [insert the phone  
number of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor]."

1177 (c) Unless an applicant declines a voter registration form, the Division of Wildlife Resources office  
shall:

1179 (i) provide the applicant with a voter registration form and voter registration information; and

1181 (ii) direct any questions about voter registration to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor or a county  
clerk.

1183 (4) The Division of Wildlife Resources shall provide a link to the state's online voter registration  
application to each individual who purchases a hunting or fishing license on the internet.

1186 Section 8. Section **20A-2-505** is amended to read:

1187 **20A-2-505. (Effective 05/06/26)Removing names from the official register -- Determining**  
**and confirming change of residence.**

1014 (1) A county clerk may not remove a voter's name from the official register on the grounds that the  
voter has changed residence unless the voter:

1016 (a) confirms in writing that the voter has changed residence to a place outside the county; or

1018 (b)

(i) does not vote in an election during the period beginning on the date of the notice described in  
Subsection (3), and ending on the day after the date of the second regular general election occurring  
after the date of the notice; and

1021 (ii) does not respond to the notice described in Subsection (3).

1022 (2)

(a) Within 31 calendar days after the day on which a county clerk obtains information that a voter's  
address has changed, if it appears that the voter still resides within the same county, the county clerk  
shall:

1025 (i) change the official register to show the voter's new address; and

1026 (ii) send to the voter, by forwardable mail, the notice described in Subsection (3).

1027 (b) When a county clerk obtains information that a voter's address has changed and it appears that  
the voter now resides in a different county, the county clerk shall verify the changed residence

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

by sending to the voter, by forwardable mail, the notice described in Subsection (3), printed on a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form.

1031 (3)

- (a) Each county clerk shall use substantially the following form to notify voters whose addresses have changed:

1033 "VOTER REGISTRATION NOTICE

1034 We have been notified that your residence has changed. Please read, complete, and return this form so that we can update our voter registration records. What is your current street address?

1037

1038 Street City County State Zip

1039 What is your current phone number (optional)? \_\_\_\_\_

1040 What is your current email address (optional)? \_\_\_\_\_

1041

If you have not changed your residence, or have moved but stayed within the same county, you must complete and return this form to the county clerk so that it is received by the county clerk before 5 p.m. no later than 30 calendar days before the date of the election. If you fail to return this form within that time:

1045

- you may be required to show evidence of your address to the poll worker before being allowed to vote in either of the next two regular general elections; or

1047

- if you fail to vote at least once, from the date this notice was mailed until the passing of two regular general elections, you will no longer be registered to vote. If you have changed your residence and have moved to a different county in Utah, you may register to vote by contacting the county clerk in your county.

1051

1052 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Voter

1053

### PRIVACY INFORMATION

1054

Voter registration records contain some information that is available to the public, such as your name and address, some information that is available only to government entities, and some information that is available only to certain third parties in accordance with the requirements of law.

1058

Your driver license number, identification card number, social security number, email address, full date of birth, and phone number are available only to government entities. Your year of birth is

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

available to political parties, candidates for public office, certain third parties, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, in accordance with the requirements of law.

1062 You may request that all information on your voter registration records be withheld from all  
persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their  
contractors, employees, and volunteers, by indicating here:

1065 \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I request that all information on my voter registration records be withheld from  
all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their  
contractors, employees, and volunteers.

### 1068 REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVACY PROTECTION

1069 In addition to the protections provided above, you may request that identifying information on  
your voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office,  
and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form, and any  
required verification, as described in the following paragraphs.

1074 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be  
withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees,  
and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form with this registration record, or to the  
lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is or is likely to be, or resides with a person who  
is or is likely to be, a victim of domestic violence or dating violence.

1080 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be  
withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees,  
and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form and any required verification with this  
registration form, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is, or resides with  
a person who is, a law enforcement officer, a member of the armed forces, a public figure, or  
protected by a protective order or a protection order."

1086 (b) The form described in Subsection (3)(a) shall also include:

1087 (i) a section in substantially the following form:

1088 "-----

### 1089 BALLOT NOTIFICATIONS

1090 Do you consent to receive communications about the status of your ballot and other official  
communications, by text, at the phone number you provided above? Yes No

1092

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

-----";  
and

1094 (ii) ~~no later than November 5, 2025,~~ the following, immediately after the question described in  
Subsection (3)(b)(i):

1271 "How would you like to receive your ballot and vote in upcoming elections?"

1096 ~~["Indicate below how you want to {f} vote in { } receive your ballot for } upcoming elections:~~

1097 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me.]~~

1098 \_\_\_\_\_ Do not mail a ballot to me. I will obtain a ballot at a polling place and vote in person.

1275 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me. After receiving a ballot by mail (choose one):

1276 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot to a polling place or a ballot drop box.

1277 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot by mail (Warning: If you return a ballot by mail, there is a risk that the  
ballot may arrive too late to be counted)."

1100 (4)

(a) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), the county clerk may not remove the names of any voters from the official register during the 90 calendar days before a regular primary election or the 90 calendar days before a regular general election.

1103 (b) The county clerk may remove the names of voters from the official register during the 90 calendar days before a regular primary election or the 90 calendar days before a regular general election if:

1106 (i) the voter requests, in writing, that the voter's name be removed; or

1107 (ii) the voter dies.

1108 (c)

(i) After a county clerk mails a notice under this section, the county clerk shall, unless otherwise prohibited by law, list that voter as inactive.

1110 (ii) If a county clerk receives a returned voter identification card, determines that there was no clerical error causing the card to be returned, and has no further information to contact the voter, the county clerk shall, unless otherwise prohibited by law, list that voter as inactive.

1114 (iii) An inactive voter may vote, sign petitions, and have all other privileges of a registered voter.

1116 (iv) A county is not required to:

1117 (A) send routine mailings to an inactive voter; or

1118 (B) count inactive voters when dividing precincts and preparing supplies.

1119 (5) The lieutenant governor shall make available to a county clerk United States Social Security Administration data received by the lieutenant governor regarding deceased individuals.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

1122 (6) A county clerk shall, within 10 business days after the day on which the county clerk receives  
the information described in Subsection (5) or Subsections 26B-8-114(11) and (12) relating to a  
decedent whose name appears on the official register, remove the decedent's name from the official  
register.

1126 (7) Ninety calendar days before each primary and general election the lieutenant governor shall  
compare the information the lieutenant governor has received under Subsection 26B-8-114(11) with  
the official register of voters to ensure that all deceased voters have been removed from the official  
register.

1309 Section 9. Section **20A-3a-201** is amended to read:

1310 **20A-3a-201. (Effective 01/01/27) Voting methods.**

1132 ~~[(1)]~~ A voter may vote as follows:

1133 ~~[(a) by mail;]~~

1134 ~~[(b) (a){(1)} at a polling place, or by delivering a completed remote ballot to a poll worker at a polling~~  
~~place, during early voting hours;~~

1136 ~~[(e) (b){(2)} at a polling place, or by delivering a completed remote ballot to a poll worker at a polling~~  
~~place, on election day when the polls are open;~~

1317 (3) by delivering a completed remote ballot to a poll worker at a ballot drop box during the hours that  
the ballot drop box is open and attended by poll workers;

1138 ~~[(d) (c){(4)} if the voter is an individual with a disability, by voting remotely, via a mechanical ballot~~  
~~or via electronic means if approved by the election officer;~~

1140 ~~[(e) (d){(5)} electronically or via a federal write-in absentee ballot if the voter is a covered voter, as~~  
~~defined in Section 20A-16-102; ~~[(f)]~~ ~~or~~]~~

1142 ~~(e){(6)} by mail, in accordance with Section 20A-3a-203.6; or~~

1143 ~~[(f) (7) by emergency ballot, in accordance with Part 3, Emergency Ballots.~~

1144 ~~[(2) A voter may not vote at a polling place if the voter voted ~~{f}~~ by mail or ~~{f}~~ in a manner described~~  
~~in Subsections ~~{f}~~ (1)(d) ~~{f}~~ (1)(e) through (f).]~~

1327 Section 10. Section **20A-3a-202** is amended to read:

1328 **20A-3a-202. (Effective 01/01/27) Conducting an election -- Mailing ballots to voters --**

### **Exceptions.**

1148 (1)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

[~~(a)~~] Except as otherwise provided for an election held for a local tax referendum that is conducted entirely by mail under Section 20A-7-609.5, an election officer shall administer an election [~~primarily by mail,~~] in accordance with this section.

1151 [~~(b) An individual who did not provide valid voter identification at the time the voter registered to vote shall provide valid voter identification before voting.~~]

1153 (2) An election officer who administers an election:

1154 (a) shall, in accordance with Subsection (3), no sooner than 21 calendar days before election day and no later than seven calendar days before election day, mail to the applicable voters, in accordance with Subsection 20A-3a-202.5(3), and subject to Subsection 20A-3a-202.5(4)], and subject to, Section 20A-3a-202.5:

1158 (i) a manual ballot;

1159 (ii)

(A) a standard return envelope; or

1160 (B) if required under {Section 20A-3a-203.6} Subsection 20A-3a-202.5(4) or (5)(b)(ii), a mail-in return envelope;

1161 (iii) instructions for returning the ballot that include an express notice about any relevant deadlines that the voter must meet in order for the voter's vote to be counted;

1164 (iv) information regarding the location and hours of operation of any election day voting center at which the voter may vote or a website address where the voter may view this information; and

1167 (v) instructions on how a voter may sign up to receive electronic ballot status notifications via the ballot tracking system described in Section 20A-3a-401.5;

1169 (b) may not mail a ballot under this section to:

1170 (i) an inactive voter, unless the inactive voter requests a manual ballot; or

1171 (ii) a voter whom the election officer is prohibited from sending a ballot under Subsection 20A-3a-202.5(4)] Section 20A-3a-202.5;

1173 (c) shall, on the outside of the envelope in which the election officer mails the ballot, include instructions for returning the ballot if the individual to whom the election officer mails the ballot does not live at the address to which the ballot is sent;

1176 (d) shall provide a method of accessible voting to a voter with a disability who is not able to vote by mail; and

1178

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(e) shall include, on the election officer's website and with each ballot mailed, instructions regarding how a voter described in Subsection (2)(d) may vote.

1180 (3)

(a) An election officer who mails a manual ballot under Subsection (2) shall mail the manual ballot to the address:

1182 (i) provided at the time of registration or updated by the voter after the time of registration; or

1184 (ii) if, at or after the time of registration, the voter files an alternate address request form described in Subsection (3)(b), the alternate address indicated on the form.

1186 (b) The lieutenant governor shall make available to voters an alternate address request form that permits a voter to request that the election officer mail the voter's ballot to a location other than the voter's residence.

1189 (c) A voter shall provide the completed alternate address request form to the election officer no later than 11 calendar days before the day of the election.

1191 (d) ~~Beginning on November 5, 2025, through~~ Before December 31, 2028, an election officer shall include, with each ballot mailed to a voter, a separate paper document containing the following statements:

1194 "WARNING

1195 If you have a valid Utah driver license or a valid Utah state identification card, failure to provide the last four digits of the license or card number may result in your ballot not being counted. You also have the option of providing the last four digits of your social security number as identification. If you do not have any of these identification types, your ballot will still be counted if your signature on the affidavit on this envelope matches your signature on file with the election officer.

1201 NOTICE

1202 Beginning in 2029, you will not receive a ballot by mail unless you request to receive a ballot by mail, and you will not be permitted to return your ballot by mail unless you request to return your ballot by mail (Exception: You may return your ballot by mail without making this request if, on the day of the election, you are stationed outside the United States by the military or you otherwise reside outside the United States). You may request to receive a ballot by mail, or to return a ballot by mail, at [insert a uniform resource locator where the voter can make the request online]. If you are unable to make a request online, contact your county clerk's office at the following number for instructions on how to make the request in person or by mail [insert phone number here]."[;]

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1207 (e) Beginning on January 1, 2029, an election officer shall include, with each ballot mailed to a voter, a  
1208 separate paper document containing the following statement:  
1209 "WARNING  
1210 If you have a valid Utah driver license or a valid Utah state identification card, failure to provide the  
1211 last four digits of your license or card number will result in your ballot not being counted.  
1212 If you do not have a license or card described above, you may enter the last four digits of your  
1213 social security number as identification, or include a photocopy of one of the following in the return  
1214 envelope:  
1215 • a currently valid identification card that is issued by the state or a branch, department, or agency of  
1216 the United States;  
1217 • a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;  
1218 • a currently valid United States passport;  
1219 • a currently valid United States military identification card; or  
1220 • a currently valid tribal identification card, Bureau of Indian Affairs card, or tribal treaty card.  
1221 If you do not have any of the forms of identification listed above, you must vote in person at  
1222 a polling place, unless you qualify for an exemption from this requirement. You may obtain  
1223 information regarding an exemption at [insert a uniform resource locator where the voter can  
1224 view this information] or by calling [insert a phone number that a voter may call to access this  
1225 information]."  
1226  
1227 (4) [The] A standard return envelope shall include:  
1228 (a) the name, official title, and post office address of the election officer on the front of the envelope;  
1229 (b) subject to Subsection [(9), ~~beginning on or before January 1, 2026~~] (6), until January 1, 2029, a  
1230 place for the voter to enter the last four digits of the voter's Utah driver license number, Utah state  
1231 identification card number, or social security number;  
1232 (c) the following statement:  
1233 "IMPORTANT: See the warning and notice enclosed with your ballot.";  
1234  
1235 (d) { ~~and~~  
1236 { (d) } a space where a voter may write an email address and phone number by which the election officer  
1237 may contact the voter if the voter's ballot is rejected { {; and { } } ; }  
1238 { (e) a printed affidavit in substantially the following form:  
1239 "County of \_\_\_\_ State of \_\_\_\_

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1240 I, \_\_\_\_\_, solemnly swear that: I am a qualified resident voter of the \_\_\_\_\_ voting precinct in \_\_\_\_\_  
County, Utah and that I am entitled to vote in this election. I am not a convicted felon currently  
incarcerated for commission of a felony.
- 1243 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1244 Signature of Voter
- 1245 **WARNING**
- 1246 The above affidavit must be signed by the voter to whom the ballot is addressed. It is a FELONY  
for any other individual to sign the above affidavit, even if the voter to whom the ballot is addressed  
gives permission for another to sign the affidavit for the voter."}]
- 1249 [~~(5) If the election officer determines that the voter has not yet provided valid voter identification with  
the voter's voter registration, the election officer may:]~~
- 1251 [~~(a) mail a ballot to the voter;]~~
- 1252 [~~(b) instruct the voter to enclose a copy of the voter's valid voter identification in the return envelope;  
and]~~
- 1254 [~~(c) provide instructions to the voter on how the voter may sign up to receive electronic ballot status  
notifications via the ballot tracking system described in Section 20A-3a-401.5.]~~
- 1257 [~~(6) An election officer who administers an election shall:]~~
- 1258 [~~(a)~~
- 1260 [~~(i) before the election, obtain the signatures of each voter qualified to vote in the election; or]~~
- 1262 [~~(ii) obtain the signature of each voter within the voting precinct from the county clerk; and]~~
- 1263 [~~(b) maintain the signatures on file in the election officer's office.]~~
- 1263 [~~(7) Upon receipt of a returned ballot, the election officer shall review and process the ballot under  
Section 20A-3a-401.]~~
- 1265 [~~(8) (5) A county that administers an election:~~
- 1266 (a) shall provide at least one election day voting center in accordance with Part 7, Election Day Voting  
Center, and at least one additional election day voting center for every 5,000 active voters in the  
county { { who } }, under Section 20A-3a-202.5, { will not receive a ballot by mail } ;
- 1270 (b) shall ensure that each election day voting center operated by the county has at least one voting  
device that is accessible, in accordance with the Help America Vote Act of 2002, Pub. L. No.  
107-252, for individuals with disabilities;
- 1273 (c) may reduce the early voting period described in Section 20A-3a-601, if:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1274 (i) the county clerk conducts early voting on at least four days;
- 1275 (ii) the early voting days are within the period beginning on the date that is 14 calendar days before the  
date of the election and ending on the day before the election; and
- 1278 (iii) the county clerk provides notice of the reduced early voting period in accordance with Section  
20A-3a-604; and
- 1280 (d) is not required to pay return postage for a mail-in return envelope.
- 1281 ~~[(9)]~~ (6) A return envelope shall be designed in a manner that the information described in Subsections  
(4)(b) and (d), and the voter's signature, is covered from view after the return envelope is sealed.
- 1284 ~~[(10)]~~ (7) A county clerk shall, at least 90 calendar days before an election administered by the county  
clerk, contact local post offices to:
- 1286 (a) coordinate the handling of mail-in ~~[ballots]~~ return envelopes for the upcoming election; and
- 1288 (b) take measures to ensure that[:]
- 1289 ~~[(i) ballots are clearly and properly postmarked, or otherwise marked in accordance with Subsection  
20A-3a-204(2)(a)(i), with the date on which the ballot was mailed; and]~~
- 1292 ~~[(ii)]~~ ballots are delivered in an expeditious manner to optimize the timely receipt of ballots.
- 1481 Section 11. Section ~~20A-3a-202.5~~ is amended to read:
- 1482 **20A-3a-202.5. (Effective 05/06/26)Receiving a ballot by mail -- Making a request --  
Termination or expiration of a request -- Renewing a request.**
- 1297 (1) As used in this section~~[, "request"]~~ :
- 1485 (a) "Request to receive a ballot by mail" means to make a request as described in Subsection (2).
- 1487 (b) "Request to return a ballot by mail" means to make a request as described in Subsection (3).
- 1299 (2) An individual may request to receive a ballot by mail by:
- 1300 (a) making the request on a voter registration form;
- 1301 (b) making the request when the individual applies for or renews the individual's driver license or state  
identification card;
- 1303 (c) making the request via the electronic system described in Section 20A-2-206; or
- 1304 (d) making the request when the voter votes in person.
- 1495 (3) An individual may request to return a ballot by mail by:
- 1496 (a) making the request on a voter registration form;
- 1497 (b) making the request when the individual applies for or renews the individual's driver license or state  
identification card;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1499 (c) making the request via the electronic system described in Section 20A-2-206; or  
1500 (d) making the request when the voter votes in person.
- 1305 ~~(3)~~ (4) ~~[An]~~ Except as provided in Subsection (8), for an election held before January 1, 2029, an  
election officer shall, when mailing ballots to voters under Section 20A-3a-202, mail a ballot and a  
mail-in return envelope to each registered voter who~~[;]~~
- 1307 ~~(a) for an election held before January 1, 2029,~~ is an active voter, unless the voter requests to stop  
receiving a ballot by mail~~[; or]~~ .
- 1506 (5)
- 1309 ~~(b) except]~~ Except as provided in ~~[Subsection (4)]~~ Subsections (6) through (8), for an election held  
on or after January 1, 2029, an election officer shall, when mailing ballots to voters under Section  
20A-3a-202:
- 1310 ~~(i)~~ (a) mail a ballot to each voter who:
- 1510 (i) is an active voter; and
- 1311 (ii) has, in accordance with Subsection (2), made a request to receive a ballot by mail~~[;]~~ ; and
- 1513 (b)
- (i) except as provided in Subsection (5)(b)(ii), mail with the ballot a standard return envelope; or  
1515 (ii) if the voter has, in accordance with Subsection (3), made a request to return a ballot by mail, mail  
with the ballot a mail-in return envelope.
- 1312 ~~(4)~~ (6) ~~[For]~~ Except as provided in Subsection (7) or (8), for an election held on or after January 1,  
2029~~[;]~~ :
- 1519 (a) an election officer may not mail a ballot or a return envelope to an individual who:
- 1314 ~~(a)~~ (i) following the individual's most recent request to receive a ballot by mail:
- 1315 ~~(i)~~ (A) requests to stop receiving ballots by mail; or
- 1316 ~~(ii)~~ (B) does not vote in an election during a period that includes two consecutive regular general  
elections; or
- 1318 ~~(b)~~ (ii) has not, within eight years before the day on which the election officer mails the bulk of the  
ballots for an election, made a request to receive a ballot by mail~~[;]~~ ; and
- 1527 (b) an election officer who mails a ballot to an individual in accordance with this section shall include  
with the ballot a standard return envelope, and may not include with the ballot a mail-in return  
envelope if the individual has not, within eight years before the day on which the election officer  
mails the bulk of the ballots for an election, made a request to return a ballot by mail.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1320 ~~[(5)]~~ (7) This section may not be applied in a manner that conflicts with Chapter 16, Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act.
- 1322 (6){(8)} In an election held for a local tax law referendum that is conducted entirely by mail under Section 20A-7-609.5, the election officer shall send {a ballot} by mail to a registered voter a ballot and a mail-in return envelope, regardless of whether the registered voter {makes a request described in Subsection (4)}. :
- 1537 (a) requests to receive a ballot by mail;
- 1538 (b) requests to stop receiving a ballot by mail; or
- 1539 (c) requests to return a ballot by mail.
- 1540 Section 12. Section **20A-3a-203** is amended to read:
- 1541 **20A-3a-203. (Effective 01/01/27) Voting at a polling place.**
- 1328 (1) A registered voter may vote at a {standard} polling place, or return a remote ballot to a {standard} polling place, in an election in accordance with this section.
- 1330 (2)
- (a) The voter shall give the voter's name, and, if requested, the voter's residence, to one of the poll workers.
- 1332 (b) The voter shall present valid voter identification to one of the poll workers, as follows:
- 1334 (i) the voter shall present a currently valid Utah driver license or Utah state identification card;
- 1336 (ii) if the voter does not have the type of identification described in Subsection (2)(b)(i), the voter shall present:
- 1338 (A) a currently valid identification card issued by the state, or a branch, department, or agency of the United States;
- 1340 (B) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;
- 1341 (C) a currently valid United States passport;
- 1342 (D) a currently valid United States military identification card; or
- 1343 (E) a valid tribal identification card, Bureau of Indian Affairs card, or tribal treaty card; or
- 1345 (iii) if the voter does not have the type of identification described in Subsection (2)(b)(i) or (ii), the voter shall present other valid voter identification.
- 1347 (c) If the poll worker is not satisfied that the voter has presented valid voter identification in accordance with Subsection (2)(b), the poll worker shall:
- 1349 (i) indicate on the official register that the voter was not properly identified;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1350 (ii) if the voter is returning a remote ballot, issue the voter a provisional ballot envelope;  
1352 ~~[(ii)]~~ (iii) if the voter is voting in-person, issue the voter a provisional ballot; and  
1353 ~~[(iii) notify the voter that the voter will have until the close of normal office hours on Monday after the  
day of the election or, if Monday is a holiday, on the first business day after the holiday, to present  
valid voter identification.]~~
- 1356 ~~[(A) to the county clerk at the county clerk's office; or]~~  
1357 ~~[(B) to an election officer who is administering the election; and]~~  
1358 (iv) follow the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-205.  
1359 (d) If the person's right to vote is challenged as provided in Section 20A-3a-803, the poll worker shall  
follow the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-205.
- 1361 (3) A poll worker at a polling place shall check the official register~~[to determine]~~:  
1362 (a) to determine whether a voter is registered to vote; and  
1363 (b) ~~[if the election is]~~ for a voter who seeks to obtain a ballot from a {standard} polling place during  
a regular primary election or a presidential primary election, to determine whether a voter's party  
affiliation designation in the official register allows the voter to vote the ballot that the voter  
requests.
- 1367 (4)  
(a) Except as provided in Subsection (5), if the voter's name is not found on the official register, the poll  
worker shall follow the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-205.  
1370 (b) If, when a voter seeks to obtain a ballot from a {standard} polling place in a regular primary  
election or a presidential primary election, the official register does not affirmatively identify the  
voter as being affiliated with a registered political party or if the official register identifies the voter  
as being "unaffiliated," the voter shall be considered to be "unaffiliated."
- 1375 (5) In a regular primary election or a presidential primary election:  
1376 (a) if a voter's name is not found on the official register, and if it is not [unduly] disruptive to the  
election process, the poll worker may attempt to contact the county clerk's office to request oral  
verification of the voter's registration; and  
1379 (b) if oral verification is received from the county clerk's office, the poll worker shall:  
1380 (i) record the verification on the official register;  
1381 (ii) for a voter who seeks to obtain a ballot from a {standard} polling place, determine the voter's party  
affiliation and the ballot that the voter is qualified to vote; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1383 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (6), comply with Subsection (3).  
1384 (6)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), if, in a regular primary election or a presidential primary election, the voter's political party affiliation listed in the official register does not allow the voter to vote the ballot that the voter requested, the poll worker shall inform the voter of that fact and inform the voter of the ballot or ballots that the voter's party affiliation does allow the voter to vote.
- 1389 (b) If, in a regular primary election or a presidential primary election, the voter is listed in the official register as unaffiliated, or if the official register does not affirmatively identify the voter as either unaffiliated or affiliated with a registered political party, and the voter, as an unaffiliated voter, is not authorized to vote the ballot that the voter requests, the poll worker shall:
- 1394 (i) ask the voter if the voter wishes to vote another registered political party ballot that the voter, as unaffiliated, is authorized to vote, or remain unaffiliated; and
- 1396 (ii)
- (A) if the voter wishes to vote another registered political party ballot that the unaffiliated voter is authorized to vote, the poll worker shall proceed as required by Subsection (3); or
- 1399 (B) if the voter wishes to remain unaffiliated and does not wish to vote another ballot that unaffiliated voters are authorized to vote, the poll worker shall instruct the voter that the voter may not vote.
- 1402 (7) Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b)(ii)(B), and subject to the other provisions of Subsection (6), if the poll worker determines that the voter is registered, a poll worker shall:
- 1405 (a) direct the voter to sign the voter's name in the official register; and
- 1406 (b)
- (i) if the voter is returning a remote ballot:
- 1621 (A) ensure that the voter seals the remote ballot in a return envelope; and
- (i){ (B) } {if the voter is returning a remote ballot that is sealed in a return envelope} after complying with Subsection (7)(b)(i)(A), accept the return envelope from the voter and place the return envelope in the ballot box; or
- 1409 (ii) if the voter seeks to obtain a ballot at the { standard } polling place:
- 1410 [~~b~~] (A) provide to the voter the ballot that the voter is qualified to vote; [~~and~~]
- 1411 (B) provide to the voter a standard return envelope; and
- 1412 [~~e~~] (C) allow the voter to enter the voting booth.
- 1413 (8)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(a) The official register shall include the statement described in Subsection (8)(b):

1414 (i) at the top of each page of the register where a voter signs the register; or

1415 (ii) adjacent to the place where each voter signs the register.

1416 (b) The statement described in Subsection (8)(a) shall appear as follows:

1417 "AFFIDAVIT

1418 By signing this register I am signing an affidavit where, UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY,  
I affirm that the identification I presented to the poll worker is valid voter identification that  
accurately identifies me as the person indicated."

1421 (9) A voter who votes at a polling place may submit a request to a poll worker that a ballot be mailed to  
the voter in upcoming elections.

1638 Section 13. Section 13 is enacted to read:

1639 **20A-3a-203.5. (Effective 01/01/27)Returning a remote ballot to a ballot drop box.**

1425 (1) A registered voter may return a remote ballot to a ballot drop box in accordance with this section.

1427 (2) A voter may not return a remote ballot to a ballot drop box, unless the ballot drop box is attended by  
two or more poll workers.

1429 ~~{(3) }~~

(a)~~{(3) }~~ When returning a remote ballot to a ballot drop box~~{, the voter shall give the voter's name, and,  
if requested, the voter's residence, to one of the poll workers.} :~~

1431 (b)~~{(a) }~~ The ~~the~~ voter shall present valid voter identification ~~to one of the poll workers~~~~{:} :~~

1432 ~~{(c) {If the poll worker is not satisfied that the voter has presented valid voter identification, the poll  
worker shall:} }~~

1434 ~~{(i) {indicate on the official register that the voter was not properly identified;} }~~

1435 (ii)~~{(i) }~~ provide the voter return envelope, with a provisional the remote ballot envelope  
sealed inside; and

1436 ~~{(iii) {follow the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-205.} }~~

1437 ~~{(d) {If the person's right to vote is challenged as provided in Section 20A-3a-803, the poll worker shall  
follow the procedures and requirements of Subsections (3)(c)(ii) and (iii).} }~~

1647 (ii) a type of valid voter identification described in Subsection 20A-1-102(85)(a) or (b); and

1439 (4)~~{(b) }~~ A the poll worker shall:

1650 (i) examine the return envelope and the identification described in Subsection (3)(a); and

1440

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(a){(ii)} ~~{check the official register to }~~ determine whether ~~{a voter is registered to vote; and }~~ the identification presented:

- 1653 (A) is a type of valid voter identification described in Subsection 20A-1-102(85)(a) or (b); and  
1655 (B) in accordance with Subsection (4), identifies the individual presenting the identification as the voter to whom the ballot relates.
- 1657 (4) A poll worker shall make the determination described in Subsection (3)(b)(ii)(B) as follows:  
1659 (a) if the valid voter identification described in Subsection (3)(b)(ii)(A) includes a photograph of the individual identified:  
1661 (i) compare the photograph to the individual presenting the identification to determine whether the individual presenting the identification is the individual in the photograph; and  
1664 (ii) determine whether the name that appears on the return envelope:  
1665 (A) is the name of the individual in the identification; and  
1666 (B) is otherwise consistent with the individual presenting the identification; or  
1667 (b) if the valid voter identification described in Subsection (3)(b)(ii)(A) does not include a photograph of the individual identified, determine whether the name that appears on the return envelope:  
1670 (i) is the name of the individual in the identification; and  
1671 (ii) is otherwise consistent with the individual presenting the identification.
- 1672 (5) After complying with Subsection (3)(b):  
1673 (a) the poll worker shall place the ballot in the ballot drop box if, in accordance with Subsection (4), the poll worker determines that the identification presented:  
1675 (i) is a type of valid voter identification described in Subsection 20A-1-102(85)(a) or (b); and  
1677 (ii) identifies the individual presenting the identification as the voter to whom the ballot relates; or  
1441 (b) if the {voter's name} poll worker is {not found on the official register} unable to make both determinations described in Subsections (5)(a)(i) and (ii), the poll worker shall {follow the procedures and requirements of Subsections (3)(c)(ii) and (iii).} :
- 1681 (i) return the return envelope to the individual who presented the return envelope; and  
1682 (ii) direct the individual to a polling place where the voter may:  
1683 (A) establish the voter's identity with any type of valid voter identification; or  
1684 (B) cast a provisional ballot.

1685 Section 14. Section 14 is enacted to read:  
1686

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

**20A-3a-203.6. (Effective 01/01/27) Returning a remote ballot by mail -- Application -- Mail-  
in return envelope.**

- 1688 (1) A voter:
- 1446 (1){(a)} ~~{Except as otherwise provided in Chapter 16, Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act,~~  
~~a voter may not~~ } may return a remote ballot by mail ~~{unless~~ } in the mail-in envelope that the  
election officer, in accordance with Subsection 20A-3a-202.5(4) or (5)(b)(ii), sent to the voter  
~~{complies~~ } with the ~~{requirements of this section.~~ } voter's ballot; and
- 1449 {(2) ~~{A voter who desires to return a remote ballot by mail shall:~~ }
- 1450 (a){(b)} ~~{apply for designation as a voter who~~ } may not return a remote ballot by mail ~~{, on~~ } in  
a ~~{form designed by~~ } standard return envelope or in an envelope other than the ~~{lieutenant~~  
~~governor;~~ } envelope described in Subsection (1)(a).
- 1452 {(b) ~~{except as provided in Subsection (2)(c), submit the form, in-person, at the office of the county~~  
~~clerk of the county of which the voter is a resident;~~ }
- 1454 {(c) ~~{if the voter is an individual with a disability, submit the form in-person, by mail, or by electronic~~  
~~means to the office of the county clerk of the county of which the voter is a resident; and~~ }
- 1457 {(d) ~~{at the time the voter submits the form, provide valid voter identification.~~ }
- 1458 {(3) ~~{A voter who complies with Subsection (2) may return a ballot by mail:~~ }
- 1459 {(a) ~~{in the next election that is at least 45 days after the day on which the voter complies with~~  
~~Subsection (2); and~~ }
- 1461 {(b) ~~{in each election following the election described in Subsection (3)(a) that is no more than two~~  
~~years after the day of the election described in Subsection (3)(a).~~ }
- 1463 {(4) ~~{For each voter who is authorized to return a ballot by mail under Subsections (2) and (3), the~~  
~~election officer shall, when mailing ballots under Section 20A-3a-202, include with the ballot a~~  
~~mail-in return envelope described in Subsection (5).~~ }
- 1466 (5){(2)} A mail-in return envelope shall include:
- 1467 (a) the official title, and post office address of the election officer on the front of the envelope;
- 1469 (b) a space where a voter may write an email address and phone number by which the election officer  
may contact the voter if the voter's ballot is rejected;
- 1471 (c) a printed affidavit in substantially the following form:
- 1478

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(d) a warning that the affidavit must be signed by the individual to whom the ballot was sent and that the ballot will not be counted if the signature on the affidavit does not match the signature on file with the election officer of the individual to whom the ballot was sent.

1482 (6){(3)} An election officer who administers an election shall:

1483 (a)

(i) before the election, obtain the signatures of each voter qualified to vote in the election; or

1485 (ii) obtain the signature of each voter within the voting precinct from the county clerk; and

1487 (b) maintain the signatures on file in the election officer's office.

1488 (7){(4)} To return a remote ballot by mail, the voter shall comply with Subsections 20A-3a-204(1), (4), and (5)(a).

1490 (8){(5)} A voter may return a remote ballot that was provided to the voter with a mail-in return envelope to a {standard} polling place or a ballot drop box by:

1492 (a) sealing the ballot in the mail-in return envelope, or in a standard return envelope that is provided by a poll worker at {the standard} a polling place {or the ballot drop box} ; and

1494 (b)

(i) at a {standard} polling place, complying with Section 20A-3a-203; or

1495 (ii) at a ballot drop box, complying with Section 20A-3a-203.5.

1496 (9){(6)} If a voter returns a ballot sealed in a mail-in return envelope to a {standard} polling place or a ballot drop box, the poll workers shall process the ballot as a remote ballot returned, in-person, in a standard return envelope and not as a remote ballot returned by mail.

1499 (10){(7)} Upon receipt of a remote ballot that is returned by mail in accordance with this section, the election officer shall review and process the ballot under Section 20A-3a-401.

1729 Section 15. Section **20A-3a-204** is amended to read:

1730 **20A-3a-204. (Effective 01/01/27)Marking a manual ballot -- Returning a ballot by mail, at an election officer's office, or via a ballot drop box -- Depositing a ballot received by mail at a polling place.**

1505 (1) To vote a manual ballot:

1506 (a) [~~except as provided in Subsection (7),~~]the voter shall prepare the voter's manual ballot by marking the appropriate space with a mark opposite the name of each candidate of the voter's choice for each office to be filled;

1509

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (b) if a ballot proposition is submitted to a vote of the people, the voter shall mark the appropriate space with a mark opposite the answer the voter intends to make;
- 1511 (c) ~~[except as provided in Subsection (7), ]~~the voter shall record a write-in vote in accordance with Subsection 20A-3a-206(1);~~[-and]~~
- 1513 (d) ~~[except as provided in Subsection (7), ]~~a mark is not required opposite the name of a write-in candidate~~[-: ]~~; and
- 1515 (e) the voter shall place the ballot in the return envelope and seal the return envelope.
- 1516 (2) Except to the extent otherwise required for a voter who casts a provisional ballot, a voter who votes a manual ballot at a { standard } polling place shall, after complying with Section 20A-3a-203 and Subsection (1), deposit the return envelope in the ballot box at the polling { location } place.
- 1520 (3) Except to the extent otherwise required for a voter who casts a provisional ballot, if a voter returns a remote ballot to a { standard } polling { location } place:
- 1522 (a) the voter shall, after complying with Section 20A-3a-203 and Subsection (1), deliver the return envelope to the poll worker; and
- 1524 (b) the poll worker shall immediately place the return envelope in the ballot { drop } box.
- 1525 ~~[(2)]~~ (4) ~~[Before returning a ballot mailed to the voter]~~ If a voter returns a ballot by mail, the voter shall:
- 1527 (a) complete and sign the affidavit on the mail-in return envelope;
- 1528 (b) enter the last four digits of the voter's Utah driver license or Utah state identification card;
- 1530 (c) beginning on January 1, 2029, if the voter does not have a Utah driver license or Utah state identification card:
- 1532 (i) write the last four digits of the voter's social security card on the return envelope; or
- 1534 (ii) include in the return envelope a photocopy of one of the following forms of identification for the voter:
- 1536 (A) a currently valid identification card issued by the state, or a branch, department, or agency of the United States;
- 1538 (B) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;
- 1539 (C) a currently valid United States passport;
- 1540 (D) a currently valid United States military identification card; or
- 1541 (E) a valid tribal identification card, Bureau of Indian Affairs card, or tribal treaty card;
- 1543 (d) place the voted ballot in the mail-in return envelope;
- 1544

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (e) if required by the election officer because the voter has not yet provided valid voter identification with the voter's voter registration record, include a copy of the voter's valid voter identification with the ballot inside the mail-in return envelope;
- 1547 (f) securely seal the mail-in return envelope; and
- 1548 (g) [~~if returning the ballot by mail,~~] attach postage, if necessary, and deposit the mail-in return envelope in the mail.
- 1550 [~~(3)~~] (5)
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 20A-16-404, to be valid, a ballot that is mailed must be received by the election officer on or before ~~[8 p.m. on]~~ election day at 8 p.m.
- 1552 (b) Except as provided in Subsection [~~(3)(e)~~] (5)(c), to be valid, a ballot returned by a method other than by mail shall, before 8 p.m. on election day, be:
- 1554 (i) deposited in a ballot box at a { ~~standard~~ } polling place;
- 1555 (ii) deposited in [a] an attended ballot drop box designated by an election officer for the jurisdiction to which the ballot relates; or
- 1557 (iii) otherwise received by the election officer.
- 1558 (c) An election officer may, but is not required to, forward a ballot deposited in a ballot drop box in the wrong jurisdiction to the correct jurisdiction.
- 1560 (d) An election officer shall ensure that a voter who is, at or before 8 p.m., in line at a { ~~standard~~ } polling place or a ballot drop box, is allowed to, after complying with Section 20A-3a-203 and Subsection (1):
- 1563 (i) vote at the { ~~standard~~ } polling place; or
- 1564 (ii) if the voter has a sealed return envelope containing a remote ballot in the voter's possession, deliver the return envelope to a poll worker for placement in the ballot box or ballot drop box.
- 1567 [~~(d) An election officer shall ensure that a voter who is, at or before 8 p.m. on election day:]~~
- 1569 [(i) ~~in line at a ballot drop box, with a sealed return envelope containing a ballot in the voter's possession, is allowed to deposit the ballot in the ballot drop box; or]~~
- 1571 [(ii) ~~in line at a polling place, is allowed to vote.]~~
- 1572 [~~(4)~~]
- (a) ~~Except as provided in Subsection (6), to vote at a polling place the voter shall, after complying with Subsections (1)(a) through (d):]~~
- 1574 [(i) ~~sign the official register or pollbook; and]~~

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1575 [(ii) place the ballot in the ballot box; or]
- 1576 [(b)] (6) If the ballot that a voter votes at a {standard} polling place is a provisional ballot, the voter shall place the ballot in the provisional ballot envelope, complete the information printed on the provisional ballot envelope, and [deposit] give the provisional ballot envelope to a poll worker for placement in the provisional ballot box.
- 1580 [(5)] (7)
- (a) An individual with a disability may vote a mechanical ballot at a {standard} polling place.
- 1582 (b) An individual other than an individual with a disability may vote a mechanical ballot at a {standard} polling place if permitted by the election officer.
- 1584 [(6)] (8) To vote a mechanical ballot, the voter shall:
- 1585 (a) make the selections according to the instructions provided for the voting device; and
- 1586 (b) [subject to Subsection (7),] record a write-in vote by:
- 1587 (i) selecting the appropriate position for entering a write-in candidate; and
- 1588 (ii) using the voting device to enter the name of the valid write-in candidate for whom the voter wishes to vote.
- 1590 [(7) To vote in an instant runoff voting race under Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, a voter:]
- 1592 [(a) shall indicate, as directed on the ballot, the name of the candidate who is the voter's first preference for the office; and]
- 1594 [(b) may indicate, as directed on the ballot, the names of the remaining candidates in order of the voter's preference.]
- 1596 [(8)] (9) A voter who votes at a {standard} polling place:
- 1597 (a) shall mark and cast or deposit the ballot without delay and shall leave the voting area after voting; and
- 1599 (b) may not:
- 1600 (i) occupy a voting booth occupied by another, except as provided in Section 20A-3a-208;
- 1602 (ii) remain within the voting area more than 10 minutes; or
- 1603 (iii) occupy a voting booth for more than five minutes if all booths are in use and other voters are waiting to occupy a voting booth.
- 1605 [(9)] (10) If the official register shows any voter as having voted, that voter may not reenter the voting area during that election unless that voter is an election official or watcher.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

1607 [(10)] (11) A poll worker may not, at a {standard} polling place, allow more than four voters more than  
the number of voting booths into the voting area at one time unless those excess voters are:

1610 (a) election officials;

1611 (b) watchers; or

1612 (c) assisting voters with a disability.

1842 Section 16. Section 20A-3a-205 is amended to read:

1843 **20A-3a-205. (Effective 01/01/27)Manner of voting -- Provisional ballot.**

1615 (1) The poll workers shall follow the procedures and requirements of this section when:

1616 (a) the individual's right to vote is challenged as provided in Section 20A-3a-803 or 20A-3a-805;

1618 (b) the individual's name is not found on the official register; or

1619 (c) the poll worker is not satisfied that the voter has provided valid voter identification.

1620 (2) When faced with one of the circumstances described in Subsection (1)(a) or (b), the poll worker shall:

1622 (a) request that the individual provide valid voter identification; and

1623 (b) review the identification provided by the individual.

1624 (3) If the poll worker is satisfied that the individual has provided valid voter identification that establishes the individual's identity and residence in the voting precinct:

1626 (a) the poll worker in charge of the official register shall:

1627 (i) record in the official register the type of identification that established the individual's identity and place of residence;

1629 (ii) record the provisional ballot envelope number in association with the name of the individual; and

1631 (iii) direct the individual to sign the individual's name in the official register or pollbook; and

1633 (b) the poll worker having charge of the ballots shall:

1634 (i) if the individual is returning a remote ballot, give the individual a provisional ballot envelope;

1636 (ii) if the individual is at a {standard} polling place and is voting in person:

1637 [(+)] (A) give the individual a provisional ballot; and

1638 [(+)] (B) allow the individual to enter the voting booth[-] ;and

1639 (iii) accept the provisional ballot only after the voter completes, and seals the voter's ballot in, the provisional ballot envelope{~~;-and~~} .

1870 (4) {notify the voter that the voter will have until the close of normal office hours on Monday after the day of the election to present valid voter identification to: }

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1643 {~~(A)~~} {~~the county clerk at the county clerk's office; or~~}
- 1644 {~~(B)~~} {~~an election officer who is administering an election.~~}
- 1645 {~~(4)~~} If the poll worker is not satisfied that the individual has provided valid voter identification that establishes the individual's identity and residence in the voting precinct:
- 1648 (a) the poll worker in charge of the official register shall:
- 1649 (i) record in the official register that the voter did not provide valid voter identification;
- 1651 (ii) record in the official register the type of identification that was provided by the individual, if any;
- 1653 (iii) record the provisional ballot envelope number in association with the name of the individual; and
- 1655 (iv) direct the individual to sign the individual's name in the official register or pollbook; and
- 1657 (b) the poll worker having charge of the ballots shall:
- 1658 (i) if the individual is returning a remote ballot, give the individual a provisional ballot envelope;
- 1660 (ii) if the individual is at a {standard} polling place and is voting in-person:
- 1661 [(+)] (A) give the individual a provisional ballot; and
- 1662 [(+)] (B) allow the individual to enter the voting booth[-];
- 1663 (iii) accept the provisional ballot only after the voter completes, and seals the voter's ballot in, the provisional ballot envelope; and
- 1665 (iv) notify the voter that the voter will have until noon on the {~~close of normal office hours on Monday~~ after} day before the day of the canvass for the election to present valid voter identification to:
- 1667 (A) the county clerk at the county clerk's office; or
- 1668 (B) to an election officer who is administering an election.
- 1669 (5) When, at a polling place, the election officer is required to furnish more than one version of a ballot, the poll workers at that polling place shall give the registered voter the version of the ballot that the voter is qualified to vote.

1897 Section 17. Section **20A-3a-301** is amended to read:

1898 **20A-3a-301. (Effective 05/06/26)Emergency ballots -- Hospitalized voter returning ballot my mail without standard identification.**

1675 (1) As used in this section, "hospitalized voter" means a registered voter who:

1676 (a) is:

1677 (i) hospitalized;

1678 (ii) confined in hospice care, a treatment facility, or a long-term care institution[facility]; or

1680

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (iii) due to age~~[-or]~~, illness, ~~[is-]~~ or disability, restricted in the ability to travel from the voter's permanent or temporary residence; and
- 1682 (b) is able to vote a manual ballot.
- 1683 (2) A hospitalized voter who has not received a ballot by mail, or does not have possession of a ballot sent to the voter by mail may, in accordance with this section, obtain a manual ballot with a mail-in return envelope to use as an emergency ballot and vote at any time after the election officer mails manual ballots to the majority of voters and before the close of polls on election day.
- 1688 (3) An individual may obtain an emergency ballot application, a manual ballot, and a mail-in return envelope from the election officer on behalf of a hospitalized voter by:
- 1690 (a) requesting a manual ballot, a mail-in return envelope, and the application in person at the election officer's office during business hours;
- 1692 (b) presenting valid voter identification for the individual requesting the manual ballot and mail-in return envelope on the hospitalized voter's behalf; and
- 1694 (c) signing a statement, created by the lieutenant governor, where the individual, under penalty of perjury:
- 1696 (i) identifies the individual;
- 1697 (ii) identifies the hospitalized voter and explains the reason the hospitalized voter qualifies as ~~[an exempt]~~ a hospitalized voter; and
- 1699 (iii) states that the individual:
- 1700 (A) is obtaining the manual ballot and the mail-in return envelope at the request of the hospitalized voter;
- 1702 (B) will not request, persuade, or otherwise induce the voter to vote for or vote against any particular candidate or issue;
- 1704 (C) will not release any information regarding the voter's votes; and
- 1705 (D) will not alter the voter's votes.
- 1706 (4) An election officer who provides the items described in Subsection (3) shall mark the mail-in return envelope as an emergency ballot.
- 1708 ~~[(4)]~~ (5) To vote, a hospitalized voter described in Subsection (2) shall:
- 1709 (a) complete the emergency ballot application and enclose the application in the mail-in return envelope;
- 1711 (b) complete, and sign the affidavit on, the mail-in return envelope;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1712 (c) mark the voter's votes on the manual ballot;
- 1713 (d) if the voter did not provide the last four digits of the voter's Utah driver license, Utah state  
identification card, or social security number:
- 1715 (i) include in the mail-in return envelope a photocopy of a type of identification described in Subsection  
[20A-3a-204(2)(e)(ii)] 20A-3a-204(4)(c)(ii); or
- 1717 (ii) if the voter does not have a type of identification described in Subsection [20A-3a-204(2)(e)  
(ii)] 20A-3a-204(4)(c)(ii), include in the mail-in return envelope another type of valid voter  
identification;
- 1720 (e) place the manual ballot into the mail-in return envelope; and
- 1721 (f) seal the mail-in return envelope unless a different method is authorized under Section 20A-1-308.
- 1723 [(5)] (6) For a ballot described in Subsection [(4)] (5) to be counted, the emergency voter application  
and the sealed [~~manual ballot~~] mail-in return envelope must be returned to the election officer's  
office in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.
- 1726 [(6)] (7) An election officer shall design an emergency ballot application and ensure that the application  
includes the check box and statement described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(7)(d)(v).
- 1729 [(7)] (8) Beginning on January 1, 2029, a hospitalized voter who receives a ballot by mail with a  
mail-in return envelope may, if the voter is unable to provide the digits described in Subsection  
20A-3a-401(4)(b)(i), [~~return the ballot by mail by including~~] include in the return envelope:
- 1733 (a) a photocopy of a type of identification described in Subsection [20A-3a-204(2)(e)  
(ii)] 20A-3a-204(4)(c)(ii); or
- 1735 (b) if the voter does not have a type of identification described in Subsection [20A-3a-204(2)(e)  
(ii)] 20A-3a-204(4)(c)(ii):
- 1737 (i) a photocopy of another type of valid voter identification; and
- 1738 (ii) a document showing that the voter is a hospitalized voter.
- 1964 Section 18. Section **20A-3a-401** is amended to read:
- 1965 **20A-3a-401. (Effective 01/01/27)Custody of remote ballots returned by mail -- Disposition --**  
**Notice -- Disclosures relating to unresolved ballots.**
- 1742 (1)
- (a) This section governs remote ballots returned by mail[~~, via a ballot drop box, or by other legal~~  
means] under {[Section 20A-3a-203.6](#)} [Subsection 20A-3a-203.6\(1\)\(a\)](#).

1744

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(b) Except for a ballot returned under Chapter 16, Uniform Military and Overseas Voters Act, if a remote ballot returned by mail is not sealed in a mail-in return envelope, or is sealed in a mail-in return envelope that was not issued by the election officer for the voter identified on the mail-in return envelope, the election officer shall:

1748 (i) reject the ballot; and

1749 (ii) if possible:

1750 (A) notify the voter that the ballot was rejected and the reason the ballot was rejected; and

1752 (B) if it is not too late for the voter to cast a ballot in a manner permitted by law, inform the voter how the voter may vote.

1754 (2) Poll workers shall process mail-in return envelopes containing manual ballots that are in the custody of the poll workers in accordance with this section.

1756 (3) Poll workers shall examine a mail-in return envelope to make the determinations described in Subsection (4).

1758 (4) The poll workers shall take the action described in Subsection (5)(a) if the poll workers determine:

1760 (a) for an election held before January 1, 2029:

1761 (i) that the mail-in return envelope contains the last four digits of the voter's Utah driver license number, Utah state identification card number, or social security number; or

1764 (ii) if the {~~mail-in~~} return envelope does not contain the digits described in Subsection (4)(a)(i), that:

1766 (A) in accordance with the rules made under Subsection (13), the signature on the affidavit of the mail-in return envelope is reasonably consistent with the individual's signature in the voter registration records; or

1769 (B) for an individual who checks the box described in Subsection (7)(d)(v), the signature is verified by alternative means;

1771 (b) for an election held on or after January 1, 2029:

1772 (i) that the mail-in return envelope contains the last four digits of the voter's Utah driver license number, Utah state identification card number, or social security number;

1775 (ii) if the mail-in return envelope does not contain the digits described in Subsection (4)(b)(i), that the voter included in the mail-in return envelope a copy of the identification described in Subsection [20A-3a-204(2)(e)(ii)] 20A-3a-204(4)(c)(ii); or

1779 [(iii)] (A) for a voter described in Subsection [20A-3a-301(7)] 20A-3a-301(8), that the voter complied with Subsection [20A-3a-301(7)] 20A-3a-301(8);

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1781 {~~(e)~~} and  
2006 (c) that the affidavit is sufficient;  
1782 (d) that the voter is registered to vote in the correct precinct;  
1783 (e) that the voter's right to vote the ballot has not been challenged;  
1784 (f) that the voter has not already voted in the election; and  
1785 (g) for a voter who has not yet provided valid voter identification with the voter's voter registration,  
whether the voter has provided valid voter identification with the mail-in return envelope.  
1788 (5)  
(a) If the poll workers make all of the findings described in Subsection (4), the poll workers shall:  
1790 (i) remove the manual ballot from the mail-in return envelope in a manner that does not destroy the  
affidavit on the mail-in return envelope;  
1792 (ii) ensure that the ballot is not examined in connection with the mail-in return envelope; and  
1794 (iii) place the ballot with the other ballots to be counted.  
1795 (b) If the poll workers do not make all of the findings described in Subsection (4), the poll workers  
shall:  
1797 (i) disallow the vote;  
1798 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (6), without opening the mail-in return envelope, record the ballot  
as "rejected" and state the reason for the rejection; and  
1800 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (6), place the mail-in return envelope, unopened, with the other  
rejected return envelopes.  
1802 (6) A poll worker may open a mail-in return envelope, if necessary, to determine compliance with  
Subsection ~~[(4)(b)(ii), (4)(b)(iii)]~~ (4)(b)(i)(B) or (C), or (4)(g).  
1804 (7)  
(a) If the poll workers reject an individual's ballot because the poll workers determine that the mail-in  
return envelope does not comply with Subsection (4), the election officer shall:  
1807 (i) contact the individual in accordance with Subsection (8); and  
1808 (ii) inform the individual:  
1809 (A) that the identification information provided on the mail-in return envelope is in question;  
1811 (B) how the individual may resolve the issue; and  
1812

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (C) that, in order for the ballot to be counted, the individual is required to deliver to the election officer a correctly completed affidavit, provided by the county clerk, that meets the requirements described in Subsection (7)(d).
- 1815 (b) If, under Subsection [~~(4)(a)(ii)(A)~~] (4)(a) or (b), the poll workers reject an individual's ballot because the poll workers determine, in accordance with rules made under Subsection (13), that the signature on the mail-in return envelope is not reasonably consistent with the individual's signature in the voter registration records, the election officer shall:
- 1820 (i) contact the individual in accordance with Subsection (8); and
- 1821 (ii) inform the individual:
- 1822 (A) that the individual's signature is in question;
- 1823 (B) how the individual may resolve the issue; and
- 1824 (C) that, in order for the ballot to be counted, the individual is required to deliver to the election officer a correctly completed affidavit, provided by the county clerk, that meets the requirements described in Subsection (7)(d).
- 1827 (c) The election officer shall ensure that the notice described in Subsection (7)(a) or (b) includes:
- 1829 (i) when communicating the notice by mail, a printed copy of the affidavit described in Subsection (7)(d) and a courtesy reply envelope;
- 1831 (ii) when communicating the notice electronically, a link to a copy of the affidavit described in Subsection (7)(d) or information on how to obtain a copy of the affidavit; or
- 1834 (iii) when communicating the notice by phone, either during a direct conversation with the voter or in a voicemail, arrangements for the voter to receive a copy of the affidavit described in Subsection (7)(d), either in person from the clerk's office, by mail, or electronically.
- 1838 (d) An affidavit described in Subsection (7)(a)(ii)(C) or (7)(b)(ii)(C) shall include:
- 1839 (i) an attestation that the individual voted the ballot;
- 1840 (ii) a space for the individual to enter the individual's name, date of birth, and driver license number or the last four digits of the individual's social security number;
- 1842 (iii) a space for the individual to sign the affidavit;
- 1843 (iv) a statement that, by signing the affidavit, the individual authorizes the lieutenant governor's and county clerk's use of the information in the affidavit and the individual's signature on the affidavit for voter identification purposes; and
- 1846

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (v) a check box accompanied by language in substantially the following form: "I am a voter with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act that impacts my ability to sign my name consistently. I can provide appropriate documentation upon request. To discuss accommodations, I can be contacted at \_\_\_\_\_".
- 1851 (e) In order for an individual described in Subsection (7)(a) or (b) to have the individual's remote ballot counted, the individual shall deliver the affidavit described in Subsection (7)(d) to the election officer.
- 1854 (f) An election officer who receives a signed affidavit under Subsection (7)(e) shall immediately:
- 1856 (i) scan the signature on the affidavit electronically and keep the signature on file in the statewide voter registration database developed under Section 20A-2-502;
- 1858 (ii) if the election officer receives the affidavit no later than noon on the last business day before the day on which the canvass begins, count the individual's remote ballot; and
- 1861 (iii) if the check box described in Subsection (7)(d)(v) is checked, comply with the rules described in Subsection (13)(c).
- 1863 (8)
- (a) The election officer shall, within two business days after the day on which an individual's ballot is rejected, notify the individual of the rejection and the reason for the rejection, by phone, mail, email, or, if consent is obtained, text message, unless:
- 1866 (i) the ballot is cured within one business day after the day on which the ballot is rejected; or
- 1868 (ii) the ballot is rejected because the ballot is received late or for another reason that cannot be cured.
- 1870 (b) If an individual's ballot is rejected for a reason described in Subsection (8)(a)(ii), the election officer shall notify the individual of the rejection and the reason for the rejection by phone, mail, email, or, if consent is obtained, text message, within the later of:
- 1874 (i) 30 calendar days after the day of the rejection; or
- 1875 (ii) 30 calendar days after the day of the election.
- 1876 (c) The election officer may, when notifying an individual by phone under this Subsection (8), use auto-dial technology.
- 1878 (9) An election officer may not count the ballot of an individual whom the election officer contacts under Subsection (7) or (8) unless, no later than noon on the last business day before the day on which the canvass begins, the election officer:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1881 (a) receives a signed affidavit from the individual under Subsection (7); or  
1882 (b)  
1883 (i) contacts the individual;  
1883 (ii) if the election officer has reason to believe that an individual, other than the voter to whom the  
ballot was sent, signed the ballot affidavit, informs the individual that it is unlawful to sign a ballot  
affidavit for another person, even if the person gives permission;  
1887 (iii) verifies the identity of the individual by:  
1888 (A) requiring the individual to provide at least two types of personal identifying information for the  
individual; and  
1890 (B) comparing the information provided under Subsection (9)(b)(iii)(A) to records relating to the  
individual that are in the possession or control of an election officer; and  
1893 (iv) documents the verification described in Subsection (9)(b)(iii), by recording:  
1894 (A) the name and voter identification number of the individual contacted;  
1895 (B) the name of the individual who conducts the verification;  
1896 (C) the date and manner of the communication;  
1897 (D) the type of personal identifying information provided by the individual;  
1898 (E) a description of the records against which the personal identifying information provided by the  
individual is compared and verified; and  
1900 (F) other information required by the lieutenant governor.  
1901 (10)  
(a) The election officer shall retain and preserve:  
1902 (i) the mail-in return envelopes in accordance with Subsection 20A-4-202(2); and  
1903 (ii) the documents described in Subsection (9)(b)(iv) in accordance with Subsection 20A-4-202(3).  
1905 (b) If the election officer complies with Subsection (10)(a)(ii) by including the documentation in the  
voter's voter registration record, the election officer shall make, retain, and preserve a record of the  
name and voter identification number of each voter contacted under Subsection (9)(b).  
1909 (11)  
(a) The election officer shall record the following in the database used in the verification process:  
1911 (i) any initial rejection of a ballot under Subsection (5)(b), within one business day after the day on  
which the election officer rejects the ballot; and  
1913

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (ii) any resolution of a rejection of a ballot under Subsection (9), within one business day after the day on which the ballot rejection is resolved.
- 1915 (b) An election officer shall include, in the canvass report, a final report of the disposition of all rejected  
and resolved ballots, including, for ballots rejected, the following:
- 1918 (i) the number of ballots rejected because the voter did not sign the voter's ballot; and
- 1919 (ii) the number of ballots rejected because the voter's signatures on the ballot, and in records on file, do  
not correspond.
- 1921 (12) Willful failure to comply with this section constitutes willful neglect of duty under Section  
20A-5-701.
- 1923 (13) The director of elections within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall make rules, in  
accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, to establish:
- 1926 (a) criteria and processes for use by poll workers in determining if a signature corresponds with the  
signature on file for the voter under Subsection (4)(a)(ii)(A);
- 1928 (b) training and certification requirements for election officers and employees of election officers  
regarding the criteria and processes described in Subsection (13)(a); and
- 1930 (c) in compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. Secs. 12131  
through 12165, an alternative means of verifying the identity of an individual who checks the box  
described in Subsection (7)(d)(v).
- 1933 (14)
- (a) Upon request, and subject to Subsections (14)(b) and (c), an election officer may disclose the name  
and address of a voter whose ballot has been rejected and not yet resolved with:
- 1936 (i) a candidate in the election;
- 1937 (ii) an individual who represents the candidate's campaign;
- 1938 (iii) the sponsors of an initiative or referendum appearing on the ballot; or
- 1939 (iv) for a ballot proposition appearing on the ballot, an individual who represents a political issues  
committee, as defined in Section 20A-11-101, if the political issues committee supports or  
opposes the ballot proposition.
- 1942 (b) If an election officer discloses the information described in Subsection (14)(a), the election officer  
shall:
- 1944 (i) make the disclosure within two business days after the day on which the request is made;
- 1946 (ii) respond to each request in the order the requests were made; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1947 (iii) make each disclosure in a manner, and within a period of time, that does not reflect favoritism to  
one requestor over another.
- 1949 (c) A disclosure described in this Subsection (14) may not include the name or address of a protected  
individual, as defined in Subsection 20A-2-104(1).
- 1951 ~~{Section 16. Section 20A-3a-401.5 is amended to read: }~~
- 1952 **20A-3a-401.5. Ballot tracking system.**
- 1953 (1) As used in this section:
- 1954 (a) "Ballot tracking system" means the system described in this section to track and confirm the status  
of trackable ballots.
- 1956 (b) "Change in the status" includes:
- 1957 (i) when a trackable ballot is mailed to a voter;
- 1958 (ii) when an election official receives a voted trackable ballot; and
- 1959 (iii) when a voted trackable ballot is counted.
- 1960 (c) "Trackable ballot" means a manual ballot that is:
- 1961 (i) mailed to a voter in accordance with Section 20A-3a-202;
- 1962 (ii) cast at a standard polling place in accordance with Section 20A-3a-203;
- 1963 (iii) returned to a standard polling place in accordance with Section 20A-3a-204;
- 1964 (iv) returned to a ballot drop box in accordance with Section 20A-3a-204;
- 1965 (v) returned to an election officer's office in accordance with Section 20A-3a-204; or
- 1966 (vi) returned by mail in accordance with Section 20A-3a-401.
- 1967 (d) "Voter registration database" means the database, as defined in Section 20A-2-501.
- 1968 (2) The lieutenant governor shall operate and maintain a statewide or locally based system to track and  
confirm when there is a change in the status of a trackable ballot.
- 1970 (3) If a voter elects to receive electronic notifications regarding the status of the voter's trackable ballot,  
the ballot tracking system shall, when there is a change in the status of the voter's trackable ballot:
- 1973 (a) send a text message notification to the voter if the voter's information in the voter registration  
database includes a mobile telephone number;
- 1975 (b) send an email notification to the voter if the voter's information in the voter registration database  
includes an email address; and
- 1977 (c) send a notification by another electronic means directed by the lieutenant governor.
- 1978

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 1982 (4) The lieutenant governor shall ensure that the ballot tracking system and the state-provided website described in Section 20A-7-801 automatically share appropriate information to ensure that a voter is able to confirm the status of the voter's trackable ballot via the state-provided website free of charge.
- 1984 (5) The ballot tracking system shall include a toll-free telephone number or other offline method by which a voter can confirm the status of the voter's trackable ballot.
- 1985 (6) The lieutenant governor shall ensure that the ballot tracking system:
- 1987 (a) is secure from unauthorized use by employing data encryption or other security measures; and
- 1988 (b) is only used for the purposes described in this section.
- 1989 ~~{Section 17. Section 20A-3a-601 is amended to read: }~~
- 1990 **20A-3a-601. Early voting.**
- 1992 (1)
- 1995 (a) An individual who is registered to vote may vote at a standard polling place before the election date in accordance with this section.
- 1996 (b) Except as provided in Subsection 20A-2-207(6), an individual who is not registered to vote may register to vote and vote at a standard polling place before the election date in accordance with this section if the individual:
- 1997 (i) is otherwise legally entitled to vote the ballot; and
- 1998 (ii) casts a provisional ballot in accordance with Section 20A-2-207.
- 1999 (2) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308 or Subsection (3), the early voting period:
- 2000 (a) begins on the date that is 14 calendar days before the date of the election; and
- 2003 (b) continues through the Friday before the election if the election date is a Tuesday.
- 2005 (3)
- 2006 (a) An election officer may extend the end of the early voting period to the day before the election date if the election officer provides notice of the extension in accordance with Section 20A-3a-604.
- 2009 (b) For a municipal election, the municipal clerk may reduce the early voting period described in this section if:
- 2005 (i) the municipal clerk conducts early voting on at least four days;
- 2006 (ii) the early voting days are within the period beginning on the date that is 14 calendar days before the date of the election and ending on the day before the election; and
- 2009 (iii) the municipal clerk provides notice of the reduced early voting period in accordance with Section 20A-3a-604.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2011 (c) For a county election, the county clerk may reduce the early voting period described in this section  
if:
- 2013 (i) the county clerk conducts early voting on at least four days;
- 2014 (ii) the early voting days are within the period beginning on the date that is 14 calendar days before the  
date of the election and ending on the day before the election; and
- 2017 (iii) the county clerk provides notice of the reduced early voting period in accordance with Section  
20A-3a-604.
- 2019 (4) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308, during the early voting period, the election officer:
- 2021 (a) for a local special election, a municipal primary election, and a municipal general election:
- 2023 (i) shall conduct early voting on a minimum of four days during each week of the early voting period;  
and
- 2025 (ii) shall conduct early voting on the last day of the early voting period; and
- 2026 (b) for all other elections:
- 2027 (i) shall conduct early voting on each weekday; and
- 2028 (ii) may elect to conduct early voting on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday.
- 2029 (5) Except as specifically provided in this Part 6, Early Voting, or Section 20A-1-308, early voting shall  
be administered in accordance with the requirements of this title.

2176 Section 19. Section **20A-3a-805** is amended to read:

2177 **20A-3a-805. (Effective 01/01/27)Challenges to a voter's eligibility at polling place --  
Procedure.**

- 2033 (1)
- (a) A poll worker, a watcher, or an individual who resides in the jurisdiction to which the election  
relates may, at a polling place, challenge an individual's eligibility to vote a particular ballot or to  
vote in that election if:
- 2036 (i) the individual making the challenge and the challenged individual are both present at the polling  
place at the time the challenge is made; and
- 2038 (ii) the challenge is made[-] :
- 2039 (A) before the challenged individual applies for a ballot[-] ; or
- 2040 (B) in relation to an individual who is returning a remote ballot, before a poll worker accepts the ballot.
- 2042 (b) An individual may make a challenge by orally stating the challenged individual's name and the basis  
for the challenge, as provided under Section 20A-3a-803.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2044 (2) The poll worker shall record a challenge in the official register or on the challenge sheets in the  
pollbook, including:
- 2046 (a) the name of the challenged individual;
- 2047 (b) the name of the individual making the challenge; and
- 2048 (c) the basis upon which the challenge is made.
- 2049 (3) If an individual's eligibility to vote is challenged under this section, the poll worker shall follow the  
procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-205.
- 2197 Section 20. Section **20A-4-101** is amended to read:
- 2198 **20A-4-101. (Effective 01/01/27) Manual ballots cast at a polling place -- Counting manual  
ballots at a {standard} polling place on day of election before polls close.**
- 2054 (1) Each county legislative body, municipal legislative body, and each poll worker shall comply with  
the requirements of this section when counting manual ballots on the day of an election, if:
- 2057 (a) the ballots are cast at a {standard} polling place; and
- 2058 (b) the ballots are counted at the {standard} polling place before the polls close.
- 2059 (2)
- (a) Each county legislative body or municipal legislative body shall provide:
- 2060 (i) two sets of ballot boxes for all voting precincts where both receiving and counting judges have  
been appointed; and
- 2062 (ii) a counting room for the use of the poll workers counting the ballots during the day.
- 2064 (b) At any election in any voting precinct in which both receiving and counting judges have been  
appointed, when at least 20 votes have been cast, the receiving judges shall:
- 2066 (i) close the first ballot box and deliver it to the counting judges; and
- 2067 (ii) prepare and use another ballot box to receive voted ballots.
- 2068 (c) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(f), upon receipt of the ballot box, the counting judges shall:
- 2070 (i) take the ballot box to the counting room;
- 2071 (ii) count the votes on the regular ballots in the ballot box;
- 2072 (iii) place the provisional ballot envelopes in the envelope or container provided for them for return to  
the election officer; and
- 2074 (iv) when they have finished counting the votes in the ballot box, return the emptied box to the  
receiving judges.
- 2076 (d)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (i) During the course of election day, whenever there are at least 20 ballots contained in a ballot box, the receiving judges shall deliver that ballot box to the counting judges for counting; and
- 2079 (ii) the counting judges shall immediately count the regular ballots and segregate the provisional ballots contained in that box.
- 2081 (e) The counting judges shall continue to exchange the ballot boxes and count ballots until the polls close.
- 2083 [(f)
- (i) ~~The director of elections within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor shall make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, describing the procedures that a counting judge is required to follow for counting ballots in an instant runoff voting race under Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project.]~~
- 2088 [(ii) ~~When counting ballots in an instant runoff voting race described in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, a counting judge shall comply with the procedures established under Subsection (2)(f)(i) and Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project.]~~
- 2092 (3) To resolve questions that arise during the counting of ballots, a counting judge shall apply the standards and requirements of[:] ,
- 2094 [(a)] to the extent applicable, Section 20A-4-105[;and] .
- 2095 [(b) as applicable, for an instant runoff voting race under Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, Subsections 20A-4-603(3) through (5).]
- 2243 Section 21. Section **20A-4-102** is amended to read:
- 2244 **20A-4-102. Effective 01/01/27 Manual ballots cast at a polling place -- Counting manual ballots at a {standard} polling place on day of election after polls close.**
- 2100 (1)
- (a) This section governs counting manual ballots on the day of an election, if:
- 2101 (i) the ballots are cast at a {standard} polling place; and
- 2102 (ii) the ballots are counted at the {standard} polling place after the polls close.
- 2103 (b) Except as provided in Subsection (2) ~~[or a rule made under Subsection 20A-4-101(2)(f)(i)]~~, as soon as the polls have been closed and the last qualified voter has voted, the election judges shall count the ballots by performing the tasks specified in this section in the order that they are specified.
- 2107 (c) To resolve questions that arise during the counting of ballots, a counting judge shall apply the standards and requirements of[:] ,

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2109 [(i)] to the extent applicable, Section 20A-4-105[; and] .
- 2110 [(ii) as applicable, for an instant runoff voting race under Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods  
Pilot Project, Subsections 20A-4-603(3) through (5).]
- 2112 (2)
- (a) First, the election judges shall count the number of ballots in the ballot box.
- 2113 (b)
- (i) If there are more ballots in the ballot box than there are names entered in the pollbook, the judges shall examine the official endorsements on the ballots.
- 2115 (ii) If, in the unanimous opinion of the judges, any of the ballots do not bear the proper official endorsement, the judges shall put those ballots in an excess ballot file and not count ~~them~~ those ballots.
- 2118 (c)
- (i) If, after examining the official endorsements, there are still more ballots in the ballot box than there are names entered in the pollbook, the judges shall place the remaining ballots back in the ballot box.
- 2121 (ii) One of the judges, without looking, shall draw a number of ballots equal to the excess from the ballot box.
- 2123 (iii) The judges shall put those excess ballots into the excess ballot envelope and not count them.
- 2125 (d) When the ballots in the ballot box equal the number of names entered in the pollbook, the judges shall count the votes.
- 2127 (3) The judges shall:
- 2128 (a) place all unused ballots in the envelope or container provided for return to the county clerk or city recorder; and
- 2130 (b) seal that envelope or container.
- 2131 (4) The judges shall:
- 2132 (a) place all of the provisional ballot envelopes in the envelope provided for them for return to the election officer; and
- 2134 (b) seal that envelope or container.
- 2135 (5)
- (a) In counting the votes, the election judges shall read and count each ballot separately.
- 2137 (b) In regular primary elections the judges shall:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2138 (i) count the number of ballots cast for each party;
- 2139 (ii) place the ballots cast for each party in separate piles; and
- 2140 (iii) count all the ballots for one party before beginning to count the ballots cast for other parties.
- 2142 (6)
- (a) In all elections, the counting judges shall ~~except as provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, or a rule made under Subsection 20A-4-101(2)(f)(i)~~:
- 2145 (i) count one vote for each candidate designated by the marks in the squares next to the candidate's name;
- 2147 (ii) count each vote for each write-in candidate who has qualified by filing a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-601;
- 2149 (iii) read every name marked on the ballot and mark every name upon the tally sheets before another ballot is counted;
- 2151 (iv) evaluate each ballot and each vote based on the standards and requirements of Section 20A-4-105;
- 2153 (v) write the word "spoiled" on the back of each ballot that lacks the official endorsement and deposit it in the spoiled ballot envelope; and
- 2155 (vi) read, count, and record upon the tally sheets the votes that each candidate and ballot proposition received from all ballots, except excess or spoiled ballots.
- 2157 (b) Election judges need not tally write-in votes for fictitious persons, nonpersons, or persons clearly not eligible to qualify for office.
- 2159 (c) The judges shall certify to the accuracy and completeness of the tally list in the space provided on the tally list.
- 2161 (d) When the judges have counted all of the voted ballots, they shall record the results on the total votes cast form.
- 2163 (7)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (7)(b), only an election judge and a watcher may be present at the place where counting is conducted until the count is completed.
- 2165 (b)
- (i) An auditor conducting an audit described in Section 36-12-15.2 may be present at the place where counting is conducted, regardless of whether the count is completed.
- 2168

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (ii) The lieutenant governor may be present at the place where counting is conducted, regardless of whether the count is completed.

2316 Section 22. Section 22 is enacted to read:

2317 **20A-4-102.5. Preparing remote ballots returned to a ballot drop box for counting.**

2319 (1) Before counting remote ballots that are returned to a ballot drop box, the election officer shall, for each return envelope returned:

2321 (a) record the voting history for the voter;

2322 (b) verify that the voter has not already voted; and

2323 (c) verify that the voter is registered to vote in the jurisdiction to which the ballot relates.

2324 (2) If an election officer is unable to make the verification described in Subsection (1)(b) or (c), the election officer shall:

2326 (a) reject the ballot; and

2327 (b) if possible:

2328 (i) notify the voter that the ballot was rejected and the reason the ballot was rejected; and

2330 (ii) if it is not too late for the voter to cast a ballot in a manner permitted by law, inform the voter how the voter may vote.

2332 Section 23. Section 20A-4-105 is amended to read:

2333 **20A-4-105. (Effective 01/01/27)Standards and requirements for evaluating voter's ballot choice.**

2172 (1)

(a) An election officer shall ensure that when a question arises regarding a vote recorded on a manual ballot, two counting judges jointly adjudicate the ballot, except as otherwise provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, in accordance with the requirements of this section.

2176 (b) If the counting judges disagree on the disposition of a vote recorded on a ballot that is adjudicated under this section, the counting judges may not count the vote.

2178 (c) An election officer shall store adjudicated ballots separately from other ballots to enable a court to review the ballots if the election is challenged in court.

2180 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (10){~~[,]~~} ~~[Subsection 20A-3a-204(7), or Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project,]{ ~~}~~}~~ if a voter marks more names than there are individuals

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

to be elected to an office, or if the counting judges cannot determine a voter's choice for an office, the counting judges may not count the voter's vote for that office.

- 2184 (3) ~~[Except as otherwise provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, the]~~ The  
counting judges shall count a defective or incomplete mark on a manual ballot if:
- 2187 (a) the defective or incomplete mark is in the proper place; and
- 2188 (b) there is no other mark or cross on the ballot indicating the voter's intent to vote other than as  
indicated by the incomplete or defective mark.
- 2190 (4) ~~[Except as otherwise provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, the]~~ The  
counting judges ~~[ ]~~ may not reject a ballot marked by the voter because of marks on the ballot other  
than those marks allowed by this section unless the extraneous marks on a ballot show an intent by  
an individual to mark the individual's ballot so that the individual's ballot can be identified.
- 2195 (5)
- (a) In counting the ballots, the counting judges shall give full consideration to the intent of the voter.
- 2197 (b) The counting judges may not invalidate a ballot because of mechanical or technical defects in voting  
or failure on the part of the voter to follow strictly the rules for balloting required by Chapter 3a,  
Voting.
- 2200 (6) The counting judges may not reject a ballot because of an error in:
- 2201 (a) stamping or writing an official endorsement; or
- 2202 (b) delivering the wrong ballots to a polling place.
- 2203 (7) The counting judges may not count a manual ballot that does not have the official endorsement by  
an election officer.
- 2205 (8) The counting judges may not count a ballot proposition vote or candidate vote for which the voter is  
not legally entitled to vote, as defined in Section 20A-4-107.
- 2207 (9) If the counting judges discover that the name of a candidate is misspelled on a ballot, or that  
the initial letters of a candidate's given name are transposed or omitted in whole or in part on a  
ballot, the counting judges shall count a voter's vote for the candidate if it is apparent that the voter  
intended to vote for the candidate.
- 2211 (10) The counting judges shall count a vote for the president and the vice president of any political  
party as a vote for the presidential electors selected by the political party.
- 2213 (11) ~~[Except as otherwise provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, in]~~ In  
counting the valid write-in votes, if, by casting a valid write-in vote, a voter has cast more votes for

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

an office than that voter is entitled to vote for that office, the counting judges shall count the valid write-in vote as being the obvious intent of the voter.

2381 Section 24. Section **20A-4-304** is amended to read:

2382 **20A-4-304. (Effective 01/01/27)Declaration of results -- Canvassers' report.**

2220 (1)

(a) ~~Except as provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, a~~ A board of canvassers shall declare "elected" or "nominated" those persons who:

2222 (i) had the highest number of votes; and

2223 (ii) sought election or nomination to an office completely within the board's jurisdiction.

2225 (b) ~~Except as provided in Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, a~~ A board of canvassers shall declare a "tie vote" if:

2227 (i) two or more candidates for an office receive an equal and the highest number of votes for that office;  
or

2229 (ii) in a race for an at-large office:

2230 (A) two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes; and

2231 (B) a recount is necessary to determine which candidates are elected to the at-large office.

2233 (c) A board of canvassers shall declare:

2234 (i) "approved" those ballot propositions that:

2235 (A) had more "yes" votes than "no" votes; and

2236 (B) were submitted only to the voters within the board's jurisdiction; or

2237 (ii) "rejected" those ballot propositions that:

2238 (A) had more "no" votes than "yes" votes or an equal number of "no" votes and "yes" votes; and

2240 (B) were submitted only to the voters within the board's jurisdiction.

2241 (d) A board of canvassers shall:

2242 (i) certify the vote totals for candidates and for and against ballot propositions that were submitted to voters within and beyond the board's jurisdiction and transmit those vote totals to the lieutenant governor; and

2245 (ii) if applicable, certify the results of each special district election to the special district clerk.

2247 (2) The election officer shall submit a report to the board of canvassers that includes the following information:

2249 (a) a statement of votes cast, disclosing:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2250 (i) the total number of votes cast in the board's jurisdiction; and
- 2251 (ii) for each office that appeared on the ballot:
- 2252 (A) the name of each candidate whose name appeared on the ballot; and
- 2253 (B) whether the candidate is an unaffiliated candidate, a valid write-in candidate, or, if the candidate is affiliated with or the nominee of a registered political party, the name of the registered political party;
- 2256 (b) the title of each ballot proposition that appeared on the ballot;
- 2257 (c) the total number of votes given in the board's jurisdiction to each candidate, and for and against each ballot proposition;
- 2259 (d) from each voting precinct:
- 2260 (i) the number of votes for each candidate;
- 2261 ~~{(ii)}~~ and
- 2242 ~~[(ii) for each race conducted by instant runoff voting under Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, the number of valid votes cast for each candidate for each potential ballot-counting phase and the name of the candidate excluded in each ballot-counting phase; and]~~
- 2265 ~~[(iii)]~~ (ii) the number of votes for and against each ballot proposition;
- 2266 (e) standardized statistics, on a form provided by the lieutenant governor, disclosing, at a minimum:
- 2268 (i) the number of active voters in the board's jurisdiction as of the Friday before election day;
- 2270 (ii) the number of ballots counted by the election officer that were cast by voters who registered to vote on election day under Section 20A-2-207;
- 2272 (iii) the total number of ballots counted by the election officer;
- 2273 (iv) the quotient of the number described in Subsection (2)(e)(iii) divided by the sum of the numbers described in Subsections (2)(e)(i) and (ii);
- 2275 (v) of the number described in Subsection (2)(e)(iii):
- 2276 (A) the number of provisional ballots cast at a polling place; and
- 2277 (B) the number of ballots cast using a voting method described in Section 20A-3a-201;
- 2279 (vi) a reconciliation of the number of ballots the election officer counted and the number of voters given credit for voting in the election;
- 2281 (vii) if there is a difference between the numbers described in Subsection (2)(e)(vi), an explanation for the difference;
- 2283 (viii) the number of provisional ballots that could not legally be counted; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2284 (ix) each of the following:
- 2285 (A) the number of ballots, other than provisional ballots, that were rejected because the ballots could not legally be cured;
- 2287 (B) the number of ballots, other than provisional ballots, that were rejected, could have been cured by the voter, but were not cured;
- 2289 (C) the number of uncounted ballots received after the deadline described in Subsection [~~20A-3a-204(3)~~] 20A-3a-204(5); and
- 2291 (D) the percentage of ballots that were returned as undeliverable;
- 2292 (f) subject to Subsection (3), a cast vote record report that contains only the following information from the election results database:
- 2294 (i) for the jurisdiction administering the election:
- 2295 (A) the title of each ballot proposition appearing on the ballots;
- 2296 (B) a description of each race for federal office, statewide office, state legislative office, state school board office, county office, local school board office, or municipal office appearing on the ballots; and
- 2299 (C) the name of each candidate for an office described in Subsection (2)(f)(i)(B);
- 2300 (ii) the numeric identifier described in Subsection 20A-5-802.5(2)(b);
- 2301 (iii) the vote cast by a voter for:
- 2302 (A) a candidate for an office described in Subsection (2)(f)(i)(B);
- 2303 (B) a valid write-in candidate; and
- 2304 (C) each ballot proposition;
- 2305 (iv) if a voter's vote was not counted, an indication that the vote was not counted because:
- 2307 (A) the voter cast a vote for more than one candidate for a single office; or
- 2308 (B) the voter made more than one selection for a single ballot proposition;
- 2309 (v) if a voter was eligible to cast a vote, but did not cast a vote, an indication that the voter did not cast a vote; and
- 2311 (vi) if a ballot proposition or an office described in Subsection (2)(f)(i)(B) did not appear on the voter's ballot:
- 2313 (A) an indication that the voter was ineligible to cast a vote for the ballot proposition or office; or
- 2315 (B) a blank field or space in the portion of the report representing the ballot proposition or office;
- 2317 (g) other information required by law to be provided to the board of canvassers; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2318 (h) a statement certifying that the information contained in the report is accurate.
- 2319 (3) The cast vote record report described in Subsection (2)(f) may not include:
- 2320 (a) any special district office or special district ballot proposition appearing on a ballot in the  
jurisdiction administering the election;
- 2322 (b) the vote cast by a voter for a special district office or special district ballot proposition;
- 2324 (c) the voter precinct number associated with a ballot; or
- 2325 (d) information that directly identifies the voter who cast the ballot.
- 2326 (4) For an election in which the election officer does not use automatic tabulating equipment, the  
election officer shall:
- 2328 (a) review the votes cast on each ballot that is counted;
- 2329 (b) manually compile the information described in Subsection (2)(f) in a file format described in  
Subsection (8)(c);
- 2331 (c) ensure that the file does not contain the information described in Subsection (3); and
- 2332 (d) include a copy of the file in the board of canvassers' report.
- 2333 (5) The election officer and the board of canvassers shall:
- 2334 (a) review the report to ensure that the report is correct; and
- 2335 (b) sign the report.
- 2336 (6) The election officer shall:
- 2337 (a) record or file the certified report in a book kept for that purpose;
- 2338 (b) prepare and transmit a certificate of nomination or election under the officer's seal to each  
nominated or elected candidate;
- 2340 (c) publish a copy of the certified report in accordance with Subsection (7); and
- 2341 (d) file a copy of the certified report with the lieutenant governor.
- 2342 (7) Subject to Subsection (8), an election officer shall, no later than three business days after the day on  
which the board of canvassers declares the election results, publish a notice of the certified report  
described in Subsection (2) as a class A notice under Section 63G-30-102.
- 2346 (8) The class A notice described in Subsection (7) shall:
- 2347 (a) include the following statement: "The Board of Canvassers for [indicate name of jurisdiction] has  
prepared a report of the election results for the [indicate type and date of election].";
- 2350 (b) specify the following sources where an individual may view or obtain a copy of the entire certified  
report:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2352 (i) the Utah Public Notice Website;
- 2353 (ii) if the election officer is required to publish the notice on the board's jurisdiction's website under Subsection 63G-30-102(1)(b), the jurisdiction's website;
- 2355 (iii) the physical address for the board's jurisdiction; and
- 2356 (iv) a mailing address and telephone number; and
- 2357 (c) ~~subject to Subsection (9),~~ for the website posting described in Subsections 63G-30-102(1)(a) and (b), include a copy of the certified report in the following file formats:
- 2360 (i) except for the cast vote record report described in Subsection (2)(f), a PDF or similar file; and
- 2362 (ii) for the cast vote record report described in Subsection (2)(f), one or more spreadsheets, Comma Separated Values files, or another common type of delimited or fixed-width files.
- 2365 ~~(9) An election officer may post the information required to be included in the cast vote record report described in Subsection (2)(f) as a text-based file that represents structured information through key value pairs and ordered collections of data in lieu of including that information in a file described in Subsection (8)(c)(ii) if:~~
- 2369 ~~(a) the race for elective office was conducted using instant runoff voting under Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project; and~~
- 2371 ~~(b) the tabulating equipment does not produce a file described in Subsection (8)(c)(ii) that accurately records all the preferences cast by a voter on the voter's ballot.~~
- 2373 ~~(10)~~ (9) An election officer shall publish the class A notice described in Subsection (7) for the following time periods:
- 2375 (a) in relation to posting the notice on the Utah Public Notice Website under Subsection 63G-30-102(1)(a), indefinitely;
- 2377 (b) in relation to posting the notice on the election officer's jurisdiction's website under Subsection 63G-30-102(1)(b), for at least 180 calendar days after the day of the deadline described in Subsection (7); and
- 2380 (c) in relation to posting the notice in a physical location under Subsection 63G-30-102(1)(c), for at least seven calendar days after the day of the deadline described in Subsection (7).
- 2383 ~~(11)~~ (10) An election officer:
- 2384 (a) shall ensure that an individual may obtain a copy of the certified report in a file format described in~~:~~
- 2386 ~~(11)~~ Subsection (8)(c); and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2387 ~~[(ii) if applicable, Subsection (9); and]~~  
2388 (b) may make the certified report available in any computer-readable format that the election officer determines is helpful to members of the public.
- 2390 ~~[(12)]~~ (11) When there has been a regular general or a statewide special election for statewide officers, for officers that appear on the ballot in more than one county, or for a statewide or two or more county ballot proposition, each board of canvassers shall, immediately upon adjournment of the board, transmit to the lieutenant governor a report detailing the number of votes for each candidate and the number of votes for and against each ballot proposition.
- 2396 ~~[(13)]~~ (12) In each county election, municipal election, school election, special district election, and local special election, the election officer shall transmit the reports to the lieutenant governor within 14 calendar days after the date of the election.
- 2399 ~~[(14)]~~ (13) In a regular primary election and in a presidential primary election, the board of canvassers shall, immediately upon adjournment of the board, transmit to the lieutenant governor:
- 2402 (a) the county totals for multi-county races; and  
2403 (b) a complete tabulation showing voting totals for all primary races, precinct by precinct.
- 2568 Section 25. Section 20A-4-401 is amended to read:  
2569 **20A-4-401. Recounts -- Procedure.**
- 2570 ~~[(1) This section does not apply to a race conducted by instant runoff voting under Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project.]~~
- 2572 ~~[(2)]~~ (1) The election officer shall conduct a recount of votes cast in a race if:  
2573 (a) two or more candidates for an office receive an equal and the highest number of votes for that office; or  
2575 (b) in a race for an at-large office, two or more candidates receive an equal number of votes and at least one of the candidates must be eliminated to determine which candidates are elected.
- 2578 ~~[(3)]~~ (2)  
(a) Except as provided in Subsection ~~[(2) or (3)(b)]~~ (1) or (2)(b), for a race between candidates, if the difference between the number of votes cast for a winning candidate in the race and a losing candidate in the race is equal to or less than .25% of the total number of votes cast for all candidates in the race, the losing candidate may file a request for a recount in accordance with Subsection ~~[(4)]~~ (3).
- 2583

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(b) Except as provided in Subsection ~~[(2)]~~ (1), for a race between candidates where the total of all votes cast in the race is 400 or less, if the difference between the number of votes cast for a winning candidate in the race and a losing candidate in the race is one vote, the losing candidate may file a request for a recount in accordance with Subsection ~~[(4)]~~ (3).

2588 ~~[(4)]~~ (3) A losing candidate who files a request for a recount under Subsection ~~[(3)(a) or (b)]~~ (2)(a) or (b) shall file the request:

2590 (a) for a municipal primary election, with the municipal clerk, no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day that is at least three calendar days after the day on which the canvass is completed; or

2593 (b) for all other elections, no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day that is at least three calendar days after the day on which the canvass is completed, with:

2595 (i) the municipal clerk, if the election is a municipal general election;

2596 (ii) the special district clerk, if the election is a special district election;

2597 (iii) the county clerk, for a race voted on entirely within a single county; or

2598 (iv) the lieutenant governor, for a statewide race or multi-county race.

2599 ~~[(5)]~~ (4)

(a) The election officer shall conduct the recount:

2600 (i) for a race described in Subsection ~~[(2)]~~ (1), no later than 10 calendar days after the day on which the board of canvassers certifies the vote totals; or

2602 (ii) for a race described in Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ (2), no later than seven calendar days after the day on which the losing candidate requests the recount.

2604 (b) In conducting the recount, the election officer shall:

2605 (i) supervise the recount;

2606 (ii) recount all ballots cast in the race;

2607 (iii) reexamine all uncounted ballots to ensure compliance with Chapter 3a, Part 4, Disposition of Ballots; and

2609 (iv)

(A) for a race between candidates for a single office, declare elected the candidate who receives the highest number of votes on the recount;

2611 (B) for a race for an at-large office, declare elected the candidate who receives the highest number of votes on the recount, until all offices are filled by the candidates who received the highest number of votes;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2614 (C) for a race described in Subsection [~~(5)(b)(iv)(A)~~] (4)(b)(iv)(A) in which two or more candidates  
receive an equal and the highest number of votes, declare a tie vote; or
- 2617 (D) for a race described in Subsection [~~(5)(b)(iv)(B)~~] (4)(b)(iv)(B) in which two or more candidates  
receive an equal number of votes, declare a tie vote if the selection of the winning candidate by lot  
under Section 20A-1-304 is necessary to determine which candidate is elected to the at-large office.
- 2621 [~~(6)~~] (5) The cost of a recount under Subsection [~~(5)~~] (4) shall be paid by:
- 2622 (a) for a statewide race or multi-county race, the state; or
- 2623 (b) for all other races:
- 2624 (i) the political subdivision that conducts the election; or
- 2625 (ii) the political subdivision that enters into a contract or interlocal agreement under Title 11, Chapter  
13, Interlocal Cooperation Act, with a provider election officer to conduct the election.
- 2628 [~~(7)~~] (6)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection [~~(7)(b)~~] (6)(b), for a ballot proposition or a bond proposition, if  
the proposition passes or fails by a margin that is equal to or less than .25% of the total votes cast  
for or against the proposition, any 10 voters who voted in the election where the proposition was on  
the ballot may file a request for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day that is at least  
seven calendar days after the day of the canvass with the person described in Subsection [~~(8)~~] (7).
- 2634 (b) For a ballot proposition or a bond proposition where the total of all votes cast for or against the  
proposition is 400 or less, if the difference between the number of votes cast for the proposition and  
the number of votes cast against the proposition is one vote, any 10 voters who voted in the election  
where the proposition was on the ballot may file a request for a recount no later than 5 p.m. on the  
first business day that is at least seven calendar days after the day of the canvass with the person  
described in Subsection [~~(8)~~] (7).
- 2641 [~~(8)~~] (7) The 10 voters who file a request for a recount under Subsection [~~(7)(a) or (b)~~] (6)(a) or (b)  
shall file the request with:
- 2643 (a) the municipal clerk, if the election is a municipal election;
- 2644 (b) the special district clerk, if the election is a special district election;
- 2645 (c) the county clerk, for a proposition voted on entirely within a single county; or
- 2646 (d) the lieutenant governor, for a statewide proposition or multi-county proposition.
- 2647 [~~(9)~~] (8)
- (a) In conducting the recount, the election officer shall:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2648 (i) supervise the recount;
- 2649 (ii) recount all ballots cast for the ballot proposition or bond proposition;
- 2650 (iii) reexamine all uncounted ballots to ensure compliance with Chapter 3a, Part 4, Disposition of  
Ballots; and
- 2652 (iv) declare the ballot proposition or bond proposition to have "passed" or "failed" based upon the  
results of the recount.
- 2654 (b) Proponents and opponents of the ballot proposition or bond proposition may designate  
representatives to witness the recount.
- 2656 ~~[(10)]~~ (9) The voters requesting a recount under Subsection ~~[(7)(a) or (b)]~~ (6)(a) or (b) shall pay the  
costs of the recount.
- 2658 ~~[(11)]~~ (10)
- (a) Upon completing a recount described in Subsection ~~[(5) or (9)]~~ (4) or (8), the election officer shall  
immediately convene the board of canvassers.
- 2660 (b) The board of canvassers shall:
- 2661 (i) canvass the election returns for the race or proposition that was the subject of the recount; and
- 2663 (ii) with the assistance of the election officer, prepare and sign the report required by Section  
20A-4-304 or 20A-4-306.
- 2665 (c) If the recount is for a statewide race, multi-county race, or a statewide proposition, the board of  
county canvassers shall prepare and transmit a separate report to the lieutenant governor as required  
by Subsection ~~[20A-4-304(12)]~~ 20A-4-304(11).
- 2668 (d) The canvassers' report prepared as provided in this Subsection ~~[(11)]~~ (10) is the official result of the  
race or proposition that is the subject of the recount.
- 2670 Section 26. Section **20A-5-102** is amended to read:
- 2671 **20A-5-102. (Effective 01/01/27) Voting instructions.**
- 2407 (1) Each election officer shall:
- 2408 (a) print instructions for voters;
- 2409 (b) ensure that the instructions are printed in English, and any other language required under the Voting  
Rights Act of 1965, as amended, in large clear type; and
- 2411 (c) ensure that the instructions inform voters:
- 2412 (i) about how to obtain, and how to return, ballots for voting;
- 2413

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (ii) about special political party affiliation requirements for voting in a regular primary election or presidential primary election;
- 2415 (iii) about how to prepare ballots cast at a {~~standard~~} polling place for deposit in the ballot box;
- 2417 (iv) about how to prepare a [mailed] remote ballot for return;
- 2418 (v) about how to record write-in votes;
- 2419 (vi) about how to obtain a new ballot in the place of one spoiled by accident or mistake;
- 2421 (vii) about how to obtain assistance in marking ballots;
- 2422 (viii) about obtaining a new ballot if the voter's ballot is defaced;
- 2423 (ix) that identification marks or the spoiling or defacing of a ballot will make it invalid;
- 2425 (x) about how to obtain and vote a provisional ballot;
- 2426 (xi) about whom to contact to report election fraud;
- 2427 (xii) about applicable federal and state laws regarding:
- 2428 (A) voting rights and the appropriate official to contact if the voter alleges that the voter's rights have been violated; and
- 2430 (B) prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation;
- 2431 (xiii) about procedures governing mail-in registrants and first-time voters; and
- 2432 (xiv) about the date of the election and the hours that the polls are open on election day.
- 2434 (2) Each election officer shall:
- 2435 (a) provide the election judges of each voting precinct with sufficient instruction cards to instruct voters in the preparation of the voters' ballots; and
- 2437 (b) direct the election judges to post:
- 2438 (i) general voting instructions in each voting booth;
- 2439 (ii) at least three instruction cards at other locations in [the] a {~~standard~~} polling place; and
- 2441 (iii) at least one sample ballot at [the] a {~~standard~~} polling place.
- 2442 {Section 24. ~~Section 20A-5-301 is amended to read: }~~
- 2443 **20A-5-301. Combined voting precincts -- Municipalities.**
- 2444 (1)
- (a) The municipal legislative body of a city of the first or second class may combine up to four regular county voting precincts into one municipal voting precinct for purposes of a municipal election if they designate the location and address of each of those combined voting precincts.

2448

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(b) The standard polling place shall be within the combined voting precinct or within 1/2 mile of the boundaries of the voting precinct.

2450 (2)

(a) The municipal legislative body of a city of the third, fourth, or fifth class or a town may combine two or more regular county voting precincts into one municipal voting precinct for purposes of an election if it designates the location and address of that combined voting precinct.

2454 (b) If only two precincts are combined, the standard polling place shall be within the combined precinct or within 1/2 mile of the boundaries of the combined voting precinct.

2457 (c) If more than two precincts are combined, the standard polling place should be as near as practical to the middle of the combined precinct.

2459 ~~{Section 25. Section 20A-5-303 is amended to read: }~~

2460 **20A-5-303. Establishing, dividing, abolishing, and changing voting precincts -- Common polling places -- Combined voting precincts.**

2462 (1) After receiving recommendations from the county clerk, the county legislative body may establish, divide, abolish, or change the boundaries of a voting precinct.

2464 (2)

(a) Subject to Subsection (2)(b), a county legislative body may establish a voting precinct that consists of two or more noncontiguous geographic areas if:

2466 (i) each noncontiguous area is located entirely within the same municipality; or

2467 (ii) the noncontiguous areas are located within a municipality and immediately adjacent to a municipality.

2469 (b) A voting precinct described in Subsection (2)(a) must consist of the same elective offices.

2471 (3) Within 30 calendar days after the establishment, division, abolition, or change of a voting precinct under this section, the county legislative body shall file with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center, created under Section 63A-16-505, a notice describing the action taken and specifying the resulting boundaries of each voting precinct affected by the action.

2476 (4)

(a) The county legislative body shall alter or divide voting precincts so that each voting precinct contains not more than 1,250 active voters at the time of the redistricting described in Subsection (5).

2479 (b) The county legislative body may identify a voting precinct that:

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2480 (i) is too large to facilitate the election process; and
- 2481 (ii) except as provided by Subsection (5), divide the precinct on or before January 1 of a general election year.
- 2483 (5) A county legislative body shall divide a precinct identified under Subsection (4)(b)(i) on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.
- 2487 (6) Notwithstanding Subsection (4)(a), and except as provided by Subsection (7), the county legislative body may not:
- 2489 (a) establish or abolish a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular general election year;
- 2491 (b) alter or change the boundaries of a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular general election year; or
- 2493 (c) establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting precinct between January 1 of a year immediately preceding the year in which an enumeration is required by the United States Constitution, and the day on which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.
- 2497 (7) A county legislative body may establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting precinct on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.
- 2501 (8)
- (a) For the purpose of voting in an election, the county legislative body may establish a common standard polling place for two or more whole voting precincts.
- 2503 (b) At least 90 calendar days before the date of the election, the county legislative body shall designate:
- 2505 (i) each voting precinct that will vote at the common standard polling place; and
- 2506 (ii) the location of the common standard polling place.
- 2507 (c) A county may use one set of election judges for the common polling place under this Subsection (8).
- 2509 (9) Each voting precinct established under this section shall have a name that is distinguishable from the name of any other voting precinct in the state.
- 2511 (10) Each county shall have at least two standard polling places open for voting on the date of the election.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

2513 (11) Each common standard polling place shall have at least one voting device that is accessible for  
individuals with disabilities in accordance with Public Law 107-252, the Help America Vote Act of  
2002.

2516 ~~{Section 26. Section 20A-5-403 is amended to read: }~~

### 2517 **20A-5-403. Polling places -- Booths -- Ballot boxes -- Inspections -- Arrangements.**

2519 (1) An election officer shall:

2520 (a) designate polling places for each voting precinct in the jurisdiction; and

2521 (b) obtain the approval of the county or municipal legislative body or special district governing board  
for those polling places.

2523 (2)

(a) For each standard polling place, the election officer shall provide:

2524 (i) an American flag;

2525 (ii) a sufficient number of voting booths or compartments;

2526 (iii) the voting devices, voting booths, ballots, ballot boxes, and any other records and supplies  
necessary to enable a voter to vote;

2528 (iv) the constitutional amendment cards required by Part 1, Election Notices and Instructions;

2530 (v) the instructions required by Section 20A-5-102; and

2531 (vi) a sign, to be prominently displayed in the polling place, indicating that valid voter identification  
is required for every voter before the voter may vote and listing the forms of identification that  
constitute valid voter identification.

2534 (b) Each election officer shall ensure that:

2535 (i) each voting booth is at a convenient height for writing, and is arranged so that the voter can prepare  
the voter's ballot screened from observation;

2537 (ii) there are a sufficient number of voting booths or voting devices to accommodate the voters at that  
polling place; and

2539 (iii) there is at least one voting booth or voting device that is configured to accommodate persons with  
disabilities.

2541 (c) Each county clerk shall provide a ballot box for each polling place that is large enough to properly  
receive and hold the ballots to be cast.

2543 (3)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (a) All polling places shall be physically inspected by each county clerk to ensure access by a person with a disability.
- 2545 (b) Any issues concerning inaccessibility to polling places by a person with a disability discovered during the inspections referred to in Subsection (3)(a) or reported to the county clerk shall be:
- 2548 (i) forwarded to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; and
- 2549 (ii) within six months of the time of the complaint, the issue of inaccessibility shall be either:
- 2551 (A) remedied at the particular location by the county clerk;
- 2552 (B) the county clerk shall designate an alternative accessible location for the particular precinct; or
- 2554 (C) if no practical solution can be identified, file with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor a written explanation identifying the reasons compliance cannot reasonably be met.
- 2557 (4)
- (a) The municipality in which the election is held shall pay the cost of conducting each municipal election, including the cost of printing and supplies.
- 2559 (b)
- (i) Costs assessed by a county clerk to a municipality under this section may not exceed the actual costs incurred by the county clerk.
- 2561 (ii) The actual costs shall include:
- 2562 (A) costs of or rental fees associated with the use of election equipment and supplies; and
- 2564 (B) reasonable and necessary administrative costs.
- 2565 (5) The county clerk shall make detailed entries of all proceedings had under this chapter.
- 2566 (6)
- (a) Each county clerk shall, to the extent possible, ensure that the amount of time that an individual waits in line before the individual can vote at a standard polling place in the county, or return a mailed ballot to a polling place in the county, does not exceed 30 minutes.
- 2570 (b) The lieutenant governor may require a county clerk to submit a line management plan before the next election if an individual waits in line at a standard polling place in the county, or return a mailed ballot to a polling place in the county, longer than 30 minutes before the individual can vote.
- 2574 (c) The lieutenant governor may consider extenuating circumstances in deciding whether to require the county clerk to submit a plan described in Subsection (6)(b).
- 2576 (d) The lieutenant governor shall review each plan submitted under Subsection (6)(b) and consult with the county clerk submitting the plan to ensure, to the extent possible, that the amount of time an

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

individual waits in line before the individual can vote at a standard polling place in the county, or return a mailed ballot to a polling place in the county, does not exceed 30 minutes.

2705 Section 27. Section **20A-5-403.5** is amended to read:

2706 **20A-5-403.5. (Effective 01/01/27)Ballot drop boxes -- Number, location, hours, and method of operation -- Notice.**

2583 [~~(1) An election officer;~~]

2584 [~~(a) shall designate at least one ballot drop box in each municipality and reservation located in the jurisdiction to which the election relates;~~]

2586 [~~(b) may designate additional ballot drop boxes for the election officer's jurisdiction;~~]

2587 [~~(c) shall clearly mark each ballot drop box as an official ballot drop box for the election officer's jurisdiction;~~]

2589 [~~(d) shall provide 24-hour recorded video surveillance, without audio, of each unattended ballot drop box;~~]

2591 [~~(e) shall post a sign on or near each unattended ballot drop box indicating that the ballot drop box is under 24-hour video surveillance; and]~~]

2593 [~~(f) shall ensure that a camera, a video, or a recording of a video described in Subsection (1)(d) may only be accessed by:~~]

2595 [~~(i) the election officer;~~]

2596 [~~(ii) a custodian of the camera, video, or recording;~~]

2597 [~~(iii) the lieutenant governor;~~]

2598 [~~(iv) the legislative auditor general, when performing an audit;~~]

2599 [~~(v) a court of competent jurisdiction, by or pursuant to an order of the court;~~]

2600 [~~(vi) a registered voter who claims to have cast a ballot at an unattended ballot drop box, if the election officer informs the voter that the election officer never received the voter's ballot; or]~~]

2603 [~~(vii) subject to Subsection (2)(b), and except as provided in Subsection (2)(c):]~~]

2604 [~~(A) a candidate for an office that appears on a ballot, or an individual representing the candidate's campaign;~~]

2606 [~~(B) for a federal, statewide, or multicounty race, the chair of the state political party whose member is a candidate described in Subsection (1)(f)(vii)(A);]~~]

2608 [~~(C) for a race where the officeholder is selected by voters entirely within one county, the chair of the county political party whose member is a candidate described in Subsection (1)(f)(vii)(A); or]~~]

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2611 [~~(D) the designee of a political party chair described in Subsection (1)(f)(vii)(B) or (C).]~~  
2613 [~~(2)~~  
(a) ~~An individual may not view a video, or a recording of a video, described in Subsection (1)(d), unless  
the individual:]~~  
2615 [(i) ~~is an individual described in Subsection (1)(f); and]~~  
2616 [(ii) ~~views the video to the extent necessary to:]~~  
2617 [(A) ~~ensure compliance with Subsection (1)(d), (1)(f), or (3); or]~~  
2618 [(B) ~~investigate a concern relating to ballots or the ballot box.]~~  
2619 [(b) ~~If an individual described in Subsection (1)(f)(vii) seeks to view a video recording described in  
Subsection (1)(d), the election officer may require the individual to view the video recording at the  
election officer's office during regular business hours.]~~  
2622 [(e) ~~An individual described in Subsection (1)(f)(vii) may not view a video recording described in  
Subsection (1)(d) after the time period for contesting the election to which the video recording  
relates ends.]~~  
2625 [(3) ~~The election officer, or the custodian of the recording:]~~  
2626 [(a) ~~shall keep a recording described in Subsection (1)(d) until at least the later of:]~~  
2627 [(i) ~~the last day of the calendar year in which the election was held; or]~~  
2628 [(ii) ~~if the election is contested, when the contest is resolved; and]~~  
2629 [(b) ~~may keep the video recording described in Subsection (1)(d) indefinitely.]~~  
2755 (1) For a regular election, an election officer shall, in each county:  
2756 (a) during the days and times described in Subsection (3)(a):  
2757 (i) if less than 30,000 active registered voters reside in the county, operate within the county at least one  
ballot drop box; or  
2759 (ii) if at least 30,000 active registered voters reside in the county, operate within the county at least two  
ballot drop boxes, plus one additional ballot drop box for each 30,000 active registered voters above  
30,000 active registered voters who reside in the county;  
2763 (b) during the days and times described in Subsection (3)(b):  
2764 (i) if less than 10,000 active registered voters reside in the county, operate within the county at least one  
ballot drop box; or  
2766

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2770 (ii) if at least 10,000 active registered voters reside in the county, operate within the county at least two ballot drop boxes, plus one additional ballot drop box for each 10,000 active registered voters above 10,000 active registered voters who reside in the county;
- 2770 (c) during the days and times described in Subsections (3)(a) and (b), in addition to the ballot drop boxes required under Subsections (1)(a) and (b), operate at least one ballot drop box in each reservation that is, in whole or in part, within the county; and
- 2773 (d) if two or more ballot drop boxes are operating in a county, disburse the ballot drop boxes in different locations throughout the county.
- 2775 (2) For a municipal election, an election officer shall, in each municipality:
- 2776 (a) during the days and times described in Subsection (3)(a):
- 2777 (i) if less than 30,000 active registered voters reside in the municipality, operate within the municipality at least one ballot drop box; or
- 2779 (ii) if at least 30,000 active registered voters reside in the municipality, operate within the municipality at least two ballot drop boxes, plus one additional ballot drop box for each 30,000 active registered voters above 30,000 active registered voters who reside in the municipality;
- 2783 (b) during the days and times described in Subsection (3)(b):
- 2784 (i) if less than 10,000 active registered voters reside in the municipality, operate within the municipality at least one ballot drop box; or
- 2786 (ii) if at least 10,000 active registered voters reside in the municipality, operate within the municipality at least two ballot drop boxes, plus one additional ballot drop box for each 10,000 active registered voters above 10,000 active registered voters who reside in the municipality; and
- 2790 (c) if two or more ballot drop boxes are operating in a municipality, disburse the ballot drop boxes in different locations throughout the municipality.
- 2630 (1){(3)} An election officer shall:
- 2631 {(a) {in each municipality in the jurisdiction to which the election relates:} }
- 2632 {(i) {if the municipality contains less than 10,000 active registered voters, designate within the municipality at least one ballot drop box; or} }
- 2634 {(ii) {if the municipality contains at least 10,000 active registered voters:} }
- 2635 {(A) {designate within the municipality at least two ballot drop boxes, plus one additional ballot drop box for each 10,000 active registered voters above 10,000 active registered voters in the municipality; and} }

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2638 (B){(a)} ~~{disburse the}~~ operate all ballot drop boxes ~~{in different locations throughout the municipality;}~~ described in Subsection (1)(a), (1)(c), or (2)(a) during at least the following hours, on at least the following days:
- 2640 (b){(i)} ~~{in each reservation in}~~ on the Monday that is eight calendar days before the ~~{jurisdiction to which}~~ day of the election ~~{relates}~~ , ~~{designate within the reservation}~~ beginning at ~~{least one ballot drop box;}~~ noon and ending at 8 p.m.;
- 2797 (ii) on the Tuesday that is seven calendar days before the day of the election, beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m.;
- 2799 (iii) on the Wednesday before the day of the election, beginning at noon and ending at 8 p.m.;
- 2801 (iv) on the Thursday before the day of the election, beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m.;
- 2803 (v) on the Friday before the day of the election, beginning at noon and ending at 8 p.m.; and
- 2805 (vi) on the Saturday before the day of the election, beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m.;
- 2807 (b) operate all ballot drop boxes described in Subsection (1)(b), (1)(c), or (2)(b) on the day before the day of the election and on the day of the election, beginning at 7 a.m. and ending at 8 p.m.;
- 2642 (c) ~~{designate additional}~~ operate ballot drop boxes, in addition to the ballot drop boxes required under Subsection (1) or (2), as needed{-} to avoid long lines at a ballot drop box or ~~{other}~~ at a polling ~~{locations}~~ place;
- 2644 (d) clearly mark ~~{each}~~ a ballot drop box as an official ballot drop box for the election officer's jurisdiction;
- 2646 (e) secure ~~{a}~~ the ballot drop box in a manner that a ballot cannot be placed in the ballot drop box while the ballot drop box is unattended;
- 2648 (f) operate ~~{each}~~ the ballot drop box, in accordance with Section 20A-3a-203.5, with at least two poll workers present{:} at all times;
- 2650 ~~{(i) {from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on each of the five business days before the day of the election; and} }~~
- 2652 ~~{(ii) {on the day of the election, from 8 a.m. until each voter described in Subsection (10)(c) is given the opportunity to deliver the return envelope to a poll worker for placement in the ballot drop box, after the voter complies with Section 20A-3a-203.5 and Subsection 20A-3a-204(1); and} }~~
- 2656 (g) ensure that, before poll workers leave ~~{a}~~ the ballot drop box for the day, the poll workers:
- 2657 (i) remove all ballots from the ballot drop box for delivery to the election officer;
- 2658 (ii) ~~{ensure}~~ verify that the ballot drop box is empty; and
- 2659

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (iii) secure the ballot drop box in a manner that a ballot cannot be placed in the ballot drop box until the ballot drop box again opens for operation~~{-}; and~~
- 2661 (2){(h)} {Each day described in Subsection (1)(f) ensure that each day, before the ballot drop box opens for operation, the poll workers {shall} :
- 2662 (a){(i)} {before 8 a.m.} inspect the ballot drop box to {ensure} verify that the ballot drop box is empty;and
- 2663 (b){(ii)} if any ballots or other items are discovered in the ballot drop box, empty the ballot drop box and secure any ballots found in the ballot drop box in a separate container for delivery to the election officer~~{-};~~.
- 2666 ~~{(c) {ensure that at least two poll workers are present at the ballot drop box at all times described in Subsections (1)(f)(i) and (ii); and}}~~
- 2668 ~~{(d) {before leaving the ballot drop box for the day;}}~~
- 2669 ~~{(i) {remove all ballots from the ballot drop box for processing;}}~~
- 2670 ~~{(ii) {ensure that the ballot drop box is empty; and}}~~
- 2671 ~~{(iii) {secure the ballot drop box in a manner that a ballot cannot be placed in the ballot drop box until the ballot drop box again opens for operation.}}~~
- 2830 (4)
- 2673 (3){(a)} An individual may not {place} return a remote ballot {in} to a ballot drop box, unless at least two poll workers are present to accept the remote {ballots} ballot in accordance with Section 20A-3a-203.5.
- 2675 (4){(b)} Only a poll worker may deposit a {return} remote ballot {envelope} into a ballot drop box, and only after a voter submits the remote ballot, sealed in a return {ballot} envelope, to the poll worker~~{-}~~ at the ballot drop box~~{-}~~ in accordance with the requirements of Section 20A-3a-203.5.
- 2678 [(4)] (5) Except as provided in Subsection (6), Subsection (8), or Section 20A-1-308~~[or Subsection (7) (8)]~~, the , an election officer shall, at least 28 calendar days before the date of the election, provide notice of the location of each ballot drop box [designated under Subsection (1);] that the election officer will operate for the election, and the dates and hours that poll workers will be present to accept remote ballots, by publishing notice for the jurisdiction holding the election, as a class A notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least 28 calendar days before the day of the election.

2684

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

[(5)] (6) Instead of including the location and the dates and hours of operation of ballot drop boxes, a notice required under Subsection [(4)] (5) may specify the following sources where a voter may view or obtain a copy of all ballot drop box locations and the dates and hours of operation:

2688 (a) the jurisdiction's website;

2689 (b) the physical address of the jurisdiction's offices; and

2690 (c) a mailing address and telephone number.

2691 [(6)] (7) The election officer shall include in the notice described in Subsection [(4)] (5):

2692 (a) the address of the Statewide Electronic Voter Information Website and, if available, the address of the election officer's website, with a statement indicating that the election officer will post on the website the location and the dates and hours of operation of each ballot drop box, including any changes to the location of a ballot drop box and the location of additional ballot drop boxes; and

2697 (b) a phone number that a voter may call to obtain information regarding the location and the dates and hours of operation of a ballot drop box.

2699 [(7)] (8)

(a) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308, the election officer may, after the deadline described in Subsection [(4)] (5):

2701 (i) if necessary, change the location of a ballot drop box; or

2702 (ii) if the election officer determines that the number of ballot drop boxes is insufficient due to the number of registered voters who are voting, designate additional ballot drop boxes.

2705 (b) Except as provided in Section 20A-1-308, if an election officer [~~changes the location of a ballot box or designates an additional ballot drop box location~~] takes an action described in Subsection (8)(a), the election officer shall, as soon as is reasonably possible, give notice of the [~~changed ballot drop box location or the additional ballot drop box location~~] action:

2710 (i) to the lieutenant governor, for posting on the Statewide Voter Information Website;

2712 (ii) by posting the information on the website of the election officer, if available; and

2713 (iii) by posting notice:

2714 (A) for a change in the location of a ballot drop box, at the new location and, if possible, the old location; and

2716 (B) for an additional ballot drop box location, at the additional ballot drop box location.

2718 [(8)] (9) An election officer may, at any time, authorize two or more poll workers to remove a ballot drop box from a location, or to remove ballots from a ballot drop box for processing.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2721 [(9)] (10)
- (a) At least two poll workers must be present when a poll worker collects ballots from a ballot drop box and delivers the ballots to the location where the ballots will be opened and counted.
- 2724 (b) An election officer shall ensure that the chain of custody of ballots placed in a ballot box are recorded and tracked from the time the ballots are removed from the ballot box until the ballots are delivered to the location where the ballots will be opened and counted.
- 2728 (c) An election officer shall ensure that a voter who is, at {or before 8 p.m.,} **the scheduled closing time for the day**, in line at a ballot drop box that is attended by poll workers, with a sealed return envelope containing a remote ballot in the voter's possession, permitted to deliver the return envelope to a poll worker for placement in the ballot drop box after the voter complies with Section 20A-3a-203.5 {and Subsection 20A-3a-204(1)} .
- 2892 (11) In addition to the days and times required under Subsection (1) or (2), an election officer may, in accordance with the requirements described in this section for operating a ballot drop box, operate a ballot drop box:
- 2895 (a) at any time, and on any day, beginning on the Saturday that is 10 calendar days before the day of the election, through the end of the day before the day of the election; or
- 2898 (b) before 8 a.m. on the day of the election.
- 2899 Section 28. Section **20A-5-407** is amended to read:
- 2900 **20A-5-407. (Effective 01/01/27) Election officer to provide ballot boxes.**
- 2735 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (3), an election officer shall, ~~{for}~~ at a ~~{standard}~~ polling place:
- 2737 (a) provide one ballot box with a lock and key for each polling place; and
- 2738 (b) deliver the ballot boxes, locks, and keys to the polling place before the polls open.
- 2739 (2) An election officer for a municipality or special district may obtain ballot boxes from the county clerk's office.
- 2741 (3) If locks and keys are unavailable, the election officer shall ensure that the ballot box lid is secured by tape.
- 2743 ~~{Section 29. Section 20A-5-601 is amended to read: }~~
- 2744 **20A-5-601. Appointment of poll workers in elections where candidates are distinguished by registered political parties.**
- 2746 (1)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- (a) This section governs appointment of poll workers in elections where candidates are distinguished by registered political parties.
- 2748 (b) On or before March 1 of each even-numbered year, an election officer shall provide to the county chair of each registered political party a list of the number of poll workers that the party must nominate for each polling place.
- 2751 (c) On or before April 1 of each even-numbered year, the county chair and secretary of each registered political party shall file a list with the election officer containing the names of individuals in the county who are willing to serve as poll workers, who are qualified to serve as poll workers in accordance with this section, and who are competent and trustworthy.
- 2756 (d) The county chair and secretary shall submit names equal in number to the number required by the election officer, plus one.
- 2758 (2) Each election officer shall provide for the appointment of individuals to serve as poll workers at each election.
- 2760 (3)
- (a) For each election, each election officer shall provide for the appointment of at least three registered voters, or one individual who is 16 or 17 years old and two registered voters, one of whom is at least 21 years old, from the list to serve as poll workers.
- 2764 (b) An election officer may appoint additional poll workers, as needed.
- 2765 (4) For each set of three poll workers appointed for a standard polling place for an election, the election officer shall ensure that:
- 2767 (a) two poll workers are appointed from the political party that cast the highest number of votes for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, and state treasurer, excluding votes for unopposed candidates, in the jurisdiction holding the election at the last regular general election before the appointment of the poll workers; and
- 2772 (b) one poll worker is appointed from the political party that cast the second highest number of votes for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, and state treasurer, excluding votes for unopposed candidates, in the county, city, or special district, as applicable, at the last regular general election before the appointment of the poll workers.
- 2777 (5) The election officer shall provide for the appointment of any qualified county voter as a poll worker when:
- 2779 (a) a political party fails to file the poll worker list by the filing deadline; or

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2780 (b) the list is incomplete.
- 2781 (6) A registered voter of the county may serve as a poll worker at any polling place in the county, municipality, or district, as applicable.
- 2783 (7) An election officer may not appoint a candidate's parent, sibling, spouse, child, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, daughter-in-law, or son-in-law to serve as a poll worker in a polling place where the candidate appears on the ballot.
- 2787 (8) The election officer shall fill all poll worker vacancies.
- 2788 (9) If a conflict arises over the right to certify the poll worker lists for any political party, the election officer may decide between conflicting lists, but may only select names from a properly submitted list.
- 2791 (10) The clerk shall establish compensation for poll workers.
- 2792 (11) The election officer may appoint additional poll workers to serve in the polling place as needed.
- 2794 ~~{Section 30. Section 20A-5-605 is amended to read: }~~
- 2795 **20A-5-605. Duties of poll workers.**
- 2796 (1) Poll workers shall:
- 2797 (a) arrive at the polling place at a time determined by the election officer; and
- 2798 (b) remain until the official election returns are prepared for delivery.
- 2799 (2) The election officer may designate the title and duties of each poll worker.
- 2800 (3) Upon arriving to open the polls, the poll workers shall, at a standard polling place:
- 2801 (a) display the United States flag;
- 2802 (b) examine the voting devices to see that they are in proper working order and that security devices have not been tampered with;
- 2804 (c) place the voting devices, voting booths, and the ballot box in plain view of those poll workers and watchers that are present;
- 2806 (d) check the ballots, supplies, records, and forms;
- 2807 (e) if directed by the election officer:
- 2808 (i) make any necessary corrections to the official ballots before the ballots are distributed at the polls;
- 2810 (ii) post any necessary notice of errors in ballots before voting commences; and
- 2811 (iii) post a sample ballot, instructions to voters, and constitutional amendments, if any;
- 2813 (f) open the ballot box in the presence of those assembled, turn the ballot box upside down to empty the ballot box of anything; and

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 2815 (g) immediately before the polls open, lock the ballot box or, if locks and keys are not available, tape  
the ballot box securely.
- 2817 (4)
- (a) If, at a standard polling place, any poll worker fails to appear on the morning of the election, or fails  
or refuses to act:
- 2819 (i) at least six qualified electors who are present at the polling place at the hour designated by law  
for the opening of the polls shall fill the vacancy by appointing another qualified individual  
from the voting precinct who is a member of the same political party as the poll worker who is  
being replaced to act as a poll worker; or
- 2823 (ii) the election officer shall appoint a qualified individual to act as a poll worker.
- 2824 (b) If a majority of the poll workers are present, the poll workers shall open the polls, even though a  
poll worker has not arrived.
- 2826 (5)
- (a) If it is impossible or inconvenient to hold an election at the standard polling place designated, the  
poll workers, after having assembled at or as near as practicable to the designated place, and before  
receiving any vote, may move to the nearest convenient place for holding the election.
- 2830 (b) If the poll workers move to a new standard polling place, the poll workers shall display a  
proclamation of the change and station a peace officer or some other proper individual at the  
original standard polling place to notify voters of the location of the new standard polling place.
- 2834 (6) If, for any reason, the official ballots are not ready for distribution at a standard polling place or, if  
the supply of ballots is exhausted before the polls are closed, the poll workers may use unofficial  
ballots, made as nearly as possible in the form of the official ballot, until the election officer  
provides additional ballots.
- 2838 (7) When it is time to open the polls, one of the poll workers shall announce that the polls are open as  
required by Section 20A-1-302, or in the case of early voting, Section 20A-3a-602.
- 2841 (8)
- (a) The poll workers shall comply with the voting procedures and requirements of Chapter 3a, Voting,  
in allowing people to vote.
- 2843 (b) The poll workers may not allow an individual, other than election officials and those admitted to  
vote, within six feet of voting devices, voting booths, or the ballot box.
- 2845

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(c) Besides the poll workers and watchers, the poll workers may not allow more than four voters in excess of the number of voting booths provided within six feet of voting devices, voting booths, or the ballot box.

2848 (d) If necessary, the poll workers shall instruct each voter permitted to use a voting device how to operate the voting device before the voter enters the voting booth.

2850 (e)

(i) If the voter requests additional instructions after entering the voting booth, two poll workers may, if necessary, enter the booth and give the voter additional instructions.

2853 (ii) In regular general elections and regular primary elections, the two poll workers who enter the voting booth to assist the voter shall be of different political parties.

2908 Section 29. Section **20A-6-105** is amended to read:

2909 **20A-6-105. (Effective 01/01/27)Provisional ballot envelopes.**

2857 (1) Each election officer shall ensure that provisional ballot envelopes are printed in substantially the following form:

2859 (a) the envelope shall include the following statement:

2860 "AFFIRMATION

2861 Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Yes No

2862 Will you be 18 years old on or before election day? Yes No

2863 If you checked "no" in response to either of the two above questions, do not complete this form.

2865 Name of Voter \_\_\_\_\_

2866 First Middle Last

2867 Driver License or Identification Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

2868 State of Issuance of Driver License or Identification Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

2869 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

2870 Street Address of Principal Place of Residence

2871 \_\_\_\_\_

2872 City County State Zip Code

2873 Telephone Number (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

2874 Email Address (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

2875 Last four digits of Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_

2876 Last former address at which I was registered to vote (if known)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

2877

2878

\_\_\_\_\_  
City County State Zip Code

2879

Voting Precinct (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

2880

I, (please print your full name) \_\_\_\_\_ do solemnly swear or affirm:

2882

That I am eligible to vote in this election; that I have not voted in this election in any other precinct; that I am eligible to vote in this precinct; and that I request that I be permitted to vote in this precinct; and

2885

Subject to penalty of law for false statements, that the information contained in this form is true, and that I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of Utah, residing at the above address; and that I am at least 18 years old and have resided in Utah for the 30 calendar days immediately before this election.

2889

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

2891

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

2893

In accordance with Section 20A-3a-506, wilfully providing false information above is a class B misdemeanor under Utah law and is punishable by imprisonment and by fine.

2895

### PRIVACY INFORMATION

2896

Voter registration records contain some information that is available to the public, such as your name and address, some information that is available only to government entities, and some information that is available only to certain third parties in accordance with the requirements of law.

2900

Your driver license number, identification card number, social security number, email address, full date of birth, and phone number are available only to government entities. Your year of birth is available to political parties, candidates for public office, certain third parties, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, in accordance with the requirements of law.

2904

You may request that all information on your voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by indicating here:

2907

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I request that all information on my voter registration records be withheld from all persons other than government entities, political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers.

2910

### REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PRIVACY PROTECTION

2911

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

In addition to the protections provided above, you may request that identifying information on your voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form, and any required verification, as described in the following paragraphs.

2916 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form with this registration record, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is or is likely to be, or resides with a person who is or is likely to be, a victim of domestic violence or dating violence.

2922 A person may request that identifying information on the person's voter registration records be withheld from all political parties, candidates for public office, and their contractors, employees, and volunteers, by submitting a withholding request form and any required verification with this registration form, or to the lieutenant governor or a county clerk, if the person is, or resides with a person who is, a law enforcement officer, a member of the armed forces, a public figure, or protected by a protective order or a protection order.

2928 CITIZENSHIP AFFIDAVIT

2929 Name:

2930 Name at birth, if different:

2931 Place of birth:

2932 Date of birth:

2933 Date and place of naturalization (if applicable):

2934 I hereby swear and affirm, under penalties for voting fraud set forth below, that I am a citizen and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information above is true and correct.

2937

2938

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

2939

In accordance with Section 20A-2-401, the penalty for willfully causing, procuring, or allowing yourself to be registered to vote if you know you are not entitled to register to vote is up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$2,500.";

2942

(b) the following statement shall appear after the statement described in Subsection (1)(a):

2943

"BALLOT NOTIFICATIONS

2944

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

Do you consent to receive communications about the status of your ballot and other official communications, by text, at the phone number you provided above?      Yes      No      "; and

- 2947 (c) ~~[no later than November 5, 2025, ]~~after the statement described in Subsection (1)(b), the following:  
3002 "How would you like to receive your ballot and vote in upcoming elections?"  
2949 ~~["Indicate below how you want to- {f} vote in { } receive your ballot for } upcoming elections:~~  
2950 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me.]  
2951 \_\_\_\_\_ Do not mail a ballot to me. I will obtain a ballot at a polling place and vote in person.  
3006 \_\_\_\_\_ Mail a ballot to me. After receiving a ballot by mail (choose one):  
3007 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot to a polling place or a ballot drop box.  
3008 \_\_\_\_\_ I will return the ballot by mail (Warning: If you return a ballot by mail, there is a risk that the  
ballot may arrive too late to be counted)."

- 2953 (2) The provisional ballot envelope shall include:  
2954 (a) a unique number;  
2955 (b) a detachable part that includes the unique number;  
2956 (c) a telephone number, internet address, or other indicator of a means, in accordance with Section  
20A-6-105.5, where the voter can find out if the provisional ballot was counted; and  
2959 (d) an insert containing written instructions on how a voter may sign up to receive ballot status  
notifications via the ballot tracking system described in Section 20A-3a-401.5.

3018 Section 30. Section **20A-11-1002** is amended to read:

3019 **20A-11-1002. (Effective 01/01/27)Retention and public inspection of financial statements --**  
**Written complaint if statement is false or unlawful -- Redaction of certain information -- Penalties**  
**for unlawful disclosure.**

- 2965 (1) The chief election officer shall:  
2966 (a) make each financial statement required by this chapter or Chapter 12, Part 2, Judicial Retention  
Elections:  
2968 (i) open to public inspection in the office of the chief election officer; and  
2969 (ii) available for viewing on the [~~Internet~~] internet in accordance with Section 20A-11-103;  
2971 (b) preserve those statements for at least five years; and  
2972 (c) provide certified copies of the financial statements in the same manner as for other public records.  
2974 (2) Any candidate or voter may file a written complaint with the chief election officer alleging that a  
filed financial statement does not conform to law or to the truth.  
2976 (3)

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

(a) As used in this Subsection (3), "required report" means a report, a financial statement, or any other type of statement or disclosure that a person is required to make under this chapter or Chapter 12, Part 2, Judicial Retention Elections.

2979 (b) Before posting or otherwise publicly disclosing a required report, the lieutenant governor shall redact from the report the following information relating to each individual referenced in the report:

2982 (i) the phone number of the individual; and

2983 (ii) the street number and street name in the address of the individual.

2984 (c) The information required to be redacted under Subsection (3)(b) is not a record under Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access and Management Act.

2986 (d) It is unlawful to publicly disclose the information required to be redacted under Subsection (3)(b).

2988 (e) A government officer or employee who knowingly violates Subsection (3)(d) is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

3047 Section 31. Section 36-12-15.2 is amended to read:

3048 **36-12-15.2. Elections audit.**

3049 (1) As used in this section, "office" means the Office of the Legislative Auditor General.

3050 (2) In addition to other audits performed by the office, the office shall, [~~each even-numbered year,~~]in accordance with this section and under the direction of the Legislative Audit Subcommittee, conduct a comprehensive performance audit of the state's election system and controls[-] :

3054 (a) each even-numbered year; and

3055 (b) at any other time, as directed by the Legislative Audit Subcommittee.

3056 (3) The audit may include the entire election process for the elections held in an even-numbered year, including:

3058 (a) procedures and practices that occur before or after the beginning of the year to prepare for the elections; and

3060 (b) procedures, practices, and standards relating to:

3061 (i) voter registration;

3062 (ii) candidate filing and selection;

3063 (iii) the preparation, printing, distribution, handling, examining, counting, and all other handling of ballots; and

3065 (iv) the entire election process, including the regular primary election, the regular general election, and the determination of election results.

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 3067 (4) The audit extends to the functions of all persons involved in the election process, including the  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor, each county clerk's office, and each board of canvassers.
- 3070 (5) At a minimum, the office shall conduct a survey to audit the work of the Office of the Lieutenant  
Governor and each county election office.
- 3072 (6) Based on the results of the survey described in Subsection (5), the office shall conduct a more  
comprehensive audit of the jurisdictions or practices that, in the opinion of the office, present the  
highest risk.
- 3075 (7) In addition to auditing the jurisdictions and practices described in Subsection (6), the office may  
audit any other jurisdictions or entities, or any practices or procedures, that the office determines  
necessary to ensure the success of a comprehensive performance audit of the election system.
- 3079 (8) To conduct an audit described in this section, the office has the full authority described in Section  
36-12-15, including:
- 3081 (a) full access to closely observe, examine, and copy all records, documents, recordings, and other  
information the office determines to be useful in conducting an audit described in this section;
- 3084 (b) full access to closely observe, examine, and copy ballots, ballot envelopes, vote tallies, canvassing  
records, and voter registration records;
- 3086 (c) full access to closely observe and examine all facilities, storage areas, and equipment, and to closely  
observe, examine, or copy all materials, that the office determines to be useful in conducting an  
audit described in this section;
- 3089 (d) full access to all staff, including full-time, part-time, and volunteer staff;
- 3090 (e) full access to closely observe, examine, and copy all records and information relating to election  
audits that are conducted by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, a county clerk, or any other  
person;
- 3093 (f) the right to, within the scope of the audit, attend any meeting, including a closed meeting;
- 3095 (g) the right to, within the scope of the audit, closely observe and examine any work or other process;  
and
- 3097 (h) all other authority described in Section 36-12-15.
- 3098 (9) As with any audit conducted under the authority described in Section 36-12-15, all officials and staff  
shall fully assist, and cooperate with, the office in conducting an audit described in this section.
- 3101 (10) In conducting an audit described in this section, the office:
- 3102 (a) shall preserve the right of a voter to a secret ballot;

## HB0479 compared with HB0479S02

- 3103 (b) shall, when examining election returns, allow the election officer or a designee of the election  
officer to be present to ensure the chain of custody of the election returns; and
- 3106 (c) may not, while votes are being counted, communicate in any manner, directly or indirectly, by word  
or sign, the progress of the vote, the current result of the vote count, or any other information about  
the vote count.
- 3109 (11) An election officer, or an election officer's designee, who is present under Subsection (10)(b) may  
not interfere with the performance of the audit.

3111 Section 32. **Effective date.**

Effective Date.

~~{This}~~ Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect ~~{on}~~ January 1, 2027.

3113 (2) The actions affecting the following sections take effect on May 6, 2026:

3114 (a) Section 20A-2-104 (Effective 05/06/26);

3115 (b) Section 20A-2-108 (Effective 05/06/26);

3116 (c) Section 20A-2-206 (Effective 05/06/26);

3117 (d) Section 20A-2-505 (Effective 05/06/26);

3118 (e) Section 20A-3a-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26); and

3119 (f) Section 20A-3a-301 (Effective 05/06/26).

2-23-26 8:56 AM