

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Olympia, Washington

## Bill Analysis

Bill No. HB 1009

Indicating citizenship requirement for voter registration  
Brief title

Hearing Date 1/20/99

Reps. Buck and Radcliff  
Sponsor(s)

Staff Steve Lundin  
State Government Committee  
Phone 786-7127

### BACKGROUND:

Several different programs exist for persons to register to vote. Each voter registration form requires the applicant to state he or she is a citizen of the United States and a warning that it is a class C felony to provide false information.

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993 establishes various requirements for persons who vote at any election where federal offices are considered. Registration in this instance is allowed. A person must be offered the opportunity to register to vote when he or she applies for a driver's license or assistance or disability services.

### SUMMARY:

(1) All newly printed voter registration forms must clearly indicate the only United States citizen may register to vote. Similar language is best stamped or conspicuously existing voter registration forms in the possession of the Office of the Secretary of State.

(2) The state's voter registration law is altered to require the licensing agent to ask the following as a single question:

"Are you a United States citizen and do you want to register or transfer your voter registration?"

The agent must provide the applicant with voter registration forms if the applicant responds to the affirmative in his inquiry.

**FISCANOTE:** Not requested.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Ninety days after adjournment of session which bill passed.