

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6129

As of January 23, 2012

Title: An act relating to simplifying motor voter registration.

Brief Description: Simplifying motor voter registration.

Sponsors: Senators Prentice, Chase and Brown.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Government Operations, Tribal Relations & Elections: 1/24/12.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, TRIBAL RELATIONS & ELECTIONS

Staff: Sharon Swanson (786-7447)

Background: A person may register to vote or transfer a voter registration when applying for or renewing a driver license or identification card. The person must provide the driver licensing agent with information necessary to ensure correct identification and location of residence. Before issuing an original license, identification card, or license renewal, the licensing agent must determine if the applicant wants to register to vote or transfer his or her registration. If so, the agent provides the applicant with a voter registration form with instructions, and the records the applicants's request to register to vote.

Each driver's licensing facility in the state is required to send completed voter registration forms to the Secretary of State's office.

Summary of Bill: Applications for a driver license and a state identicard also serve as an application for voter registration purposes. The voter registration component of the driver license application and the application for a state identicard must contain the minimum information required necessary to place the application on the voter registration rolls.

An applicant for a driver's license or a state identicard may decline in writing to be registered to vote.

A change of address form submitted to the Department of Licensing serves as notification of change of address for voter registration purposes unless the registrant states on the form that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

The Department of Licensing, in cooperation with the Secretary of State, must develop an application form for a driver license and a state identicard that meets the requirements of the existing registration application.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Requested on January 13, 2012.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.