

## HOUSE BILL NO. 410

INTRODUCED BY WASHBURN, BALLANCE, G. BENNETT, BLASDEL, BLYTON, CONNELL, COOK,  
DOANE, FISCUS, FITZPATRICK, GALT, GLIMM, GREEF, HALVORSON, HERTZ, HOLLANDSWORTH,  
INGRAHAM, LASZLOFFY, LAVIN, D. MOORE, O'HARA, REDFIELD, SALOMON, SCHWADERER, SHAW,  
C. SMITH, VANCE, WAGONER, WHITE

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT CREATING THE MONTANA THIRD-PARTY VOTER  
REGISTRATION INTEGRITY ACT; ~~PROHIBITING PAYMENTS OR ACCEPTANCE OF PAYMENTS BASED ON  
THE NUMBER OF VOTERS REGISTERED OR VOTER APPLICATIONS COLLECTED OR SUBMITTED;  
PROHIBITING THE CONCEALMENT OR DEFAACEMENT OF VOTER REGISTRATION OR ABSENTEE BALLOT  
APPLICATIONS; REQUIRING A PERSON TO SUBMIT A VOTER REGISTRATION OR ABSENTEE BALLOT  
APPLICATION WITHIN 3 BUSINESS DAYS; PROVIDING REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO VOTER  
REGISTRATION OR ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS AND NONCONFORMING VOTER REGISTRATION  
OR ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS; AND~~ ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THIRD-PARTY  
REGISTRARS; ~~PROVIDING A PENALTY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN PROVISIONS; PROVIDING  
FOR UNIFORM VOTER REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS AND OTHER FORMS;  
PROVIDING RULEMAKING AUTHORITY; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-1-210, 13-2-110, 13-13-212,  
13-21-202, AND 13-21-210, MCA CONCERNING MAILING OUT AND RETURNING VOTER REGISTRATION  
AND ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS."~~

WHEREAS, the purpose of third-party voter registration organizations and individuals is to deliver voter  
registration and absentee ballot documentation, and the integrity of these organizations and individuals is critical;

and

~~WHEREAS, third-party voter registration organizations and individuals are in possession of sensitive  
personal information, and potential voters should have a record of the persons entrusted with this data; and~~

~~WHEREAS, the purpose of third-party voter registration organizations and individuals is to register eligible  
voters, but paying registrars for each registration may provide an inducement to provide less-than-accurate  
information; and~~

~~WHEREAS, third-party voter registration integrity will be preserved with timely, accurate information  
delivered to the county administration offices and by educating potential voters on the system used to verify their~~

1 voter registration; and

2 ~~WHEREAS, uniform registration and absentee ballot applications approved by the Montana Secretary~~  
3 ~~of State ensure uniform information and streamline the voter registration and absentee ballot application process.~~

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5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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(Refer to Introduced Bill)

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Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert:

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9 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Short title. [Sections 1 through 4] may be cited as the "Montana Third-Party  
10 Voter Registration Integrity Act".

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12 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Definitions. As used in [sections 1 through 4], the following definitions  
13 apply:

14 (1) "Campaign literature" means material that advocates the success or defeat of a candidate, political  
15 party, or ballot issue.

16 (2) "Third-party registrar" means a person, other than an election official, who is supporting an organized  
17 effort to register voters or to assist voters in applying for absentee ballots.

18

19 NEW SECTION. Section 3. Prohibitions concerning mailings. A third-party registrar may not mail  
20 a voter registration or absentee ballot application in the same envelope as campaign literature if the envelope  
21 is marked to resemble a mailing from an election office.

22

23 NEW SECTION. Section 4. Return of voter registration and absentee ballot applications. A  
24 third-party registrar may not mail or advise an applicant to mail a voter registration or absentee ballot application  
25 to any address other than the county election administrator's address in the applicant's county of residence.

26

27 NEW SECTION. Section 5. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 4] are intended to be codified  
28 as an integral part of Title 13, chapter 35, and the provisions of Title 13, chapter 35, apply to [sections 1 through  
29 4].

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