

HOUSE BILL NO. 508

INTRODUCED BY J. BACHMEIER

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING LAWS RELATED TO VOTER REGISTRATION FOR  
5 UNDERAGE INDIVIDUALS; PROVIDING THAT AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE MAY  
6 PREREGISTER AND BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED UPON ATTAINING 18 YEARS OF AGE;  
7 SPECIFYING NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS; AND AMENDING SECTIONS 13-2-110 AND 13-2-205, MCA."

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

**Section 1.** Section 13-2-110, MCA, is amended to read:

**"13-2-110. Application for voter registration -- sufficiency and verification of information -- identifiers assigned for voting purposes.** (1) An individual may apply for voter registration in person or by mail,

postage paid, by completing and signing the standard application form for voter registration provided for in 13-1-210 and providing the application to the election administrator in the county in which the elector resides.

(2) Each application for voter registration must be accepted and processed as provided in rules adopted under 13-2-109.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4):

(a) an applicant for voter registration shall provide the applicant's Montana driver's license number; or

(b) if the applicant does not have a Montana driver's license, the applicant shall provide the last four digits of the applicant's social security number.

(4) (a) If an applicant does not have a Montana driver's license or social security number, the applicant shall provide as an alternative form of identification:

(i) a current and valid photo identification, including but not limited to a school district or postsecondary education photo identification or a tribal photo identification, with the individual's name; or

(ii) a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government document that shows the individual's name and current address.

(b) The alternative form of identification must be:

(i) an original version presented to the election administrator if the applicant is applying in person; or

(ii) a copy of any of the required documents, which must be enclosed with the application, if the applicant



1 is applying by mail.

2 (5) (a) If information provided on an application for voter registration is sufficient to be accepted and  
3 processed and is verified pursuant to rules adopted under 13-2-109, the election administrator shall register the  
4 elector as a legally registered elector.

5 (b) If information provided on an application for voter registration was sufficient to be accepted but the  
6 applicant failed to provide the information required in subsection (3) or (4) or if the information provided was  
7 incorrect or insufficient to verify the individual's identity or eligibility to vote, the election administrator shall register  
8 the applicant as a provisionally registered elector.

9 (6) Each applicant for voter registration must be notified of the elector's registration status pursuant to  
10 rules adopted under 13-2-109.

11 (7) The secretary of state shall assign to each elector whose application was accepted a unique  
12 identification number for voting purposes and shall establish a statewide uniform method to allow the secretary  
13 of state and local election officials to distinguish legally registered electors from provisionally registered electors.

14 (8) The provisions of this section may not be interpreted to conflict with voter registration accomplished  
15 under 13-2-221, 13-21-221, and 61-5-107 and as provided for in federal law.

16 (9) An individual who is 16 years of age or older must be allowed to preregister as provided in 13-2-205."  
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18 **Section 2.** Section 13-2-205, MCA, is amended to read:

19 **"13-2-205. Procedure when prospective elector not qualified at time of registration --**  
20 **preregistration.** (1) An individual who is not eligible to register because of residence ~~or age~~ requirements but  
21 who will be eligible on or before election day may apply for voter registration pursuant to 13-2-110 and be  
22 registered subject to verification procedures established pursuant to 13-2-109.

23 (2) (a) An individual who is 16 years of age or older may apply for preregistration as provided in 13-2-110.

24 (b) Upon receiving an application for voter registration pursuant to subsection (2)(a), the county election  
25 administrator shall notify the individual if additional information is required or preregister the individual and notify  
26 the individual that the individual has been successfully preregistered. The statewide voter registration system  
27 must be updated accordingly and capable of listing individuals preregistered under this subsection (2) as pending  
28 registration.

29 (c) A preregistered individual may update the individual's voter registration information at any time,  
30 subject to 13-2-301 and 13-2-304, and the statewide voter registration system must be updated accordingly.

