SENATE FLOOR VERSION
February 28, 2023

SENATE BILL NO. 426

By: Burns and Rogers

An Act relating to voter registration; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 4-112, as amended by Section 18, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 4-112), which relates to registration applications; authorizing secretary of county election board to utilize certain technology for certain purpose; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 4-112, as amended by Section 18, Chapter 282, O.S.L. 2022 (26 O.S. Supp. 2022, Section 4-112), is amended to read as follows:

Section 4-112. A. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall devise and distribute a registration application form to be used for registering voters. Such registration application shall contain the following information:

1. The applicant’s full name and date of birth, county and place of residence, and mailing address pursuant to the provisions of subsection G of this section;
2. A space or section to designate a political party recognized by the laws of the State of Oklahoma with which the applicant chooses to be affiliated;

3. The Oklahoma driver license or identification card number if the applicant has been issued a current and valid driver license or identification card by Service Oklahoma, or if the applicant does not have a valid Oklahoma driver license or identification card, the last four digits of the voter’s Social Security number;

4. An oath of the eligibility of the applicant to become a registered voter; and

5. Such other information as may be deemed necessary by the Secretary to identify such applicant and to ascertain his or her eligibility.

B. A voter registration application shall be signed by the applicant in writing. The applicant shall personally subscribe his or her name to or make his or her mark on the application, and no agent, representative or employee of the applicant may sign or mark on the applicant’s behalf. The signature or mark must be the original, handwritten signature, autograph or mark of the applicant. No facsimile, reproduction, typewritten or other substitute signature, autograph or mark will be valid. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Secretary of the State Election Board shall prescribe procedures to authorize any person incapable of personally making a mark to complete a voter registration application with
assistance of an official of any voter registration agency or
licensed operator specified in Sections 4-109.2 and 4-109.3 of this title. Provided, for applications submitted electronically, in lieu of the signature requirements set forth in this subsection, the applicant shall consent to the use of his or her driver license or identification card signature as provided in Section 4-109.4 of this title.

C. Persons who do not indicate a recognized political party or political organization on their registration application shall be designated as Independents.

D. Any person may apply in writing to the Secretary of the State Election Board for permission to print, copy or otherwise prepare and distribute the registration applications designed by the Secretary of the State Election Board. The Secretary may revoke any such permission at any time.

E. All registration applications shall be distributed to the public at no charge.

F. The Secretary also shall prescribe procedures to accept and use the National Mail Voter Registration Form, or its successor, as required by the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. Provided, to be accepted as a valid voter registration application, the form shall include the applicant’s original, handwritten signature, autograph or mark as described in subsection B of this section.
G. Applicants for voter registration or for change of voter registration in any way shall provide a residence address and, if different from the residence address, a mailing address. A residence address shall include the street address of the residence, including a full house number, street name or number, apartment or suite number, if applicable, and zip code. If a street address is not available for the residence, applicants shall provide such information as the Secretary of the State Election Board deems necessary for voter registration purposes. A post office box may not be given as a residence address. A mailing address, which shall include the city and zip code, may be the actual emergency notification or 911 address on file in the local community, a rural route and box number, a post office box number or a street address. The secretary of a county election board may utilize global positioning system (GPS) technology to ensure a voter is assigned to the appropriate precinct.

H. A full or partial Social Security number or driver license number in a voter registration record or a voter registration application shall not be considered a public record and shall be kept confidential by the State Election Board and each county election board.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
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