SB161

181312-1

By Senators Coleman-Madison, Smitherman, Beasley and Figures

RFD: Constitution, Ethics and Elections

First Read: 09-FEB-17
SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a person must complete a voter registration application in order to register to vote.

This bill would provide for automatic voter registration of qualified persons who apply for or renew a driver's license or nondriver identification card.

This bill would provide for automatic updates in voter registration when a person changes the address on his or her driver's license.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to voter registration; to provide for automatic voter registration of qualified persons who apply for or renew a driver's license or nondriver identification card; and to provide for automatic updates in voter
registration when a person changes the address on his or her
driver's license.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The Secretary of State and the
Alabama Law Enforcement Agency shall establish a program by
which the agency provides the secretary with electronic
records derived from the issuance and renewal of driver's
licenses and nondriver identification cards, containing the
legal name, age, residence, and citizenship information for,
and the electronic signature of each person for whom a
driver's license or nondriver identification is issued or
renewed. Notice of the automatic voter registration program
shall be provided at every location where driver's licenses
and nondriver identification cards are issued or renewed.

(b) Upon receiving the electronic record for, and
electronic signature of, a person described in subsection (a),
the Secretary of State shall provide the information to the
board of registrars of the county in which the person may be
registered as an elector. The person's electronic record and
electronic signature constitute a completed registration
application for the person for purposes of Section 17-3-52,
Code of Alabama 1975. If the board determines that the person
is qualified to vote under Article 8 of the Constitution of
Alabama of 1901, and under state law and the person is not
already registered to vote, the person shall be registered and
the board of registrars shall issue a certificate of
registration to the elector; provided, however, a board may

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not register a person to vote during the 14-day period prior
to any election.

(c) If an elector changes his or her address when
renewing a driver's license, the new address shall be provided
to the appropriate board of registrars and a new certificate
of registration shall be issued to the elector, if
appropriate.

(d) Nothing in this section shall affect the
authority of the Secretary of State or a board of registrars
to determine whether an applicant is qualified pursuant to
Section 17-3-52, Code of Alabama 1975, or to maintain and
update voter registration lists in accordance with Chapter 4,
Title 17, Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
first day of the third month following its passage and
approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.