Session of 2009

SENATE BILL No. 267

By Committee on Ways and Means

2-12

AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter identification; amending K.S.A. 25-2354 and K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-1122, 25-1122d, 25-1123, 25-2908 and 25-3002 and repealing the existing sections.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-1122 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1122. (a) Any registered voter may file with the county election officer where such person is a resident, or where such person is authorized by law to vote as a former precinct resident, an application for an advance voting ballot. The signed application shall be transmitted only to the county election officer by personal delivery, mail, facsimile or as otherwise provided by law.

- (b) If a person submits an application for voter registration and also submits an application for an advance voting ballot during the period beginning the 20th day before the election and ending the 15th day before the election, such voter's advance voting ballot shall be provisional.
- (b) (c) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted in person, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter shall provide a form of valid identification such as a current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide identification if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in the county where registered.
- (c) (d) If the registered voter is applying for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail, and such voter is a first-time voter, such voter shall provide on the application for an advance voting ballot the voter's current and valid Kansas driver's license number, nondriver's identification card number or the last four digits of the voter's social security number, or shall provide with the application a copy of the voter's current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government doc-

ument containing the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book. Such voter shall not be required to provide identification if such voter has previously provided current and valid identification in the county where registered.

- (d) (e) The identification document provided in accordance with subsection (b) and (c) of this section shall contain, at a minimum, the voter's current name and either the voter's photograph or the voter's current residential address as indicated on the registration book.
- (d) (e) (f) If a first-time voter is unable or refuses to provide current and valid identification, or if the name and address do not match the voter's name and address on the registration book, the voter may vote a provisional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection (c) of this section to the county election officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers. At the meeting of the county board of canvassers the county election officer shall present copies of identification received from provisional voters and the corresponding provisional ballots. If the county board of canvassers determines that a voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted.
- (e) (f) (g) Applications for advance voting ballots to be transmitted to the voter by mail shall be filed only at the following times:
- (1) For the primary election occurring on the first Tuesday in August in even-numbered years, between April 1 of such year and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.
- (2) For the general election occurring on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November in even-numbered years, between 90 days prior to such election and the last business day of the week preceding such general election.
- (3) For the primary election held five weeks preceding the first Tuesday in April, between January 1 of the year of such election and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.
- (4) For the general election occurring on the first Tuesday in April, between January 1 of the year of such election and the last business day of the week preceding such general election.
- (5) For question submitted elections occurring on the date of a primary or general election, the same as is provided for ballots for election of officers at such election.
- (6) For question submitted elections not occurring on the date of a primary or general election, between the time of the first published notice thereof and the last business day of the week preceding such question submitted election, except that if the question submitted election is held on a day other than a Tuesday, the county election officer shall determine

 the final date for mailing of advance voting ballots, but such date shall not be more than three business days before such election.

- (7) For any special election of officers, at such time as is specified by the secretary of state.
- (8) For the presidential preference primary, between January 1 of the year in which such primary is held and the last business day of the week preceding such primary election.

The county election officer of any county may receive applications prior to the time specified in this subsection (e) and hold such applications until the beginning of the prescribed application period. Such applications shall be treated as filed on that date.

(f) (g) (h) Unless an earlier date is designated by the county election office, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer shall be filed on the Tuesday next preceding the election and on each subsequent business day until no later than 12:00 noon on the day preceding such election. If the county election officer so provides, applications for advance voting ballots transmitted to the voter in person in the office of the county election officer also may be filed on the Saturday preceding the election. Upon receipt of any such properly executed application, the county election officer shall deliver to the voter such ballots and instructions as are provided for in this act.

An application for an advance voting ballot filed by a voter who has a temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the English language or by a person rendering assistance to such voter may be filed during the regular advance ballot application periods until the close of the polls on election day.

The county election officer may designate places other than the central county election office as satellite advance voting sites. At any satellite advance voting site, a registered voter may obtain an application for advance voting ballots. Such ballots and instructions shall be delivered to the voter in the same manner and subject to the same limitations as otherwise provided by this subsection.

(g) (h) (i) Any person having a permanent disability or an illness which has been diagnosed as a permanent illness is hereby authorized to make an application for permanent advance voting status. Applications for permanent advance voting status shall be in the form and contain such information as is required for application for advance voting ballots and also shall contain information which establishes the voter's right to permanent advance voting status. Any person applying for permanent advance voter status shall submit valid identification as provided in subsection (b) or (c) of this section. Once a permanent advance voter has provided valid identification, or if such voter's registration has been

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verified pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2354, and amendments thereto, such voter shall not be required to provide identification in subsequent elections unless the voter:

- (1) Changes the voter's name or residential address;
- (2) moves out of the county or state; or
- (3) is removed from the registration list and re-registers.

 $\frac{\langle h \rangle}{\langle i \rangle}$ (j) On receipt of any application filed under the provisions of this section, the county election officer shall prepare and maintain in such officer's office a list of the names of all persons who have filed such applications, together with their correct post office address and the precinct, ward, township or voting area in which such persons claim to be registered voters or to be authorized by law to vote as former precinct residents and the present resident address of each applicant. Such names and addresses shall remain so listed until the day of such election. The county election officer shall maintain a separate listing of the names and addresses of persons qualifying for permanent advance voting status. All such lists shall be available for inspection upon request in compliance with this subsection by any registered voter during regular business hours. The county election officer upon receipt of such applications shall enter upon a record kept by such officer the name and address of each applicant, which record shall conform to the list above required. Before inspection of any advance voting ballot application list, the person desiring to make such inspection shall provide to the county election officer identification in the form of driver's license or other reliable identification and shall sign a log book or application form maintained by such officer stating such person's name and address and showing the date and time of inspection. All records made by the county election officer shall be subject to public inspection, except that the voter identification information required by subsections (b) and (c) and the identifying number on ballots and ballot envelopes and records of such numbers shall not be made public.

(i) (j) (k) If a person on the permanent advance voting list fails to vote in two consecutive general elections held on the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year, the county election officer may mail a notice to such voter. Such notice shall inform the voter that the voter's name will be removed from the permanent advance voting list unless the voter renews the application for permanent advance voting status within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If the voter fails to renew such application, the county election officer shall remove the voter's name from the permanent advance voting list. Failure to renew the application for permanent advance voting status shall not result in removal of the voter's name from the voter registration list.

(j) For the purposes of this section, "first-time voter" means a reg-

| 1 | istered voter who has not previously voted in any election in the county |
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| 2 | in which the voter desires to vote. First-time voter includes a person |
| 3 | whose name was removed from the county registration list in accordance |
| 4 | with K.S.A. 25-2316e, and amendments thereto, and who has re-regis- |
| 5 | tered. |
| 6 | $\frac{\langle k \rangle}{\langle l \rangle}$ The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations defining |
| 7 | valid forms of identification. |
| 8 | Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-1122d is hereby amended to read as |
| 9 | follows: 25-1122d. (a) The application for an advance voting ballot to be |
| 10 | transmitted by mail shall be accompanied by an affirmation in substance |
| 11 | as follows: |
| 12 | Affirmation of an Elector of the County of and State of Kansas Desiring |
| 13 | to Vote an Advance Voting Ballot |
| 14 | State of, County of, ss: |
| 15 | I, |
| 16 | (Please print name) |
| 17 | do solemnly affirm under penalty of perjury that I am a qualified elector of the |
| 18 | precinct of the ward, residing at number on |
| 19 | street, city of, or in the township of, county of |
| 20 | , and state of Kansas. My date of birth is (month/day/ |
| 21 | year). |
| 22 | I understand that if I have not previously voted in any election in this county and I have |
| 23 | not previously submitted valid identification, I must provide one of the following forms of |
| 24 | identification with this application in order to receive a ballot: |
| 25 | $(1) A \ current \ and \ valid \ Kansas \ driver's \ license \ number \ or \ nondriver's \ identification \ card$ |
| 26 | number; or |
| 27 | (2) the last four digits of my social security number; or |
| 28 | (3) a copy of a current and valid Kansas driver's license or nondriver's identification |
| 29 | card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government docu- |
| 30 | ment that shows my name and address, at a minimum, my current name and either my |
| 31 | photograph or my current residential address as indicated on the registration book. |
| 32 | I am entitled to vote an advance voting ballot and I have not voted and will not otherwise |
| 33 | vote at the election to be held on (date). My political party is |
| 34 | (to be filled in only when requesting primary election ballots). I desire my |
| 35 | ballots to be sent to the following address |
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| 37 | Signature of voter. |
| 38 | Note: False statement on this affirmation is a severity level 9, nonperson felony. |
| 39 | (b) The application for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted in |
| 40 | person shall be accompanied by an affirmation in substance as follows: |
| 41 | Affirmation of an Elector of the County of and State of Kansas Desiring |
| 42 | to Vote an Advance Voting Ballot |
| 43 | State of, County of, ss: |

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| 2 | (Please print name) |
| 3 | do solemnly affirm under penalty of perjury that I am a qualified elector of the |
| 4 | precinct of the ward, residing at number on |
| 5 | street, city of, or in the township of, county of |
| 6 | and state of Kansas. My date of birth is (month/day/year). |
| 7 | I understand that if I have not previously voted in any election in this county and I have |
| 8 | not previously submitted valid identification, I must provide one of the following forms of |
| 9 | identification with this application in order to receive a ballot: a current and valid Kansas |
| 10 | driver's license or nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, gov- |
| 11 | ernment check or other government document that shows my name and address, at a |
| 12 | minimum, my current name and either my photograph or my current residential address as |
| 13 | indicated on the registration book. |
| 14 | I am entitled to vote an advance voting ballot and I have not voted and will not otherwise |
| 15 | vote at the election to be held on (date). My political party is |
| 16 | (to be filled in only when requesting primary election ballots). |
| 17 | |
| 18 | Signature of voter |
| 19 | Note: False statement on this affirmation is a severity level 9, nonperson felony. |

(c) An application for permanent advance voting status shall be on a form prescribed by the secretary of state for this purpose. Such application shall contain an affirmation concerning substantially the same information required in subsection (a) and in addition thereto a statement regarding the permanent character of such illness or disability.

Any person applying for permanent advance voter status shall submit valid identification as provided in subsection (b) or (c) of this section. Once such permanent advance voter has provided valid identification, or if such voter's registration has been verified pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2354, and amendments thereto, such voter shall not be required to provide identification in subsequent elections unless the voter:

- **(1)** Changes the voter's name or residential address;
- (2)moves out of the county or state; or
- is removed from the registration list and re-registers.
- Any application by a former precinct resident shall state both the former and present residence, address, precinct and county of such former precinct resident and the date of change of residence. Such application shall include an affirmation containing substantially the same information required in subsection (a) and shall be accompanied by valid identification as provided in subsection (a).
- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-1123 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-1123. (a) When an application for an advance voting ballot has been filed in accordance with K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto,

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the county election officer shall transmit to the voter applying therefor one each of the appropriate ballots. Except as provided by subsection (b), the county election officer shall transmit the advance voting ballots to the voter at one of the following addresses as specified by the voter on such application: (1) The voter's residential address or mailing address as indicated on the registration list; (2) the voter's temporary residential address; or (3) a medical care facility as defined in K.S.A. 65-425, and amendments thereto, psychiatric hospital, hospice or adult care home where the voter resides. No advance voting ballot shall be transmitted by the county election officer by any means prior to the 20th day before the election for which an application for an advance voting ballot has been received by such county election officer. If the advance voting ballot is transmitted by mail, such ballot shall be transmitted with printed instructions prescribed by the secretary of state and a ballot envelope bearing upon the outside a printed form as described in K.S.A. 25-1120, and amendments thereto, and the same number as the number of the ballot. If the advance voting ballot is transmitted to the applicant in person in the office of the county election officer or at a satellite advance voting site, such advance voting ballot and printed instructions shall be transmitted in an advance voting ballot envelope bearing upon the outside a printed form as described in K.S.A. 25-1120, and amendments thereto, and the same number as the number of the ballot unless the voter elects to deposit the advance voting ballot into a locked ballot box without an envelope. All ballots shall be transmitted to the advance voting voter not more than 20 days before the election but within two business days of the receipt of such voter's application by the election officer or the commencement of such 20-day period. In primary elections required to be conducted on a partisan basis, the election officer shall deliver to such voter the ballot of the political party of the applicant.

- (b) The restrictions in subsection (a) relating to where a county election officer may transmit an advance voting ballot shall not apply to an advance voting ballot requested pursuant to an application for an advance voting ballot filed by a voter who has a temporary illness or disability or who is not proficient in reading the English language.
- (c) The secretary of state or the county election officer shall compare the driver's license number, nondriver's identification card number, social security number or copy of other valid identification provided by a first-time voter each applicant for an advance voting ballot to be transmitted by mail to the voter registration list verified by the division of motor vehicles in accordance with federal law K.S.A. 25-2354, and amendments thereto. If no identification information was provided by the first-time voter, or if such information does not match the information on the verified voter registration list, the county election officer shall not transmit

 an advance voting ballot issue a provisional ballot to such voter in accordance with K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection (c) of K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto, to the county election officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers. If the county board of canvassers determines that the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted. Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-2354 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2354. (a) Once each calendar year a check of the registration records of voters in the state of Kansas shall be commenced by the chief state election official or the county election officer by comparing such records to the National Change of Address files. A county election officer may com-

- voters in the state of Kansas shall be commenced by the chief state election official or the county election officer by comparing such records to the National Change of Address files. A county election officer may complete one or more checks each calendar year. If the chief state election official performs the check, any discrepancies discovered in the check shall be reported to the appropriate county election officer, who shall initiate the confirmation process prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2316c, and amendments thereto, within 45 days. As an alternative to participation in the national change of address program, the county election officer may conduct mass or targeted mailings to registered voters to obtain information upon which to base the confirmation mailings.
- (b) The chief state election official shall, in a manner determined by the chief state election official and the director of the division of motor vehicles, compare information derived from the voter registration records of voters in the state of Kansas to driver's license records for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration in compliance with section 303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002. Such comparison shall include each voter's driver's license number or nondriver's identification number or the last four digits of the voter's social security number as provided by the voter on the voter's application for registration.
- (c) The chief state election official shall compare information derived from the voter registration records of voters in the state of Kansas to state felony conviction records for the purpose of removing the names of ineligible voters from the registration list in compliance with section 303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.
- (d) The chief state election official shall compare information derived from the voter registration records of voters in the state of Kansas to state records on death for the purpose of removing the names of ineligible voters from the registration list in compliance with section 303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002.
- $\frac{\text{(b)}}{\text{(e)}}$ The chief state election official may adopt rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.
- 43 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-2908 is hereby amended to read as

follows: 25-2908. (a) Each polling place shall use either: (1) A registration book and a poll book, as defined in K.S.A. 25-2507(a) and K.S.A. 25-2507(b)(1), and amendments thereto; or (2) a registration book, as defined in K.S.A. 25-2507(b)(2), and amendments thereto. The county election officer shall determine which books are used in each county, and which book voters shall sign.

- (b) A person desiring to vote shall provide to the election board: (1) the voter's name; (2) if required, the voter's address; and (3) the voter's signature on the registration or poll book. A signature may be made by mark, initials, typewriter, print, stamp, symbol or any other manner if by placing the signature on the document the person intends the signature to be binding. A signature may be made by another person at the voter's direction if the signature reflects such voter's intention.
 - (c) A member of the election board shall:
- (1) Request from the voter valid identification as defined in subsection (d) of this section;
- $\frac{(1)}{(2)}$ announce the voter's name in a loud and distinct tone of voice, and, if the name is in the registration books, the member of the election board having the registration record shall repeat the name;
 - (2) (3) request the voter's signature on the registration or poll book;
- (4) **request** the voter's valid identification as defined in subsection (c);
- (3) (5) provide the required signature at the request of and on behalf of any voter who is unable to personally affix a signature by reason of temporary illness or disability, or lack of proficiency in reading the English language;
- (4) if the voter is a first-time voter as described in subsection (h) of this section, request valid identification from the voter unless such voter has previously submitted current and valid identification in the county where registered;
- (5) (6) give the voter one ballot, on the upper right-hand corner of which shall be written the number corresponding to the voter's number in the registration book or poll book; and
 - (6) (7) mark the voter's name in the registration book and party affiliation list.
 - (d) A first-time voter shall provide to the election board a form of Valid identification such as shall include a current and valid Kansas driver's license, nondriver's identification card, utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document unless such voter has previously submitted current and valid identification in the county where registered. The document provided in accordance with this section shall contain the voter's current name and address as indicated on the registration book or poll book containing, at a minimum,

the voter's current name and either the voter's photograph or the voter's current residential address as indicated on the registration book.

- (e) If a first-time voter is unable or refuses to provide current and valid identification at the polling place, or if the name and address do not match the voter's name and address on the registration book or poll book, the voter may vote a provisional ballot according to K.S.A. 25-409, and amendments thereto. The voter shall provide a valid form of identification as defined in subsection (d) of this section to the county election officer in person or provide a copy by mail or electronic means before the meeting of the county board of canvassers. At the meeting of the county board of canvassers the county election officer shall present copies of identification received from provisional voters and the corresponding provisional ballots. If the county board of canvassers determines that a voter's identification is valid and the provisional ballot was properly cast, the ballot shall be counted.
- (f) If the name of any person desiring to vote at an election is not in the registration books, an election board member shall print the name and address of the person appearing to vote in the registration book or poll book. The person appearing to vote shall *provide valid identification as defined in subsection (d) and shall* add such person's signature to the registration book or poll book beside such person's printed name, as listed in the registration book or poll book, and the election board judge shall challenge such person's vote pursuant to K.S.A. 25-414, and amendments thereto. During the pendency of a challenge other voters shall be given ballots and be permitted to vote.
- (g) A voter who has received an advance voting ballot may vote a provisional ballot on election day at the precinct polling place where the voter resides. If the voter returns the advance voting ballot to a judge or clerk at the precinct polling place, the judge or clerk shall void such advance voting ballot. Any such provisional ballot shall be counted only if the county board of canvassers determines that the provisional ballot was properly cast and the voter has not otherwise voted at such election.
- (h) For the purposes of this section, "first-time voter" means a registered voter who has not previously voted in any election in the county in which the voter desires to vote. First-time voter includes a person whose name was removed from the county registration list in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2316e, and amendments thereto, and has re-registered.
- $\frac{-(i)}{h}$ The secretary of state may adopt rules and regulations defining valid forms of identification.
- 40 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-3002 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3002. (a) The rules prescribed in this section shall apply to:
 - (1) The original canvass by election boards.
 - (2) Intermediate and final canvasses by county boards of canvassers.

- (3) Final canvass by the state board of canvassers.
- (4) All election contests.
- (5) All other officers canvassing or having a part in the canvass of any election.
 - (b) Rules for canvassers:
- (1) No ballot, or any portion thereof, shall be invalidated by any technical error unless it is impossible to determine the voter's intention. Determination of the voter's intention shall rest in the discretion of the board canvassing in the case of a canvass and in the election court in the case of an election contest.
- (2) The occurrences listed in this subpart (2) shall not invalidate the whole ballot but shall invalidate that portion, and that portion only, in which the occurrence appears. The votes on such portion of the ballot shall not be counted for any candidate listed or written in such portion, but the remainder of the votes in other portions of the ballot shall be counted. The occurrences to which this subpart (2) shall apply are:
- (A) Whenever a voting mark shall be made in the square at the left of the name of more than one candidate for the same office, except when the ballot instructs that more than one candidate is to be voted.
- (B) Whenever a voting mark is placed in the square at the left of a space where no candidate is listed.
- (3) When a registered voter has cast a provisional ballot intended for a precinct other than the precinct in which the voter resides but located within the same county, the canvassers shall count the votes for those offices or issues which are identical in both precincts. The canvassers shall not count the votes for those offices or issues which differ from the offices or issues appearing on the ballot used in the precinct in which the voter resides.
- (4) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:
 - (A) Both candidates' names are written on the ballot; or
- (B) only the name of the candidate for governor is written on the ballot.
- (5) A write-in vote for those candidates for the offices of president and vice-president shall not be counted unless the pair of candidates have filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 25-305 and amendments thereto, and:
 - (A) Both candidates' names are written on the ballot; or
- (B) only the name of the candidate for president is written on the ballot.
- 43 (6) A write-in vote for candidates for state offices elected on a state-

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- wide basis other than offices subject to paragraph (4) shall not be counted unless the candidate has filed an affidavit of candidacy pursuant to K.S.A. 2 3 25-305, and amendments thereto.
 - (7) Any advance voting or mail ballot whose envelope containing the voter's written declaration is unsigned, shall be wholly void and no vote thereon shall be counted.
 - (8) No ballot east by a first-time voter as defined by K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto, or K.S.A. 25-2908, and amendments thereto, shall be counted if the voter fails to provide valid identification.
- (9) Any provisional advance voting ballot cast pursuant to 10 K.S.A. 25-1122, and amendments thereto, shall be counted if the 12 application for voter registration is determined by the county elec-13 tion officer to be valid and if the county board of canvassers determines that the ballot was properly cast and the voter has not oth-14 15 erwise voted at such election.
- Sec. 7. K.S.A. 25-2354 and K.S.A. 2008 Supp. 25-1122, 25-1122d, 16 17 25-1123, 25-2908 and 25-3002 are hereby repealed.
 - Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.