

HB 2280 -- YOUNG ADULT PRE-REGISTRATION TO VOTE

SPONSOR: Newman

This bill requires the Secretary of State to conduct automatic voter registration by use of information provided by the Department of Revenue regarding driver's licenses and address changes. Local election authorities will retain authority to verify voter eligibility and use existing procedures to place and remove voter names from the list of eligible voters. The bill has time limits for notification of eligible voters and an "opt out" provision allowing eligible voters to decline registration. The bill is subject to appropriations funding by the General Assembly in order to pay any administrative costs and is otherwise void. The bill does not inhibit existing methods for voluntary voter registration or voting.

The bill also requires the Secretary of State and the Department of Revenue to implement a voter pre-registration program for those ages 15 to 18. These individuals may opt out of this program, but will otherwise be registered to vote at the appropriate age using the method of the automatic voter registration process for adults. This program is also subject to appropriation.

This bill is similar to HB 2081 (2016).