

ASSEMBLY, No. 5627

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED OCTOBER 15, 2026

Sponsored by:

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District 13 (Monmouth)

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District 39 (Bergen)

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District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

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Assemblymen Scharfenberger and Azzariti Jr.

SYNOPSIS

Requires certain practices for maintenance of Statewide voter registration system.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/15/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning the maintenance of the Statewide voter
2 registration system and amending P.L.2005, c.145.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 2 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-32) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 2. a. The Statewide voter registration system shall replace all
10 other computer or electronic-based registry files of voters and other
11 voter registration files established and maintained by each county
12 commissioner of registration for voter registration and election
13 administration purposes established pursuant to the provisions of
14 Title 19 and Title 40 of the Revised Statutes, and shall be the single
15 system for storing and managing the official file of registered voters
16 throughout the State. A commissioner may, however, continue to
17 use and maintain as a supplement to the system the original and
18 duplicate permanent registration binders and voting records and
19 shall continue to use and maintain the signature copy registers or
20 polling records provided for in Title 19 of the Revised Statutes.

21 b. Each county commissioner of registration shall be
22 responsible for adding to, deleting from, amending and otherwise
23 conducting on a regular basis maintenance for the files of every
24 legally registered voter in that commissioner's county as contained
25 in the Statewide voter registration system, pursuant to the
26 provisions of **[section 303 of Pub.L.107-252 (42 U.S.C. s. 15301 et**
27 **seq.)]** 52 U.S.C. s.21083 and Title 19 of the Revised Statutes. Each
28 commissioner shall be responsible for verifying the accuracy of the
29 name, address and other data of registered voters in the
30 commissioner's respective county as contained in the system. The
31 commissioner who receives the voter registration forms of
32 individuals who have registered to vote in the county or who are re-
33 registering for any reason shall be responsible for entering the
34 information on those forms into the system on an expedited basis,
35 and electronically transferring into the system the information from
36 online voter registration forms completed pursuant to section 1 of
37 P.L.2019, c.382 (C.19:31-6.4c), including but not limited to forms
38 and information received pursuant to chapter 31 of Title 19 of the
39 Revised Statutes. The information the commissioner shall use to
40 update and maintain the system shall be that required by subsection
41 c. of section 1 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31).

42 c. The Secretary of State and each county commissioner of
43 registration shall be responsible for developing and providing the
44 technological security measures needed to prevent unauthorized
45 access to the Statewide voter registration system established

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31) and to the
2 information for any individual on the system required by subsection
3 c. of section 1 of that act.

4 d. (1) The Secretary of State, in consultation with each county
5 commissioner of registration, shall develop minimum standards to
6 safeguard the security and accuracy of the files contained in the
7 Statewide voter registration system. Such standards shall include
8 procedures to ensure that reasonable effort is made to remove
9 registrants who are ineligible to vote pursuant to federal or State
10 law and to ensure that eligible voters are not removed in error from
11 the system.

12 (2) The Secretary of State, in consultation with each
13 commissioner of registration, shall develop and update, as
14 appropriate, a Statewide voter list maintenance and crosscheck
15 program. The purpose of the program shall be to maintain and keep
16 up-to-date a secure and accurate Statewide voter registration
17 system. The program, at a minimum, shall provide for the
18 crosschecking of information in the Statewide database with
19 information obtained via agreements entered into by the secretary
20 pursuant to subsection e. of this section and shall provide for the
21 sharing of voter information among each county clerk and
22 commissioner of registration. The secretary, in consultation with
23 each commissioner of registration, shall establish uniform standards
24 and procedures for voter list maintenance and crosschecking. At a
25 minimum, the program shall permit a county commissioner of
26 registration to verify a new voter registration applicant's
27 information, update information in the Statewide voter registration
28 system, and remove duplicate, non-resident, or ineligible voters
29 from the Statewide voter registration system.

30 e. (1) The Secretary of State and the Chief Administrator of the
31 New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission in the Department of
32 Transportation shall enter into an agreement to match information
33 in the database of the Statewide voter registration system with
34 information in the database of the commission, including social
35 security numbers, to the extent required to enable verification of the
36 accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter
37 registration, and to locate and utilize for voter registration purposes
38 the digitized signatures of licensed drivers or holders of non-driver
39 identification cards who register to vote using an online voter
40 registration form, as provided pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2019,
41 c.382 (C.19:31-6.4c).

42 (2) The Secretary of State shall enter into an agreement with the
43 Commissioner of the Department of Health **【and Senior Services】**
44 to match information in the database of the Statewide voter
45 registration system with State agency information on death records.

46 (3) The Secretary of State shall enter into an agreement with the
47 Commissioner of the Department of Corrections to match
48 information in the database of the Statewide voter registration

1 system with State agency information on individuals who are
2 incarcerated, on probation, or on parole as the result of a conviction
3 for an indictable offense.

4 (4) (a) The Secretary of State shall enter into an agreement with
5 the Administrative Office of the Courts to match information in the
6 database of the Statewide voter registration system with State
7 agency information on individuals who are incarcerated, on
8 probation, or on parole as the result of a conviction for an indictable
9 offense.

10 (b) The Secretary of State shall enter into an agreement with the
11 Administrative Office of the Courts to match information in the
12 database of the Statewide voter registration system with the juror
13 records kept, as required by N.J.S.2B:20-9, of all requests for
14 excuses and deferrals of jury duty and grants thereof, so that those
15 persons summoned for jury service who indicate non-citizenship as
16 the basis for being excused may be identified and removed from the
17 database of the Statewide voter registration system as an ineligible
18 registrant in accordance with applicable law. The agreement shall
19 apply retroactively to all available juror records maintained since
20 the enactment of sections 23 and 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:3-
21 10m and C.39:2-3.2), permitting a person to register to vote while
22 applying for a motor vehicle driver's license.

23 (5) The Secretary of State shall enter into an agreement with the
24 State Parole Board to match information in the database of the
25 Statewide voter registration system with State agency information
26 on individuals who are on parole.

27 (cf: P.L.2019, c.382, s.5)

28
29 2. Section 3 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-33) is amended to read
30 as follows:

31 3. Each year, no later than 90 days following the date of the
32 November general election, the [Attorney General] Secretary of
33 State shall prepare and submit to the Governor and the President of
34 the Senate, the Minority Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the
35 General Assembly and the Minority Leader of the General
36 Assembly a report that:

37 a. assesses the current status of the voter list maintenance and
38 crosscheck program and the Statewide voter registration system;

39 b. assesses the hardware and software required to maintain and
40 expand the system;

41 c. reviews existing or planned statewide voter registration
42 systems in other states or as may be required by Pub.L.107-252 (42
43 U.S.C. s.15301 et seq.) or the federal Election Assistance
44 Commission created by that law;

45 d. recommends ways to strengthen and expand electronic
46 communications among those executive departments and State
47 agencies designated by the [Attorney General] Secretary of State to

1 have access to the system, the county commissioners of registration
2 and the county and municipal clerks; **[and]**

3 e. recommends ways to improve the effectiveness of the
4 system in the administration of elections and voting in this State;

5 f. evaluates the effectiveness of the agreements entered into by
6 the Secretary of State pursuant to subsection e. of section 2 of
7 P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-32);

8 g. lists the number of inactive and active voters in the State by
9 county, the number of registrants transferred to the death file by
10 county, and the number of registrants removed from the Statewide
11 voter registration system by county;

12 h. lists the counties that are not compliant with the standards
13 and procedures for voter list maintenance and crosschecking
14 established by the Secretary of State; and

15 i. provides any other information deemed appropriate by the
16 Secretary of State or requested by the Governor or the Legislature.

17 In preparing the report, the **[Attorney General]** Secretary of
18 State shall solicit the views of county clerks and commissioners of
19 registration and such other individuals familiar with the system as
20 the **[Attorney General]** Secretary of State may wish to consult.

21 The Attorney General shall submit the initial report to the
22 Governor and the President of the Senate, the Minority Leader of
23 the Senate, the Speaker of the General Assembly and the Minority
24 Leader of the General Assembly no later than two years after the
25 effective date of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31 et al.).

26 (cf: P.L.2005, c.145, s.3)

27
28 3. This act shall take effect immediately.
29
30

31 STATEMENT

32
33 This bill establishes procedures to verify and update the
34 information contained in the Statewide voter registration system.

35 The bill requires the Secretary of State to enter into an agreement
36 with the Judiciary's Administrative Office of the Courts to match
37 information in the database of the Statewide voter registration
38 system with the juror records concerning all requests for excuses
39 and deferrals of jury duty. The purpose of matching such
40 information would be to identify those persons summoned for jury
41 service who indicate non-citizenship as the basis for being excused
42 and remove them from the voter database as ineligible registrants in
43 accordance with applicable law.

44 The agreement applies retroactively to all available juror records
45 maintained since the 1994 "motor-voter" enactment permitted a
46 person to register to vote while applying for a motor vehicle
47 driver's license.

1 This bill also directs the Secretary of State, in consultation with
2 each commissioner of registration, to establish and update, as
3 appropriate, a voter list maintenance and crosscheck program. The
4 purpose of the program would be to maintain and keep up-to-date a
5 secure and accurate Statewide voter registration system.

6 Under the bill, the program, at a minimum, must provide for the
7 crosschecking of information in the Statewide database with
8 information obtained via voter registration information agreements
9 entered into by the secretary under current law and must provide for
10 the sharing of voter information among each county clerk and
11 commissioner of registration. The secretary, in consultation with
12 each commissioner of registration, is required to establish uniform
13 standards and procedures for voter list maintenance and
14 crosschecking. At a minimum, the program must permit a county
15 commissioner of registration to verify a new voter registration
16 applicant's information, update information in the Statewide voter
17 registration system, and remove duplicate, non-resident, or
18 ineligible voters from the Statewide voter registration system.

19 The bill also requires the annual report on the voter registration
20 system to the Governor and the Legislature to be submitted no later
21 than 90 days following the date of the November general election.
22 Under the bill and in addition to the requirements in current law, the
23 report is required to:

24 evaluate the effectiveness of any voter registration information
25 agreements entered into by the Secretary of State;

26 list the number of inactive and active voters in the State by
27 county, the number of registrants transferred to the death file by
28 county, and the number of registrants removed from the Statewide
29 voter registration system by county; and

30 list the counties that are not compliant with the standards and
31 procedures for voter list maintenance and crosschecking established
32 by the Secretary of State.