

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS29185 / H0459

This legislation will provide for the automatic registration of eligible citizens to vote at the same time that they apply for or renew a driver's license or state issued identification, unless they opt out of being registered to vote at that time. The act of voting – being able to elect our leaders and set our course as a state and a nation – defines the United States at home and abroad. This legislation aims to facilitate the exercise of this basic right for thousands of eligible citizens who are unregistered or have outdated registrations due to relocation.

FISCAL NOTE

No negative impact to the state general fund is anticipated. Every state that has adopted automatic voter registration has seen significant savings with respect to staff time, paper processing, and/or mailing, among other expenses. Online voter registration has been fully implemented, thus the facilities already exist for registering voters through the processing of electronic information. Pertinent voter data required for voter registration is already being collected by the various Departments of Motor Vehicles, and could be readily transmitted to election offices throughout the state.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).