

**** BILL NO. ****

INTRODUCED BY ****

BY REQUEST OF THE ****

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING VOTER REGISTRATION NOTIFICATIONS;
AMENDING SECTIONS 13-2-207 AND 13-2-220, MCA."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. ~~Section 13-2-207, MCA, is amended to read:~~

~~"13-2-207. Confirmation of registration. (1) The election administrator shall give or mail to each elector a notice, confirming registration and giving the location of the elector's polling place. A notice sent to an elector to whom the notice is not personally given must be sent by nonforwardable, first-class mail, which must conform to postal regulations to ensure address corrections are received.~~

~~(2) If the notice confirming registration is returned as undeliverable, the election administrator shall investigate the reason for the return of any mailed notices and mail a confirmation notice to the elector. The notice must conform to postal regulations to ensure return, not forwarding, of undelivered notices."~~

Section 2. Section 13-2-220, MCA, is amended to read:

"13-2-220. Maintenance of active and inactive voter registration lists for elections -- rules by secretary of state. (1) The rules adopted by the secretary of state under 13-2-108 must include the following procedures, at least one of which an election administrator shall follow annually:

(a) compare the entire list of registered electors, including electors on the absentee ballot list, against the national change of address files and provide appropriate confirmation notice to those individuals whose addresses have apparently changed;

(b) mail a ~~nonforwardable~~ forwardable, first-class, "return if undeliverable--address correction requested" notice to all registered electors, including electors on the absentee ballot list, of each jurisdiction to confirm their addresses and provide the appropriate confirmation notice to those individuals who return the

Commented [RP1]: Section removed per suggestion from election administrators; Immediate effective date removed to allow for implementation time

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1 notices;

2 (c) mail a targeted mailing to electors, including electors on the absentee ballot list, who failed to
3 vote in the preceding federal general election and to applicants who failed to provide required information on
4 registration forms by:

5 (i) sending the list of nonvoters a ~~nonforwardable~~ forwardable notice, followed by the appropriate
6 forwardable confirmation notice to those electors who appear to have moved from their addresses of record;

7 (ii) comparing the list of nonvoters against the national change of address files, followed by the
8 appropriate confirmation notices to those electors who appear to have moved from their addresses of record;

9 (iii) sending forwardable confirmation notices; or

10 (iv) making a door-to-door canvass.

11 (2) (a) Any notices returned as undeliverable to the election administrator or any notices to which
12 the elector fails to respond after the election administrator uses the procedures provided in subsection (1) must
13 be followed within 30 days by an appropriate confirmation notice that is a forwardable, first-class, postage-paid,
14 self-addressed, return notice.

15 (b) If the elector fails to respond within 30 days of the final confirmation notice, after the 30th day,
16 the election administrator shall move the elector to the inactive list and work with the secretary of state's office
17 and the motor vehicle division in the department of justice to verify the elector's address.

18 (c) If the election administrator is not able to verify the elector's address, the elector must be
19 placed on the inactive list until they follow the procedure in 13-2-222 or 13-2-304, as applicable.

20 (3) A procedure used by an election administrator pursuant to this section must be completed at
21 least 90 days before a primary or general election for federal office.

22 (4) An elector's registration may be reactivated pursuant to 13-2-222 or may be canceled pursuant
23 to 13-2-402.

24 (5) The secretary of state shall adopt rules to maintain applicants, including removing provisionally
25 registered electors."

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