

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

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HOUSE BILL 1231

Short Title: No Voter Registration Changes At DMV. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Ward, Loftis, and Howard (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

May 12, 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE ABILITY TO UPDATE EXISTING VOTER REGISTRATION ON THE DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLES' (DMV) WEBSITE OR AT DMV PHYSICAL LOCATIONS AND REQUIRE THAT CHANGES BE MADE AT COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** G.S. 163-82.19 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163-82.19. **Voter registration at drivers license offices; coordination on data interface.**

(a) Voter Registration at Drivers License Offices. – The Division of Motor Vehicles shall, pursuant to the rules adopted by the State Board of Elections, modify its forms so that any eligible person who applies for original issuance, renewal or correction of a drivers license, or special identification card issued under G.S. 20-37.7 may, on a part of the form, complete an application to register to ~~vote, or vote.~~ A voter seeking to update the voter's registration if the voter (i) has changed his or her address or moved from one precinct to another or from one county to ~~another.~~ another or (ii) wants to change the voter's name or party affiliation, shall make those changes at the appropriate county board of elections. The person taking the application shall ask if the applicant is a citizen of the United States. If the applicant states that the applicant is not a citizen of the United States, or declines to answer the question, the person taking the application shall inform the applicant that it is a felony for a person who is not a citizen of the United States to apply to register to vote. The application shall state in clear language the penalty for violation of this section. The necessary forms shall be prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The form must ask for the previous voter registration address of the voter, if any. If a previous address is listed, and it is not in the county of residence of the applicant, the appropriate county board of elections shall treat the application as an authorization to cancel the previous registration and also process it as such under the procedures of G.S. 163-82.9. If a previous address is listed and that address is in the county where the voter applies to register, the application shall be processed as if it had been submitted under G.S. 163-82.9.

Registration shall become effective as provided in G.S. 163-82.7. Applications to register to vote accepted at a drivers license office under this section until the deadline established in G.S. 163-82.6(d)(2) shall be treated as timely made for an election, and no person who completes an application at that drivers license office shall be denied the vote in that election for failure to apply earlier than that deadline.

All applications shall be forwarded by the Department of Transportation to the appropriate board of elections not later than five business days after the date of acceptance, according to rules



1 which shall be promulgated by the State Board of Elections. Those rules shall provide for a  
2 paperless, instant, electronic transfer of applications to the appropriate board of elections.  
3 ...."  
4 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to changes in  
5 voter registration occurring on or after that date.