

# HB2399



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB2399

Introduced 2/4/2025, by Rep. Maurice A. West, II

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5

Amends the Election Code. Provides that, no later than December 31, 2025, the State Board of Elections shall implement an application programming interface to allow third-party organizations approved by the State Board of Elections to submit complete voter registration applications in a standardized data format. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

LRB104 09421 SPS 19481 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing  
5 Section 1A-16.5 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5)

7 Sec. 1A-16.5. Online voter registration.

8 (a) The State Board of Elections shall establish and  
9 maintain a system for online voter registration that permits a  
10 person to apply to register to vote or to update his or her  
11 existing voter registration. In accordance with technical  
12 specifications provided by the State Board of Elections, each  
13 election authority shall maintain a voter registration system  
14 capable of receiving and processing voter registration  
15 application information, including electronic signatures, from  
16 the online voter registration system established by the State  
17 Board of Elections.

18 (b) The online voter registration system shall employ  
19 security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of  
20 voter registration applications submitted electronically  
21 pursuant to this Section.

22 (b-5) No later than December 31, 2025, the State Board of  
23 Elections shall implement an application programming interface

1 to allow third-party organizations approved by the State Board  
2 of Elections to submit complete voter registration  
3 applications in a standardized data format.

4 (c) The Board may receive voter registration information  
5 provided by applicants using the State Board of Elections'  
6 website or another electronic method approved by the State  
7 Board of Elections using an application programming interface,  
8 may cross reference that information with data or information  
9 contained in the Secretary of State's database in order to  
10 match the information submitted by applicants, and may receive  
11 from the Secretary of State the applicant's digitized  
12 signature upon a successful match of that applicant's  
13 information with that contained in the Secretary of State's  
14 database.

15 (d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a person  
16 who is qualified to register to vote and who has an authentic  
17 Illinois driver's license or State identification card issued  
18 by the Secretary of State may submit an application to  
19 register to vote electronically on a website maintained by the  
20 State Board of Elections or through another electronic method  
21 approved by the State Board of Elections using an application  
22 programming interface.

23 (e) An online voter registration application shall contain  
24 all of the information that is required for a paper  
25 application as provided in Section 1A-16 of this Code, except  
26 that the applicant shall be required to provide:

1           (1) the applicant's full Illinois driver's license or  
2           State identification card number;

3           (2) the last 4 digits of the applicant's social  
4           security number; and

5           (3) the date the Illinois driver's license or State  
6           identification card was issued.

7           (f) For an applicant's registration or change in  
8           registration to be accepted, the applicant shall mark the box  
9           associated with the following statement included as part of  
10          the online voter registration application:

11          "By clicking on the box below, I swear or affirm all of the  
12          following:

13           (1) I am the person whose name and identifying information  
14           is provided on this form, and I desire to register to vote in  
15           the State of Illinois.

16           (2) All the information I have provided on this form is  
17           true and correct as of the date I am submitting this form.

18           (3) I authorize the Secretary of State to transmit to the  
19           State Board of Elections my signature that is on file with the  
20           Secretary of State and understand that such signature will be  
21           used by my local election authority on this online voter  
22           registration application for admission as an elector as if I  
23           had signed this form personally."

24           (g) Immediately upon receiving a completed online voter  
25           registration application, the online voter registration system  
26           shall send, by electronic mail, a confirmation notice that the

1 application has been received. Within 48 hours of receiving  
2 such an application, the online voter registration system  
3 shall send by electronic mail, a notice informing the  
4 applicant of whether the following information has been  
5 matched with the Secretary of State database:

6 (1) that the applicant has an authentic Illinois  
7 driver's license or State identification card issued by  
8 the Secretary of State and that the driver's license or  
9 State identification number provided by the applicant  
10 matches the driver's license or State identification card  
11 number for that person on file with the Secretary of  
12 State;

13 (2) that the date of issuance of the Illinois driver's  
14 license or State identification card listed on the  
15 application matches the date of issuance of that card for  
16 that person on file with the Secretary of State;

17 (3) that the date of birth provided by the applicant  
18 matches the date of birth for that person on file with the  
19 Secretary of State; and

20 (4) that the last 4 digits of the applicant's social  
21 security number matches the last 4 digits for that person  
22 on file with the Secretary of State.

23 (h) If the information provided by the applicant matches  
24 the information on the Secretary of State's databases for any  
25 driver's license and State identification card holder and is  
26 matched as provided in subsection (g) above, the online voter

1 registration system shall:

2 (1) retrieve from the Secretary of State's database  
3 files an electronic copy of the applicant's signature from  
4 his or her Illinois driver's license or State  
5 identification card and such signature shall be deemed to  
6 be the applicant's signature on his or her online voter  
7 registration application;

8 (2) within 2 days of receiving the application,  
9 forward to the county clerk or board of election  
10 commissioners having jurisdiction over the applicant's  
11 voter registration: (i) the application, along with the  
12 applicant's relevant data that can be directly loaded into  
13 the jurisdiction's voter registration system and (ii) a  
14 copy of the applicant's electronic signature and a  
15 certification from the State Board of Elections that the  
16 applicant's driver's license or State identification card  
17 number, driver's license or State identification card date  
18 of issuance, and date of birth and social security  
19 information have been successfully matched.

20 (i) Upon receipt of the online voter registration  
21 application, the county clerk or board of election  
22 commissioners having jurisdiction over the applicant's voter  
23 registration shall promptly search its voter registration  
24 database to determine whether the applicant is already  
25 registered to vote at the address on the application and  
26 whether the new registration would create a duplicate

1 registration. If the applicant is already registered to vote  
2 at the address on the application, the clerk or board, as the  
3 case may be, shall send the applicant by first class mail, and  
4 electronic mail if the applicant has provided an electronic  
5 mail address on the original voter registration form for that  
6 address, a disposition notice as otherwise required by law  
7 informing the applicant that he or she is already registered  
8 to vote at such address. If the applicant is not already  
9 registered to vote at the address on the application and the  
10 applicant is otherwise eligible to register to vote, the clerk  
11 or board, as the case may be, shall:

12 (1) enter the name and address of the applicant on the  
13 list of registered voters in the jurisdiction; and

14 (2) send by mail, and electronic mail if the applicant  
15 has provided an electronic mail address on the voter  
16 registration form, a disposition notice to the applicant  
17 as otherwise provided by law setting forth the applicant's  
18 name and address as it appears on the application and  
19 stating that the person is registered to vote.

20 (j) An electronic signature of the person submitting a  
21 duplicate registration application or a change of address form  
22 that is retrieved and imported from the Secretary of State's  
23 driver's license or State identification card database as  
24 provided herein may, in the discretion of the clerk or board,  
25 be substituted for and replace any existing signature for that  
26 individual in the voter registration database of the county

1 clerk or board of election commissioners.

2 (k) Any new registration or change of address submitted  
3 electronically as provided in this Section shall become  
4 effective as of the date it is received by the county clerk or  
5 board of election commissioners having jurisdiction over said  
6 registration. Disposition notices prescribed in this Section  
7 shall be sent within 5 business days of receipt of the online  
8 application or change of address by the county clerk or board  
9 of election commissioners.

10 (l) All provisions of this Code governing voter  
11 registration and applicable thereto and not inconsistent with  
12 this Section shall apply to online voter registration under  
13 this Section. All applications submitted on a website  
14 maintained by the State Board of Elections or through another  
15 electronic method approved by the State Board of Elections  
16 using an application programming interface shall be deemed  
17 timely filed if they are submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on  
18 the 16th day prior to an election. After the registration  
19 period for an upcoming election has ended and until the 2nd day  
20 following such election, the web page containing the online  
21 voter registration form on the State Board of Elections  
22 website and the home page of another electronic method  
23 approved by the State Board of Elections using an application  
24 programming interface shall inform users of the procedure for  
25 grace period voting.

26 (m) The State Board of Elections shall maintain a list of

1 the name, street address, e-mail address, and likely precinct,  
2 ward, township, and district numbers, as the case may be, of  
3 people who apply to vote online through the voter registration  
4 system or through another electronic method approved by the  
5 State Board of Elections using an application programming  
6 interface, and those names and that information shall be  
7 stored in an electronic format on its website, arranged by  
8 county and accessible to State and local political committees.

9 (n) The Illinois State Board of Elections shall develop or  
10 cause to be developed an online voter registration system able  
11 to be accessed by at least the top two most used mobile  
12 electronic operating systems by January 1, 2016.

13 (o) (Blank).

14 (p) Each State department that maintains an Internet  
15 website must include a hypertext link to the homepage website  
16 maintained and operated pursuant to this Section 1A-16.5. For  
17 the purposes of this Section, "State department" means the  
18 departments of State Government listed in Section 5-15 of the  
19 Civil Administrative Code of Illinois (General Provisions and  
20 Departments of State Government).

21 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 7-29-13; 98-756, eff. 7-16-14;  
22 98-1171, eff. 6-1-15; 99-522, eff. 6-30-16.)

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
24 becoming law.