

El255
3.157-2
1995/9
Copy 1

S. C. STATE LIBRARY



NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT OF 1993

STATE DOCUMENTS

An Update of the "Motor-Voter" legislation by the South Carolina Election Commission

Legislation must be in effect by January 1, 1995

September 1993 - 2

With the passage of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA), H. R. 2, all 50 states must enact similar voter registration policies. The Federal Election Commission is the federal agency responsible for overseeing this legislation. The State Election Commission is the agency in South Carolina responsible for administering the Act locally. Throughout the next year, our office will update you with new developments involving H.R. 2.

Regional Conference Planned

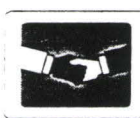


The Federal Election Commission has scheduled a regional conference on the NVRA for October 23 and 24 in Atlanta, Georgia. 10 Southern states and D.C. will be attending. The purpose is to provide information on our responsibilities, to discuss the major issues when developing conforming legislation, and to examine approaches to implementing the various provision of the Act.

If you are interested in attending, please contact our office.

Task Force Named

The SEC has started to organize those responsible for assisting in planning and implementing the NVRA. The first meeting is scheduled for the first week of October. The task force areas include: Governor's and Lt. Gov.'s office, Department of Motor



Vehicles (DMV), the Attorney General's office, Legislative Council, Senate Judiciary, Senate Finance, House Judiciary, House Ways and Means, Election Law Study Committee, Division of Information Resource Management (DIRM), Department of Social Services, Vocational Rehabilitation, Disabilities and Special Needs, Commission for the Blind, NAACP, S.C. Protection and Advocacy, and county voter registration offices.

Meetings Start

Two weeks ago, the legislative study group met. The group, consisting of members of the Senate and House



Judiciary, Attorney General's office, Legislative Council and our office, did a preliminary analysis of potential changes to Title 7 of the S.C. Code of Laws, including changing the registration by mail deadline from 45 days to 30 days, deleting the witness requirement, and removing the non-voting purge requirement.

Our office also met with the data processing areas of DIRM and DMV. The discussion involved the use of automation during the application process.

States with Motor Voter

Automatic - Voter registration form attached to driver's license application and/or renewal forms OR computer program asks: "Do you wish to apply to register to vote?"

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Colorado - start date 1985 | Montana - 1991 |
| District of Columbia - 1989 | Ohio - 1983 |
| Iowa - 1989 | Oregon - 1993 |
| Minnesota - 1987 | Washington - 1992 |

Active - Registration form separate from driver's license application. Application/renewal/exam forms include check-off for customers wishing to apply to register and/or DMV employees ask.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Arizona - 1982 | Idaho - 1991 |
| Illinois - 1991 | New York - 1991 |
| Maine - 1990 | North Carolina - 1983 |
| Michigan - 1975 | Rhode Island - 1990 |
| Nevada - 1988 | Vermont - 1991 |
| New Mexico - 1991 | West Virginia - 1991 |

Passive - Registration forms at DMV. Employees do not ask.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Alaska - 1989 | Maryland - 1991 |
| Connecticut - 1989 | Mississippi - 1992 |
| Hawaii - 1990 | New Jersey - 1989 |
| Louisiana - 1991 | Pennsylvania - 1976 |

Source: League of Women Voters of the United States, June 1992

Voter Registration Board, please copy for your board members. If you have questions, contact the Federal Election Commission, 202-219-3420 or the S.C. Election Commission, P.O. Box 5987, Columbia, S.C. 29250, 803-734-9060.