



Legislative Council Staff

Research Note

Version: Final

Date: 11/29/2016

Bill Number

Senate Bill 16-107

Sponsors

Senator Cooke
Representative Pabon

Short Title

**Regulation Of Voter
Registration Drive Circulators**

Research Analyst

Vanessa Conway (x4753)

Status

This research note reflects the final version of the bill, which was signed by the Governor and became effective March 23, 2016.

Summary

This bill requires voter registration drive circulators to meet training requirements established by the Secretary of State (SOS) prior to circulating any voter registration applications. This training is to be provided by the voter registration drive organizer. The voter registration drive organizer is required to maintain training records and make them available to the SOS.

In addition, when a circulator accepts an application for registration less than 22 days prior to an election, they are required to inform the voter that they must submit an application for registration at a voter service and polling center, through the online voter registration system, or at their county clerks office in order to vote in the upcoming election.

Background

Voter registration drives (VRDs) are campaigns undertaken by political parties or interest groups to register people who are eligible to vote. In Colorado, VRDs must register with the SOS on an annual basis and VRD organizers must complete mandatory training provided by the SOS. Voters in Colorado may vote their mail ballots as early as 21 days before the election, however, mail ballots are not sent to voters who register within 8 days of an election. Though these voters may register and vote on the same day, they must do so in person at a voter service and polling center if they are trying to register and vote within 8 days of an election.

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Senate Action

Senate State Affairs Committee (February 8, 2016). At the hearing, the Colorado Secretary of State, the Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder, and representatives from Colorado Common Cause, the League of Women Voters, the Colorado County Clerks Association, and the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office testified in support of the bill. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole with a recommendation that it be placed on the consent calendar.

Senate second reading (February 12, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

Senate third reading (February 16, 2016). The Senate passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.

House Action

House State Affairs Committee (February 29, 2016). At the hearing, the Colorado Secretary of State, the Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder, and representatives from Colorado Common Cause, the Colorado County Clerks Association, and the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office testified in support of the bill. One private citizen testified in a neutral position. The committee referred the bill, unamended, to the House Committee of the Whole.

House second reading (March 3, 2016). The House passed the bill on second reading with no amendments.

House third reading (March 4, 2016). The House passed the bill on third reading with no amendments.