



## 99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

### 2015 and 2016

### SB2836

Introduced 2/17/2016, by Sen. Andy Manar

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/1-3	from Ch. 46, par. 1-3
10 ILCS 5/1-13 new	
10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5	
10 ILCS 5/4-8	from Ch. 46, par. 4-8
10 ILCS 5/4-20	from Ch. 46, par. 4-20
10 ILCS 5/4-33	
10 ILCS 5/5-7	from Ch. 46, par. 5-7
10 ILCS 5/5-28	from Ch. 46, par. 5-28
10 ILCS 5/5-43	
10 ILCS 5/6-35	from Ch. 46, par. 6-35
10 ILCS 5/6-65	from Ch. 46, par. 6-65
10 ILCS 5/6-79	
10 ILCS 5/20-8	from Ch. 46, par. 20-8

Amends the Election Code. Provides that the making and signing of any form may be by a signature in ink or in digitized form. Provides that all applications submitted on a website maintained by the State Board of Elections shall be deemed timely filed if they are submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on the 16th day (instead of on the final day for voter registration) prior to an election. Provides that each vote by mail voter's ballot returned to an election authority, by any means authorized by the Code, and received by that election authority may be processed by the election authority beginning on the day it is received by the election authority (instead of the 15th day before election day) in the central ballot counting location of the election authority, but the results of the processing may not be counted until the day of the election after 7:00 p.m., except as otherwise provided. Provides that voter registration master files may be kept in a computer-based file or paper format. Provides that the digital voter registration files shall be searchable and remain current with all registration activity conducted by the county clerk or election authority. Makes various changes concerning digital signatures. Effective immediately.

LRB099 20385 MLM 44870 b

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 Sections 1-3, 1A-16.5, 4-8, 4-20, 4-33, 5-7, 5-28, 5-43, 6-35,  
6 6-65, 6-79, and 20-8 and by adding Section 1-13 as follows:

7 (10 ILCS 5/1-3) (from Ch. 46, par. 1-3)

8 Sec. 1-3. As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise  
9 requires:

10 1. "Election" includes the submission of all questions of  
11 public policy, propositions, and all measures submitted to  
12 popular vote, and includes primary elections when so indicated  
13 by the context.

14 2. "Regular election" means the general, general primary,  
15 consolidated and consolidated primary elections regularly  
16 scheduled in Article 2A. The even numbered year municipal  
17 primary established in Article 2A is a regular election only  
18 with respect to those municipalities in which a primary is  
19 required to be held on such date.

20 3. "Special election" means an election not regularly  
21 recurring at fixed intervals, irrespective of whether it is  
22 held at the same time and place and by the same election  
23 officers as a regular election.

1           4. "General election" means the biennial election at which  
2 members of the General Assembly are elected. "General primary  
3 election", "consolidated election" and "consolidated primary  
4 election" mean the respective elections or the election dates  
5 designated and established in Article 2A of this Code.

6           5. "Municipal election" means an election or primary,  
7 either regular or special, in cities, villages, and  
8 incorporated towns; and "municipality" means any such city,  
9 village or incorporated town.

10          6. "Political or governmental subdivision" means any unit  
11 of local government, or school district in which elections are  
12 or may be held. "Political or governmental subdivision" also  
13 includes, for election purposes, Regional Boards of School  
14 Trustees, and Township Boards of School Trustees.

15          7. The word "township" and the word "town" shall apply  
16 interchangeably to the type of governmental organization  
17 established in accordance with the provisions of the Township  
18 Code. The term "incorporated town" shall mean a municipality  
19 referred to as an incorporated town in the Illinois Municipal  
20 Code, as now or hereafter amended.

21          8. "Election authority" means a county clerk or a Board of  
22 Election Commissioners.

23          9. "Election Jurisdiction" means (a) an entire county, in  
24 the case of a county in which no city board of election  
25 commissioners is located or which is under the jurisdiction of  
26 a county board of election commissioners; (b) the territorial

1 jurisdiction of a city board of election commissioners; and (c)  
2 the territory in a county outside of the jurisdiction of a city  
3 board of election commissioners. In each instance election  
4 jurisdiction shall be determined according to which election  
5 authority maintains the permanent registration records of  
6 qualified electors.

7 10. "Local election official" means the clerk or secretary  
8 of a unit of local government or school district, as the case  
9 may be, the treasurer of a township board of school trustees,  
10 and the regional superintendent of schools with respect to the  
11 various school officer elections and school referenda for which  
12 the regional superintendent is assigned election duties by The  
13 School Code, as now or hereafter amended.

14 11. "Judges of election", "primary judges" and similar  
15 terms, as applied to cases where there are 2 sets of judges,  
16 when used in connection with duties at an election during the  
17 hours the polls are open, refer to the team of judges of  
18 election on duty during such hours; and, when used with  
19 reference to duties after the closing of the polls, refer to  
20 the team of tally judges designated to count the vote after the  
21 closing of the polls and the holdover judges designated  
22 pursuant to Section 13-6.2 or 14-5.2. In such case, where,  
23 after the closing of the polls, any act is required to be  
24 performed by each of the judges of election, it shall be  
25 performed by each of the tally judges and by each of the  
26 holdover judges.

1           12. "Petition" of candidacy as used in Sections 7-10 and  
2 7-10.1 shall consist of a statement of candidacy, candidate's  
3 statement containing oath, and sheets containing signatures of  
4 qualified primary electors bound together.

5           13. "Election district" and "precinct", when used with  
6 reference to a 30-day residence requirement, means the smallest  
7 constituent territory in which electors vote as a unit at the  
8 same polling place in any election governed by this Act.

9           14. "District" means any area which votes as a unit for the  
10 election of any officer, other than the State or a unit of  
11 local government or school district, and includes, but is not  
12 limited to, legislative, congressional and judicial districts,  
13 judicial circuits, county board districts, municipal and  
14 sanitary district wards, school board districts, and  
15 precincts.

16           15. "Question of public policy" or "public question" means  
17 any question, proposition or measure submitted to the voters at  
18 an election dealing with subject matter other than the  
19 nomination or election of candidates and shall include, but is  
20 not limited to, any bond or tax referendum, and questions  
21 relating to the Constitution.

22           16. "Ordinance providing the form of government of a  
23 municipality or county pursuant to Article VII of the  
24 Constitution" includes ordinances, resolutions and petitions  
25 adopted by referendum which provide for the form of government,  
26 the officers or the manner of selection or terms of office of

1 officers of such municipality or county, pursuant to the  
2 provisions of Sections 4, 6 or 7 of Article VII of the  
3 Constitution.

4 17. "List" as used in Sections 4-11, 4-22, 5-14, 5-29,  
5 6-60, and 6-66 shall include a computer tape or computer disc  
6 or other electronic data processing information containing  
7 voter information.

8 18. "Accessible" means accessible to persons with  
9 disabilities and elderly individuals for the purpose of voting  
10 or registration, as determined by rule of the State Board of  
11 Elections.

12 19. "Elderly" means 65 years of age or older.

13 20. "Person with a disability" means a person having a  
14 temporary or permanent physical disability.

15 21. "Leading political party" means one of the two  
16 political parties whose candidates for governor at the most  
17 recent three gubernatorial elections received either the  
18 highest or second highest average number of votes. The  
19 political party whose candidates for governor received the  
20 highest average number of votes shall be known as the first  
21 leading political party and the political party whose  
22 candidates for governor received the second highest average  
23 number of votes shall be known as the second leading political  
24 party.

25 22. "Business day" means any day in which the office of an  
26 election authority, local election official or the State Board

1 of Elections is open to the public for a minimum of 7 hours.

2 23. "Homeless individual" means any person who has a  
3 nontraditional residence, including, but not limited to, a  
4 shelter, day shelter, park bench, street corner, or space under  
5 a bridge.

6 24. "Signature" means a name signed in ink or in digitized  
7 form.

8 (Source: P.A. 99-143, eff. 7-27-15.)

9 (10 ILCS 5/1-13 new)

10 Sec. 1-13. Forms of signature. The making and signing of  
11 any form, including an application to register, a certificate  
12 authorizing cancellation of a registration or authorizing a  
13 transfer of registration, an application to vote, a provisional  
14 ballot, or affidavit, may be by a signature written in ink or  
15 in digitized form.

16 (10 ILCS 5/1A-16.5)

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

18 (a) The State Board of Elections shall establish and  
19 maintain a system for online voter registration that permits a  
20 person to apply to register to vote or to update his or her  
21 existing voter registration. In accordance with technical  
22 specifications provided by the State Board of Elections, each  
23 election authority shall maintain a voter registration system  
24 capable of receiving and processing voter registration

1 application information, including electronic signatures, from  
2 the online voter registration system established by the State  
3 Board of Elections.

4 (b) The online voter registration system shall employ  
5 security measures to ensure the accuracy and integrity of voter  
6 registration applications submitted electronically pursuant to  
7 this Section.

8 (c) The Board may receive voter registration information  
9 provided by applicants using the State Board of Elections'  
10 website, may cross reference that information with data or  
11 information contained in the Secretary of State's database in  
12 order to match the information submitted by applicants, and may  
13 receive from the Secretary of State the applicant's digitized  
14 signature upon a successful match of that applicant's  
15 information with that contained in the Secretary of State's  
16 database.

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

23 (e) An online voter registration application shall contain  
24 all of the information that is required for a paper application  
25 as provided in Section 1A-16 of this Code, except that the  
26 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 the  
10          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 shall  
3 send by electronic mail, a notice informing the applicant of  
4 whether the following information has been matched with the  
5 Secretary of State database:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

21           (m) The State Board of Elections shall maintain a list of  
22 the name, street address, e-mail address, and likely precinct,  
23 ward, township, and district numbers, as the case may be, of  
24 people who apply to vote online through the voter registration  
25 system and those names and that information shall be stored in  
26 an electronic format on its website, arranged by county and

1 accessible to State and local political committees.

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

6 (o) (Blank).

7 (p) Each State department that maintains an Internet  
8 website must include a hypertext link to the homepage website  
9 maintained and operated pursuant to this Section 1A-16.5. For  
10 the purposes of this Section, "State department" means the  
11 departments of State Government listed in Section 5-15 of the  
12 Civil Administrative Code of Illinois (General Provisions and  
13 Departments of State Government).

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

16 (10 ILCS 5/4-8) (from Ch. 46, par. 4-8)

17 Sec. 4-8. The county clerk shall provide a sufficient  
18 number of blank forms for the registration of electors, which  
19 shall be known as registration record cards and which shall  
20 consist of loose leaf sheets or cards, of suitable size to  
21 contain in plain writing and figures the data hereinafter  
22 required thereon or shall consist of computer cards of suitable  
23 nature to contain the data required thereon. The registration  
24 record cards, which shall include an affidavit of registration  
25 as hereinafter provided, shall be executed in duplicate.

1           The registration record card shall contain the following  
2 and such other information as the county clerk may think it  
3 proper to require for the identification of the applicant for  
4 registration:

5           Name. The name of the applicant, giving surname and first  
6 or Christian name in full, and the middle name or the initial  
7 for such middle name, if any.

8           Sex.

9           Residence. The name and number of the street, avenue, or  
10 other location of the dwelling, including the apartment, unit  
11 or room number, if any, and in the case of a mobile home the lot  
12 number, and such additional clear and definite description as  
13 may be necessary to determine the exact location of the  
14 dwelling of the applicant. Where the location cannot be  
15 determined by street and number, then the section,  
16 congressional township and range number may be used, or such  
17 other description as may be necessary, including post-office  
18 mailing address. In the case of a homeless individual, the  
19 individual's voting residence that is his or her mailing  
20 address shall be included on his or her registration record  
21 card.

22           Term of residence in the State of Illinois and precinct.  
23 This information shall be furnished by the applicant stating  
24 the place or places where he resided and the dates during which  
25 he resided in such place or places during the year next  
26 preceding the date of the next ensuing election.

1           Nativity. The state or country in which the applicant was  
2 born.

3           Citizenship. Whether the applicant is native born or  
4 naturalized. If naturalized, the court, place, and date of  
5 naturalization.

6           Date of application for registration, i.e., the day, month  
7 and year when applicant presented himself for registration.

8           Age. Date of birth, by month, day and year.

9           Physical disability of the applicant, if any, at the time  
10 of registration, which would require assistance in voting.

11          The county and state in which the applicant was last  
12 registered.

13          Electronic mail address, if any.

14          Signature of voter. The applicant, after the registration  
15 and in the presence of a deputy registrar or other officer of  
16 registration shall be required to sign his or her name in ink  
17 or digitized form to the affidavit on both the original and  
18 duplicate registration record cards.

19          Signature of deputy registrar or officer of registration.

20          In case applicant is unable to sign his name, he may affix  
21 his mark to the affidavit. In such case the officer empowered  
22 to give the registration oath shall write a detailed  
23 description of the applicant in the space provided on the back  
24 or at the bottom of the card or sheet; and shall ask the  
25 following questions and record the answers thereto:

26          Father's first name.



1 Mother's first name.

2 From what address did the applicant last register?

3 Reason for inability to sign name.

4 Each applicant for registration shall make an affidavit in  
5 substantially the following form:

6 AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION

7 STATE OF ILLINOIS

8 COUNTY OF .....

9 I hereby swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the  
10 United States; that on the date of the next election I shall  
11 have resided in the State of Illinois and in the election  
12 precinct in which I reside 30 days and that I intend that this  
13 location shall be my residence; that I am fully qualified to  
14 vote, and that the above statements are true.

15 .....

16 (His or her signature or mark)

17 Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).

18 .....

19 Signature of registration officer.

20 (To be signed in presence of registrant.)

21 Space shall be provided upon the face of each registration  
22 record card for the notation of the voting record of the person  
23 registered thereon.

24 Each registration record card shall be numbered according  
25 to precincts, and may be serially or otherwise marked for

1 identification in such manner as the county clerk may  
2 determine.

3 The registration cards shall be deemed public records and  
4 shall be open to inspection during regular business hours,  
5 except during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
6 On written request of any candidate or objector or any person  
7 intending to object to a petition, the election authority shall  
8 extend its hours for inspection of registration cards and other  
9 records of the election authority during the period beginning  
10 with the filing of petitions under Sections 7-10, 8-8, 10-6 or  
11 28-3 and continuing through the termination of electoral board  
12 hearings on any objections to petitions containing signatures  
13 of registered voters in the jurisdiction of the election  
14 authority. The extension shall be for a period of hours  
15 sufficient to allow adequate opportunity for examination of the  
16 records but the election authority is not required to extend  
17 its hours beyond the period beginning at its normal opening for  
18 business and ending at midnight. If the business hours are so  
19 extended, the election authority shall post a public notice of  
20 such extended hours. Registration record cards may also be  
21 inspected, upon approval of the officer in charge of the cards,  
22 during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
23 Registration record cards shall also be open to inspection by  
24 certified judges and poll watchers and challengers at the  
25 polling place on election day, but only to the extent necessary  
26 to determine the question of the right of a person to vote or

1 to serve as a judge of election. At no time shall poll watchers  
2 or challengers be allowed to physically handle the registration  
3 record cards.

4 Updated copies of computer tapes or computer discs or other  
5 electronic data processing information containing voter  
6 registration information shall be furnished by the county clerk  
7 within 10 days after December 15 and May 15 each year and  
8 within 10 days after each registration period is closed to the  
9 State Board of Elections in a form prescribed by the Board. For  
10 the purposes of this Section, a registration period is closed  
11 27 days before the date of any regular or special election.  
12 Registration information shall include, but not be limited to,  
13 the following information: name, sex, residence, telephone  
14 number, if any, age, party affiliation, if applicable,  
15 precinct, ward, township, county, and representative,  
16 legislative and congressional districts. In the event of  
17 noncompliance, the State Board of Elections is directed to  
18 obtain compliance forthwith with this nondiscretionary duty of  
19 the election authority by instituting legal proceedings in the  
20 circuit court of the county in which the election authority  
21 maintains the registration information. The costs of  
22 furnishing updated copies of tapes or discs shall be paid at a  
23 rate of \$.00034 per name of registered voters in the election  
24 jurisdiction, but not less than \$50 per tape or disc and shall  
25 be paid from appropriations made to the State Board of  
26 Elections for reimbursement to the election authority for such

1 purpose. The State Board shall furnish copies of such tapes,  
2 discs, other electronic data or compilations thereof to state  
3 political committees registered pursuant to the Illinois  
4 Campaign Finance Act or the Federal Election Campaign Act and  
5 to governmental entities, at their request and at a reasonable  
6 cost. To protect the privacy and confidentiality of voter  
7 registration information, the disclosure of electronic voter  
8 registration records to any person or entity other than to a  
9 State or local political committee and other than to a  
10 governmental entity for a governmental purpose is specifically  
11 prohibited except as follows: subject to security measures  
12 adopted by the State Board of Elections which, at a minimum,  
13 shall include the keeping of a catalog or database, available  
14 for public view, including the name, address, and telephone  
15 number of the person viewing the list as well as the time of  
16 that viewing, any person may view the centralized statewide  
17 voter registration list on a computer screen at the Springfield  
18 office of the State Board of Elections, during normal business  
19 hours other than during the 27 days before an election, but the  
20 person viewing the list under this exception may not print,  
21 duplicate, transmit, or alter the list. Copies of the tapes,  
22 discs, or other electronic data shall be furnished by the  
23 county clerk to local political committees and governmental  
24 entities at their request and at a reasonable cost. Reasonable  
25 cost of the tapes, discs, et cetera for this purpose would be  
26 the cost of duplication plus 15% for administration. The

1 individual representing a political committee requesting  
2 copies of such tapes shall make a sworn affidavit that the  
3 information shall be used only for bona fide political  
4 purposes, including by or for candidates for office or  
5 incumbent office holders. Such tapes, discs or other electronic  
6 data shall not be used under any circumstances by any political  
7 committee or individuals for purposes of commercial  
8 solicitation or other business purposes. If such tapes contain  
9 information on county residents related to the operations of  
10 county government in addition to registration information,  
11 that information shall not be used under any circumstances for  
12 commercial solicitation or other business purposes. The  
13 prohibition in this Section against using the computer tapes or  
14 computer discs or other electronic data processing information  
15 containing voter registration information for purposes of  
16 commercial solicitation or other business purposes shall be  
17 prospective only from the effective date of this amended Act of  
18 1979. Any person who violates this provision shall be guilty of  
19 a Class 4 felony.

20 The State Board of Elections shall promulgate, by October  
21 1, 1987, such regulations as may be necessary to ensure  
22 uniformity throughout the State in electronic data processing  
23 of voter registration information. The regulations shall  
24 include, but need not be limited to, specifications for uniform  
25 medium, communications protocol and file structure to be  
26 employed by the election authorities of this State in the

1 electronic data processing of voter registration information.  
 2 Each election authority utilizing electronic data processing  
 3 of voter registration information shall comply with such  
 4 regulations on and after May 15, 1988.

5 If the applicant for registration was last registered in  
 6 another county within this State, he shall also sign a  
 7 certificate authorizing cancellation of the former  
 8 registration. The certificate shall be in substantially the  
 9 following form:

10 To the County Clerk of.... County, Illinois. (or)

11 To the Election Commission of the City of ....., Illinois.

12 This is to certify that I am registered in your (county)  
 13 (city) and that my residence was .....

14 Having moved out of your (county) (city), I hereby authorize  
 15 you to cancel said registration in your office.

16 Dated at ....., Illinois, on (insert date).

17 .....

18 (Signature of Voter)

19 Attest: ....., County Clerk, .....

20 County, Illinois.

21 The cancellation certificate shall be mailed immediately  
 22 by the County Clerk to the County Clerk (or election commission  
 23 as the case may be) where the applicant was formerly  
 24 registered. Receipt of such certificate shall be full authority  
 25 for cancellation of any previous registration.

26 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 10-1-13.)

1 (10 ILCS 5/4-20) (from Ch. 46, par. 4-20)

2 Sec. 4-20. The original registration cards shall remain  
3 permanently in the office of the county clerk or election  
4 authority except as destroyed as provided in Section 4-5.01;  
5 shall be filed alphabetically without regard to precincts; and  
6 shall be known as the master file. The master file may be kept  
7 in a computer-based voter registration file or paper format,  
8 provided a secondary digital back-up is kept off site. The  
9 digital file shall be searchable and remain current with all  
10 registration activity conducted by the County Clerk or election  
11 authority. The duplicate registration cards shall constitute  
12 the official registry of voters for all elections subject to  
13 the provisions of this Article 4, shall be filed by precincts  
14 alphabetically or geographically so as to correspond with the  
15 arrangement of the list for such precincts respectively,  
16 compiled pursuant to Section 4-11 of this Article, and shall be  
17 known as the precinct file. The duplicate cards for use in  
18 conducting elections shall be delivered to the judges of  
19 election by the county clerk in a suitable binder or other  
20 device, which shall be locked and sealed in accordance with the  
21 directions to be given by the county clerk and shall also be  
22 suitably indexed for convenient use by the precinct officers.  
23 The duplicate cards shall be delivered to the judges of  
24 election for use at the polls for elections at the same time as  
25 the official ballots are delivered to them, and shall be

1 returned to the county clerk by the judges of election within  
2 the time provided for the return of the official ballots. The  
3 county clerk shall determine the manner of delivery and return  
4 of such duplicate cards, and shall at all other times retain  
5 them at his office except for such use of them as may be made  
6 under this Article with respect to registration not at the  
7 office of the county clerk.

8 (Source: P.A. 80-1469.)

9 (10 ILCS 5/4-33)

10 Sec. 4-33. Computerization of voter records.

11 (a) The State Board of Elections shall design a  
12 registration record card that, except as otherwise provided in  
13 this Section, shall be used in duplicate by all election  
14 authorities in the State adopting a computer-based voter  
15 registration file as provided in this Section. The Board shall  
16 prescribe the form and specifications, including but not  
17 limited to the weight of paper, color, and print of the cards.  
18 The cards shall contain boxes or spaces for the information  
19 required under Sections 4-8 and 4-21; provided that the cards  
20 shall also contain: (i) A space for a person to fill in his or  
21 her Illinois driver's license number if the person has a  
22 driver's license; (ii) A space for a person without a driver's  
23 license to fill in the last four digits of his or her social  
24 security number if the person has a social security number.

25 (b) The election authority may develop and implement a



1 system to prepare, use, and maintain a computer-based voter  
2 registration file that includes a computer-stored image of the  
3 signature of each voter. The computer-based voter registration  
4 file may be used for all purposes for which the original  
5 registration cards are to be used, ~~provided that a system for~~  
6 ~~the storage of at least one copy of the original registration~~  
7 ~~cards remains in effect.~~ In the case of voter registration  
8 forms received via an online voter registration system, the  
9 original registration cards will include the signature  
10 received from the Secretary of State database. The electronic  
11 file shall be the master file.

12 (b-2) The election authority may develop and implement a  
13 system to maintain registration cards in digital form using  
14 digitized signatures, which may be stored in a computer-based  
15 voter registration file under subsection (b) of this Section.  
16 The making and signing of any form, including an application to  
17 register and a certificate authorizing cancellation of a  
18 registration or authorizing a transfer of registration may be  
19 by a signature written in ink or by a digitized signature.

20 (c) Any system created, used, and maintained under  
21 subsection (b) of this Section shall meet the following  
22 standards:

23 (1) Access to any computer-based voter registration  
24 file shall be limited to those persons authorized by the  
25 election authority, and each access to the computer-based  
26 voter registration file, other than an access solely for

1 inquiry, shall be recorded.

2 (2) No copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any  
3 computer-based voter registration file that includes any  
4 computer-stored image of the signature of any registered  
5 voter shall be made available to the public outside of the  
6 offices of the election authority.

7 (3) Any copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any  
8 computer-based voter registration file that includes a  
9 computer-stored image of the signature of a registered  
10 voter shall be produced in such a manner that it cannot be  
11 reproduced.

12 (4) Each person desiring to vote shall sign an  
13 application for a ballot, and the signature comparison  
14 authorized in Articles 17 and 18 of this Code may be made  
15 to a copy of the computer-stored image of the signature of  
16 the registered voter.

17 (5) Any voter list produced from a computer-based voter  
18 registration file that includes computer-stored images of  
19 the signatures of registered voters and is used in a  
20 polling place during an election shall be preserved by the  
21 election authority in secure storage until the end of the  
22 second calendar year following the election in which it was  
23 used.

24 (d) Before the first election in which the election  
25 authority elects to use a voter list produced from the  
26 computer-stored images of the signatures of registered voters

1 in a computer-based voter registration file for signature  
2 comparison in a polling place, the State Board of Elections  
3 shall certify that the system used by the election authority  
4 complies with the standards set forth in this Section. The  
5 State Board of Elections may request a sample poll list  
6 intended to be used in a polling place to test the accuracy of  
7 the list and the adequacy of the computer-stored images of the  
8 signatures of the registered voters.

9 (e) With respect to a jurisdiction that has copied all of  
10 its voter signatures into a computer-based registration file,  
11 all references in this Act or any other Act to the use, other  
12 than storage, of paper-based voter registration records shall  
13 be deemed to refer to their computer-based equivalents.

14 (f) Nothing in this Section prevents an election authority  
15 from submitting to the State Board of Elections a duplicate  
16 copy of some, as the State Board of Elections shall determine,  
17 or all of the data contained in each voter registration record  
18 that is part of the electronic master file. The duplicate copy  
19 of the registration record shall be maintained by the State  
20 Board of Elections under the same terms and limitations  
21 applicable to the election authority and shall be of equal  
22 legal dignity with the original registration record maintained  
23 by the election authority as proof of any fact contained in the  
24 voter registration record.

25 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 7-29-13.)

1 (10 ILCS 5/5-7) (from Ch. 46, par. 5-7)

2 Sec. 5-7. The county clerk shall provide a sufficient  
3 number of blank forms for the registration of electors which  
4 shall be known as registration record cards and which shall  
5 consist of loose leaf sheets or cards, of suitable size to  
6 contain in plain writing and figures the data hereinafter  
7 required thereon or shall consist of computer cards of suitable  
8 nature to contain the data required thereon. The registration  
9 record cards, which shall include an affidavit of registration  
10 as hereinafter provided, shall be executed in duplicate.

11 The registration record card shall contain the following  
12 and such other information as the county clerk may think it  
13 proper to require for the identification of the applicant for  
14 registration:

15 Name. The name of the applicant, giving surname and first  
16 or Christian name in full, and the middle name or the initial  
17 for such middle name, if any.

18 Sex.

19 Residence. The name and number of the street, avenue, or  
20 other location of the dwelling, including the apartment, unit  
21 or room number, if any, and in the case of a mobile home the lot  
22 number, and such additional clear and definite description as  
23 may be necessary to determine the exact location of the  
24 dwelling of the applicant, including post-office mailing  
25 address. In the case of a homeless individual, the individual's  
26 voting residence that is his or her mailing address shall be

1 included on his or her registration record card.

2 Term of residence in the State of Illinois and the  
3 precinct. Which questions may be answered by the applicant  
4 stating, in excess of 30 days in the State and in excess of 30  
5 days in the precinct.

6 Nativity. The State or country in which the applicant was  
7 born.

8 Citizenship. Whether the applicant is native born or  
9 naturalized. If naturalized, the court, place and date of  
10 naturalization.

11 Date of application for registration, i.e., the day, month  
12 and year when applicant presented himself for registration.

13 Age. Date of birth, by month, day and year.

14 Physical disability of the applicant, if any, at the time  
15 of registration, which would require assistance in voting.

16 The county and state in which the applicant was last  
17 registered.

18 Electronic mail address, if any.

19 Signature of voter. The applicant, after the registration  
20 and in the presence of a deputy registrar or other officer of  
21 registration shall be required to sign his or her name in ink  
22 or digitized form to the affidavit on the original and  
23 duplicate registration record card.

24 Signature of Deputy Registrar.

25 In case applicant is unable to sign his name, he may affix  
26 his mark to the affidavit. In such case the officer empowered

1 to give the registration oath shall write a detailed  
2 description of the applicant in the space provided at the  
3 bottom of the card or sheet; and shall ask the following  
4 questions and record the answers thereto:

5 Father's first name .....

6 Mother's first name .....

7 From what address did you last register?

8 Reason for inability to sign name.

9 Each applicant for registration shall make an affidavit in  
10 substantially the following form:

11 AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION

12 State of Illinois)

13 )ss

14 County of )

15 I hereby swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the  
16 United States; that on the date of the next election I shall  
17 have resided in the State of Illinois and in the election  
18 precinct in which I reside 30 days; that I am fully qualified  
19 to vote. That I intend that this location shall be my residence  
20 and that the above statements are true.

21 .....

(His or her signature or mark)

23 Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).

24 .....

25 Signature of Registration Officer.

26 (To be signed in presence of Registrant.)

1           Space shall be provided upon the face of each registration  
2 record card for the notation of the voting record of the person  
3 registered thereon.

4           Each registration record card shall be numbered according  
5 to towns and precincts, wards, cities and villages, as the case  
6 may be, and may be serially or otherwise marked for  
7 identification in such manner as the county clerk may  
8 determine.

9           The registration cards shall be deemed public records and  
10 shall be open to inspection during regular business hours,  
11 except during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
12 On written request of any candidate or objector or any person  
13 intending to object to a petition, the election authority shall  
14 extend its hours for inspection of registration cards and other  
15 records of the election authority during the period beginning  
16 with the filing of petitions under Sections 7-10, 8-8, 10-6 or  
17 28-3 and continuing through the termination of electoral board  
18 hearings on any objections to petitions containing signatures  
19 of registered voters in the jurisdiction of the election  
20 authority. The extension shall be for a period of hours  
21 sufficient to allow adequate opportunity for examination of the  
22 records but the election authority is not required to extend  
23 its hours beyond the period beginning at its normal opening for  
24 business and ending at midnight. If the business hours are so  
25 extended, the election authority shall post a public notice of

1 such extended hours. Registration record cards may also be  
2 inspected, upon approval of the officer in charge of the cards,  
3 during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
4 Registration record cards shall also be open to inspection by  
5 certified judges and poll watchers and challengers at the  
6 polling place on election day, but only to the extent necessary  
7 to determine the question of the right of a person to vote or  
8 to serve as a judge of election. At no time shall poll watchers  
9 or challengers be allowed to physically handle the registration  
10 record cards.

11 Updated copies of computer tapes or computer discs or other  
12 electronic data processing information containing voter  
13 registration information shall be furnished by the county clerk  
14 within 10 days after December 15 and May 15 each year and  
15 within 10 days after each registration period is closed to the  
16 State Board of Elections in a form prescribed by the Board. For  
17 the purposes of this Section, a registration period is closed  
18 27 days before the date of any regular or special election.  
19 Registration information shall include, but not be limited to,  
20 the following information: name, sex, residence, telephone  
21 number, if any, age, party affiliation, if applicable,  
22 precinct, ward, township, county, and representative,  
23 legislative and congressional districts. In the event of  
24 noncompliance, the State Board of Elections is directed to  
25 obtain compliance forthwith with this nondiscretionary duty of  
26 the election authority by instituting legal proceedings in the



1 circuit court of the county in which the election authority  
2 maintains the registration information. The costs of  
3 furnishing updated copies of tapes or discs shall be paid at a  
4 rate of \$.00034 per name of registered voters in the election  
5 jurisdiction, but not less than \$50 per tape or disc and shall  
6 be paid from appropriations made to the State Board of  
7 Elections for reimbursement to the election authority for such  
8 purpose. The State Board shall furnish copies of such tapes,  
9 discs, other electronic data or compilations thereof to state  
10 political committees registered pursuant to the Illinois  
11 Campaign Finance Act or the Federal Election Campaign Act and  
12 to governmental entities, at their request and at a reasonable  
13 cost. To protect the privacy and confidentiality of voter  
14 registration information, the disclosure of electronic voter  
15 registration records to any person or entity other than to a  
16 State or local political committee and other than to a  
17 governmental entity for a governmental purpose is specifically  
18 prohibited except as follows: subject to security measures  
19 adopted by the State Board of Elections which, at a minimum,  
20 shall include the keeping of a catalog or database, available  
21 for public view, including the name, address, and telephone  
22 number of the person viewing the list as well as the time of  
23 that viewing, any person may view the centralized statewide  
24 voter registration list on a computer screen at the Springfield  
25 office of the State Board of Elections, during normal business  
26 hours other than during the 27 days before an election, but the

1 person viewing the list under this exception may not print,  
2 duplicate, transmit, or alter the list. Copies of the tapes,  
3 discs or other electronic data shall be furnished by the county  
4 clerk to local political committees and governmental entities  
5 at their request and at a reasonable cost. Reasonable cost of  
6 the tapes, discs, et cetera for this purpose would be the cost  
7 of duplication plus 15% for administration. The individual  
8 representing a political committee requesting copies of such  
9 tapes shall make a sworn affidavit that the information shall  
10 be used only for bona fide political purposes, including by or  
11 for candidates for office or incumbent office holders. Such  
12 tapes, discs or other electronic data shall not be used under  
13 any circumstances by any political committee or individuals for  
14 purposes of commercial solicitation or other business  
15 purposes. If such tapes contain information on county residents  
16 related to the operations of county government in addition to  
17 registration information, that information shall not be used  
18 under any circumstances for commercial solicitation or other  
19 business purposes. The prohibition in this Section against  
20 using the computer tapes or computer discs or other electronic  
21 data processing information containing voter registration  
22 information for purposes of commercial solicitation or other  
23 business purposes shall be prospective only from the effective  
24 date of this amended Act of 1979. Any person who violates this  
25 provision shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony.

26 The State Board of Elections shall promulgate, by October

1 1, 1987, such regulations as may be necessary to ensure  
 2 uniformity throughout the State in electronic data processing  
 3 of voter registration information. The regulations shall  
 4 include, but need not be limited to, specifications for uniform  
 5 medium, communications protocol and file structure to be  
 6 employed by the election authorities of this State in the  
 7 electronic data processing of voter registration information.  
 8 Each election authority utilizing electronic data processing  
 9 of voter registration information shall comply with such  
 10 regulations on and after May 15, 1988.

11 If the applicant for registration was last registered in  
 12 another county within this State, he shall also sign a  
 13 certificate authorizing cancellation of the former  
 14 registration. The certificate shall be in substantially the  
 15 following form:

16 To the County Clerk of .... County, Illinois. To the Election  
 17 Commission of the City of ....., Illinois.

18 This is to certify that I am registered in your (county)  
 19 (city) and that my residence was .....

20 Having moved out of your (county) (city), I hereby  
 21 authorize you to cancel said registration in your office.

22 Dated at .... Illinois, on (insert date).

23 .....  
 24 (Signature of Voter)

25 Attest ....., County Clerk, ..... County, Illinois.

26 The cancellation certificate shall be mailed immediately

1 by the county clerk to the county clerk (or election commission  
2 as the case may be) where the applicant was formerly  
3 registered. Receipt of such certificate shall be full authority  
4 for cancellation of any previous registration.

5 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 10-1-13.)

6 (10 ILCS 5/5-28) (from Ch. 46, par. 5-28)

7 Sec. 5-28. The original registration record cards shall  
8 remain permanently in the office of the county clerk or  
9 election authority except as destroyed as provided in Section  
10 5-6; shall be filed alphabetically without regard to precincts;  
11 and shall be known as the master file. The master file may be  
12 kept in a computer-based voter registration file or paper  
13 format, provided a secondary digital back-up is kept off site.  
14 The digital file shall be searchable and remain current with  
15 all registration activity conducted by the County Clerk or  
16 election authority. The duplicate registration record cards  
17 shall constitute the official registry of voters for all  
18 elections and shall be filed by precincts and townships. The  
19 duplicate cards for use in conducting elections shall be  
20 delivered to the judges of election by the county clerk in a  
21 suitable binder or other device, which shall be locked and  
22 sealed in accordance with the directions to be given by the  
23 county clerk and shall also be suitably indexed for convenient  
24 use by the precinct officers. The precinct files shall be  
25 delivered to the judges of election for use at the polls for

1 elections at the same time as the official ballots are  
2 delivered to them, and shall be returned to the county clerk by  
3 the judges of election within the time provided for the return  
4 of the official ballots. The county clerk shall determine the  
5 manner of return and delivery of such file.

6 (Source: P.A. 80-1469.)

7 (10 ILCS 5/5-43)

8 Sec. 5-43. Computerization of voter records.

9 (a) The State Board of Elections shall design a  
10 registration record card that, except as otherwise provided in  
11 this Section, shall be used in duplicate by all election  
12 authorities in the State adopting a computer-based voter  
13 registration file as provided in this Section. The Board shall  
14 prescribe the form and specifications, including but not  
15 limited to the weight of paper, color, and print of the cards.  
16 The cards shall contain boxes or spaces for the information  
17 required under Sections 5-7 and 5-28.1; provided that the cards  
18 shall also contain: (i) A space for the person to fill in his  
19 or her Illinois driver's license number if the person has a  
20 driver's license; (ii) A space for a person without a driver's  
21 license to fill in the last four digits of his or her social  
22 security number if the person has a social security number.

23 (b) The election authority may develop and implement a  
24 system to prepare, use, and maintain a computer-based voter  
25 registration file that includes a computer-stored image of the

1 signature of each voter. The computer-based voter registration  
2 file may be used for all purposes for which the original  
3 registration cards are to be used, ~~provided that a system for~~  
4 ~~the storage of at least one copy of the original registration~~  
5 ~~cards remains in effect.~~ In the case of voter registration  
6 forms received via an online voter registration system, the  
7 original registration cards will include the signature  
8 received from the Secretary of State database. The electronic  
9 file shall be the master file.

10 (b-2) The election authority may develop and implement a  
11 system to maintain registration cards in digital form using  
12 digitized signatures, which may be stored in a computer-based  
13 voter registration file under subsection (b) of this Section.  
14 The making and signing of any form, including an application to  
15 register and a certificate authorizing cancellation of a  
16 registration or authorizing a transfer of registration may be  
17 by a signature written in ink or by a digitized signature.

18 (c) Any system created, used, and maintained under  
19 subsection (b) of this Section shall meet the following  
20 standards:

21 (1) Access to any computer-based voter registration  
22 file shall be limited to those persons authorized by the  
23 election authority, and each access to the computer-based  
24 voter registration file, other than an access solely for  
25 inquiry, shall be recorded.

26 (2) No copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any

1 computer-based voter registration file that includes any  
2 computer-stored image of the signature of any registered  
3 voter shall be made available to the public outside of the  
4 offices of the election authority.

5 (3) Any copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any  
6 computer-based voter registration file that includes a  
7 computer-stored image of the signature of a registered  
8 voter shall be produced in such a manner that it cannot be  
9 reproduced.

10 (4) Each person desiring to vote shall sign an  
11 application for a ballot, and the signature comparison  
12 authorized in Articles 17 and 18 of this Code may be made  
13 to a copy of the computer-stored image of the signature of  
14 the registered voter.

15 (5) Any voter list produced from a computer-based voter  
16 registration file that includes computer-stored images of  
17 the signatures of registered voters and is used in a  
18 polling place during an election shall be preserved by the  
19 election authority in secure storage until the end of the  
20 second calendar year following the election in which it was  
21 used.

22 (d) Before the first election in which the election  
23 authority elects to use a voter list produced from the  
24 computer-stored images of the signatures of registered voters  
25 in a computer-based voter registration file for signature  
26 comparison in a polling place, the State Board of Elections

1 shall certify that the system used by the election authority  
2 complies with the standards set forth in this Section. The  
3 State Board of Elections may request a sample poll list  
4 intended to be used in a polling place to test the accuracy of  
5 the list and the adequacy of the computer-stored images of the  
6 signatures of the registered voters.

7 (e) With respect to a jurisdiction that has copied all of  
8 its voter signatures into a computer-based registration file,  
9 all references in this Act or any other Act to the use, other  
10 than storage, of paper-based voter registration records shall  
11 be deemed to refer to their computer-based equivalents.

12 (f) Nothing in this Section prevents an election authority  
13 from submitting to the State Board of Elections a duplicate  
14 copy of some, as the State Board of Elections shall determine,  
15 or all of the data contained in each voter registration record  
16 that is part of the electronic master file. The duplicate copy  
17 of the registration record shall be maintained by the State  
18 Board of Elections under the same terms and limitations  
19 applicable to the election authority and shall be of equal  
20 legal dignity with the original registration record maintained  
21 by the election authority as proof of any fact contained in the  
22 voter registration record.

23 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 7-29-13.)

24 (10 ILCS 5/6-35) (from Ch. 46, par. 6-35)

25 Sec. 6-35. The Boards of Election Commissioners shall



1 provide a sufficient number of blank forms for the registration  
2 of electors which shall be known as registration record cards  
3 and which shall consist of loose leaf sheets or cards, of  
4 suitable size to contain in plain writing and figures the data  
5 hereinafter required thereon or shall consist of computer cards  
6 of suitable nature to contain the data required thereon. The  
7 registration record cards, which shall include an affidavit of  
8 registration as hereinafter provided, shall be executed in  
9 duplicate. The duplicate of which may be a carbon copy of the  
10 original or a copy of the original made by the use of other  
11 method or material used for making simultaneous true copies or  
12 duplications.

13 The registration record card shall contain the following  
14 and such other information as the Board of Election  
15 Commissioners may think it proper to require for the  
16 identification of the applicant for registration:

17 Name. The name of the applicant, giving surname and first  
18 or Christian name in full, and the middle name or the initial  
19 for such middle name, if any.

20 Sex.

21 Residence. The name and number of the street, avenue, or  
22 other location of the dwelling, including the apartment, unit  
23 or room number, if any, and in the case of a mobile home the lot  
24 number, and such additional clear and definite description as  
25 may be necessary to determine the exact location of the  
26 dwelling of the applicant, including post-office mailing

1 address. In the case of a homeless individual, the individual's  
2 voting residence that is his or her mailing address shall be  
3 included on his or her registration record card.

4 Term of residence in the State of Illinois and the  
5 precinct.

6 Nativity. The state or country in which the applicant was  
7 born.

8 Citizenship. Whether the applicant is native born or  
9 naturalized. If naturalized, the court, place, and date of  
10 naturalization.

11 Date of application for registration, i.e., the day, month  
12 and year when the applicant presented himself for registration.

13 Age. Date of birth, by month, day and year.

14 Physical disability of the applicant, if any, at the time  
15 of registration, which would require assistance in voting.

16 The county and state in which the applicant was last  
17 registered.

18 Electronic mail address, if any.

19 Signature of voter. The applicant, after registration and  
20 in the presence of a deputy registrar or other officer of  
21 registration shall be required to sign his or her name in ink  
22 or digitized form to the affidavit on both the original and the  
23 duplicate registration record card.

24 Signature of deputy registrar.

25 In case applicant is unable to sign his name, he may affix  
26 his mark to the affidavit. In such case the registration

1 officer shall write a detailed description of the applicant in  
2 the space provided at the bottom of the card or sheet; and  
3 shall ask the following questions and record the answers  
4 thereto:

5 Father's first name .....

6 Mother's first name .....

7 From what address did you last register? ....

8 Reason for inability to sign name .....

9 Each applicant for registration shall make an affidavit in  
10 substantially the following form:

AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION

11 State of Illinois )

12 )ss

13 County of ..... )

14 I hereby swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the  
15 United States, that on the day of the next election I shall  
16 have resided in the State of Illinois and in the election  
17 precinct 30 days and that I intend that this location is my  
18 residence; that I am fully qualified to vote, and that the  
19 above statements are true.  
20

21 .....

(His or her signature or mark)

22 Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).

23 .....

24 Signature of registration officer

25 (to be signed in presence of registrant).  
26

1           Space shall be provided upon the face of each registration  
2 record card for the notation of the voting record of the person  
3 registered thereon.

4           Each registration record card shall be numbered according  
5 to wards or precincts, as the case may be, and may be serially  
6 or otherwise marked for identification in such manner as the  
7 Board of Election Commissioners may determine.

8           The registration cards shall be deemed public records and  
9 shall be open to inspection during regular business hours,  
10 except during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
11 On written request of any candidate or objector or any person  
12 intending to object to a petition, the election authority shall  
13 extend its hours for inspection of registration cards and other  
14 records of the election authority during the period beginning  
15 with the filing of petitions under Sections 7-10, 8-8, 10-6 or  
16 28-3 and continuing through the termination of electoral board  
17 hearings on any objections to petitions containing signatures  
18 of registered voters in the jurisdiction of the election  
19 authority. The extension shall be for a period of hours  
20 sufficient to allow adequate opportunity for examination of the  
21 records but the election authority is not required to extend  
22 its hours beyond the period beginning at its normal opening for  
23 business and ending at midnight. If the business hours are so  
24 extended, the election authority shall post a public notice of  
25 such extended hours. Registration record cards may also be  
26 inspected, upon approval of the officer in charge of the cards,

1 during the 27 days immediately preceding any election.  
2 Registration record cards shall also be open to inspection by  
3 certified judges and poll watchers and challengers at the  
4 polling place on election day, but only to the extent necessary  
5 to determine the question of the right of a person to vote or  
6 to serve as a judge of election. At no time shall poll watchers  
7 or challengers be allowed to physically handle the registration  
8 record cards.

9 Updated copies of computer tapes or computer discs or other  
10 electronic data processing information containing voter  
11 registration information shall be furnished by the Board of  
12 Election Commissioners within 10 days after December 15 and May  
13 15 each year and within 10 days after each registration period  
14 is closed to the State Board of Elections in a form prescribed  
15 by the State Board. For the purposes of this Section, a  
16 registration period is closed 27 days before the date of any  
17 regular or special election. Registration information shall  
18 include, but not be limited to, the following information:  
19 name, sex, residence, telephone number, if any, age, party  
20 affiliation, if applicable, precinct, ward, township, county,  
21 and representative, legislative and congressional districts.  
22 In the event of noncompliance, the State Board of Elections is  
23 directed to obtain compliance forthwith with this  
24 nondiscretionary duty of the election authority by instituting  
25 legal proceedings in the circuit court of the county in which  
26 the election authority maintains the registration information.

1 The costs of furnishing updated copies of tapes or discs shall  
2 be paid at a rate of \$.00034 per name of registered voters in  
3 the election jurisdiction, but not less than \$50 per tape or  
4 disc and shall be paid from appropriations made to the State  
5 Board of Elections for reimbursement to the election authority  
6 for such purpose. The State Board shall furnish copies of such  
7 tapes, discs, other electronic data or compilations thereof to  
8 state political committees registered pursuant to the Illinois  
9 Campaign Finance Act or the Federal Election Campaign Act and  
10 to governmental entities, at their request and at a reasonable  
11 cost. To protect the privacy and confidentiality of voter  
12 registration information, the disclosure of electronic voter  
13 registration records to any person or entity other than to a  
14 State or local political committee and other than to a  
15 governmental entity for a governmental purpose is specifically  
16 prohibited except as follows: subject to security measures  
17 adopted by the State Board of Elections which, at a minimum,  
18 shall include the keeping of a catalog or database, available  
19 for public view, including the name, address, and telephone  
20 number of the person viewing the list as well as the time of  
21 that viewing, any person may view the centralized statewide  
22 voter registration list on a computer screen at the Springfield  
23 office of the State Board of Elections, during normal business  
24 hours other than during the 27 days before an election, but the  
25 person viewing the list under this exception may not print,  
26 duplicate, transmit, or alter the list. Copies of the tapes,

1 discs or other electronic data shall be furnished by the Board  
2 of Election Commissioners to local political committees and  
3 governmental entities at their request and at a reasonable  
4 cost. Reasonable cost of the tapes, discs, et cetera for this  
5 purpose would be the cost of duplication plus 15% for  
6 administration. The individual representing a political  
7 committee requesting copies of such tapes shall make a sworn  
8 affidavit that the information shall be used only for bona fide  
9 political purposes, including by or for candidates for office  
10 or incumbent office holders. Such tapes, discs or other  
11 electronic data shall not be used under any circumstances by  
12 any political committee or individuals for purposes of  
13 commercial solicitation or other business purposes. If such  
14 tapes contain information on county residents related to the  
15 operations of county government in addition to registration  
16 information, that information shall not be used under any  
17 circumstances for commercial solicitation or other business  
18 purposes. The prohibition in this Section against using the  
19 computer tapes or computer discs or other electronic data  
20 processing information containing voter registration  
21 information for purposes of commercial solicitation or other  
22 business purposes shall be prospective only from the effective  
23 date of this amended Act of 1979. Any person who violates this  
24 provision shall be guilty of a Class 4 felony.

25 The State Board of Elections shall promulgate, by October  
26 1, 1987, such regulations as may be necessary to ensure

1 uniformity throughout the State in electronic data processing  
 2 of voter registration information. The regulations shall  
 3 include, but need not be limited to, specifications for uniform  
 4 medium, communications protocol and file structure to be  
 5 employed by the election authorities of this State in the  
 6 electronic data processing of voter registration information.  
 7 Each election authority utilizing electronic data processing  
 8 of voter registration information shall comply with such  
 9 regulations on and after May 15, 1988.

10 If the applicant for registration was last registered in  
 11 another county within this State, he shall also sign a  
 12 certificate authorizing cancellation of the former  
 13 registration. The certificate shall be in substantially the  
 14 following form:

15 To the County Clerk of .... County, Illinois.

16 To the Election Commission of the City of ....., Illinois.

17 This is to certify that I am registered in your (county)  
 18 (city) and that my residence was ....., Having moved out of your  
 19 (county), (city), I hereby authorize you to cancel that  
 20 registration in your office.

21 Dated at ....., Illinois, on (insert date).

22 .....

23 (Signature of Voter)

24 Attest ....., Clerk, Election Commission of the City of.....,  
 25 Illinois.

26 The cancellation certificate shall be mailed immediately



1 by the clerk of the Election Commission to the county clerk,  
2 (or Election Commission as the case may be) where the applicant  
3 was formerly registered. Receipt of such certificate shall be  
4 full authority for cancellation of any previous registration.  
5 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 10-1-13.)

6 (10 ILCS 5/6-65) (from Ch. 46, par. 6-65)  
7 Sec. 6-65.

8 The duplicate registration record cards shall remain  
9 permanently in the office of the Board of Election  
10 Commissioners; shall be filed alphabetically without regard to  
11 wards or precincts; and shall be known as the master file. The  
12 master file may be kept in a computer-based voter registration  
13 file or paper format, provided a secondary digital back-up is  
14 kept off site. The digital file shall be searchable and remain  
15 current with all registration activity conducted by the Board  
16 of Election Commissioners. The original registration record  
17 cards shall constitute the official precinct registry of  
18 voters; shall be filed by wards and precincts; and shall be  
19 known as the precinct file. The original cards shall be  
20 delivered to the judges of election by the Board of Election  
21 Commissioners in a suitable binder or other device, which shall  
22 be locked and sealed in accordance with directions to be given  
23 by the Board of Election Commissioners and shall also be  
24 suitably indexed for convenient use by the precinct officers.  
25 The precinct files shall be delivered to the precinct officers

1 for use at the polls, on the day of election and shall be  
2 returned to the Board of Election Commissioners immediately  
3 after the close of the polls. The board shall determine by  
4 rules the manner of delivery and return to such file. At all  
5 other times the precinct file shall be retained at the office  
6 of the Board of Election Commissioners except for such use of  
7 it as may be made under this Article with respect to  
8 registration not at the office of the Board of Election  
9 Commissioners.

10 (Source: P.A. 78-934.)

11 (10 ILCS 5/6-79)

12 Sec. 6-79. Computerization of voter records.

13 (a) The State Board of Elections shall design a  
14 registration record card that, except as otherwise provided in  
15 this Section, shall be used in duplicate by all election  
16 authorities in the State adopting a computer-based voter  
17 registration file as provided in this Section. The Board shall  
18 prescribe the form and specifications, including but not  
19 limited to the weight of paper, color, and print of the cards.  
20 The cards shall contain boxes or spaces for the information  
21 required under Sections 6-31.1 and 6-35; provided that the  
22 cards shall also contain: (i) A space for the person to fill in  
23 his or her Illinois driver's license number if the person has a  
24 driver's license; (ii) A space for a person without a driver's  
25 license to fill in the last four digits of his or her social

1 security number if the person has a social security number.

2 (b) The election authority may develop and implement a  
3 system to prepare, use, and maintain a computer-based voter  
4 registration file that includes a computer-stored image of the  
5 signature of each voter. The computer-based voter registration  
6 file may be used for all purposes for which the original  
7 registration cards are to be used, ~~provided that a system for~~  
8 ~~the storage of at least one copy of the original registration~~  
9 ~~cards remains in effect.~~ In the case of voter registration  
10 forms received via an online voter registration system, the  
11 original registration cards will include the signature  
12 received from the Secretary of State database. The electronic  
13 file shall be the master file.

14 (b-2) The election authority may develop and implement a  
15 system to maintain registration cards in digital form using  
16 digitized signatures, which may be stored in a computer-based  
17 voter registration file under subsection (b) of this Section.  
18 The making and signing of any form, including an application to  
19 register and a certificate authorizing cancellation of a  
20 registration or authorizing a transfer of registration may be  
21 by a signature written in ink or by a digitized signature.

22 (c) Any system created, used, and maintained under  
23 subsection (b) of this Section shall meet the following  
24 standards:

25 (1) Access to any computer-based voter registration  
26 file shall be limited to those persons authorized by the

1 election authority, and each access to the computer-based  
2 voter registration file, other than an access solely for  
3 inquiry, shall be recorded.

4 (2) No copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any  
5 computer-based voter registration file that includes any  
6 computer-stored image of the signature of any registered  
7 voter shall be made available to the public outside of the  
8 offices of the election authority.

9 (3) Any copy, summary, list, abstract, or index of any  
10 computer-based voter registration file that includes a  
11 computer-stored image of the signature of a registered  
12 voter shall be produced in such a manner that it cannot be  
13 reproduced.

14 (4) Each person desiring to vote shall sign an  
15 application for a ballot, and the signature comparison  
16 authorized in Articles 17 and 18 of this Code may be made  
17 to a copy of the computer-stored image of the signature of  
18 the registered voter.

19 (5) Any voter list produced from a computer-based voter  
20 registration file that includes computer-stored images of  
21 the signatures of registered voters and is used in a  
22 polling place during an election shall be preserved by the  
23 election authority in secure storage until the end of the  
24 second calendar year following the election in which it was  
25 used.

26 (d) Before the first election in which the election

1 authority elects to use a voter list produced from the  
2 computer-stored images of the signatures of registered voters  
3 in a computer-based voter registration file for signature  
4 comparison in a polling place, the State Board of Elections  
5 shall certify that the system used by the election authority  
6 complies with the standards set forth in this Section. The  
7 State Board of Elections may request a sample poll list  
8 intended to be used in a polling place to test the accuracy of  
9 the list and the adequacy of the computer-stored images of the  
10 signatures of the registered voters.

11 (e) With respect to a jurisdiction that has copied all of  
12 its voter signatures into a computer-based registration file,  
13 all references in this Act or any other Act to the use, other  
14 than storage, of paper-based voter registration records shall  
15 be deemed to refer to their computer-based equivalents.

16 (f) Nothing in this Section prevents an election authority  
17 from submitting to the State Board of Elections a duplicate  
18 copy of some, as the State Board of Elections shall determine,  
19 or all of the data contained in each voter registration record  
20 that is part of the electronic master file. The duplicate copy  
21 of the registration record shall be maintained by the State  
22 Board of Elections under the same terms and limitations  
23 applicable to the election authority and shall be of equal  
24 legal dignity with the original registration record maintained  
25 by the election authority as proof of any fact contained in the  
26 voter registration record.

1 (Source: P.A. 98-115, eff. 7-29-13.)

2 (10 ILCS 5/20-8) (from Ch. 46, par. 20-8)

3 Sec. 20-8. Time and place of counting ballots.

4 (a) (Blank.)

5 (b) Each vote by mail voter's ballot returned to an  
6 election authority, by any means authorized by this Article,  
7 and received by that election authority may be processed by the  
8 election authority beginning on the ~~15th day before election~~  
9 day it is received by the election authority in the central  
10 ballot counting location of the election authority, but the  
11 results of the processing may not be counted until the day of  
12 the election after 7:00 p.m., except as provided in subsections  
13 (g) and (g-5).

14 (c) Each vote by mail voter's ballot that is mailed to an  
15 election authority and postmarked no later than election day,  
16 but that is received by the election authority after the polls  
17 close on election day and before the close of the period for  
18 counting provisional ballots cast at that election, shall be  
19 endorsed by the receiving authority with the day and hour of  
20 receipt and shall be counted at the central ballot counting  
21 location of the election authority during the period for  
22 counting provisional ballots.

23 Each vote by mail voter's ballot that is mailed to an  
24 election authority absent a postmark, but that is received by  
25 the election authority after the polls close on election day

1 and before the close of the period for counting provisional  
2 ballots cast at that election, shall be endorsed by the  
3 receiving authority with the day and hour of receipt, opened to  
4 inspect the date inserted on the certification, and, if the  
5 certification date is a date preceding the election day and the  
6 ballot is otherwise found to be valid under the requirements of  
7 this Section, counted at the central ballot counting location  
8 of the election authority during the period for counting  
9 provisional ballots. Absent a date on the certification, the  
10 ballot shall not be counted.

11 (d) Special write-in vote by mail voter's blank ballots  
12 returned to an election authority, by any means authorized by  
13 this Article, and received by the election authority at any  
14 time before the closing of the polls on election day shall be  
15 endorsed by the receiving election authority with the day and  
16 hour of receipt and shall be counted at the central ballot  
17 counting location of the election authority during the same  
18 period provided for counting vote by mail voters' ballots under  
19 subsections (b), (g), and (g-5). Special write-in vote by mail  
20 voter's blank ballot that are mailed to an election authority  
21 and postmarked by midnight preceding the opening of the polls  
22 on election day, but that are received by the election  
23 authority after the polls close on election day and before the  
24 closing of the period for counting provisional ballots cast at  
25 that election, shall be endorsed by the receiving authority  
26 with the day and hour of receipt and shall be counted at the

1 central ballot counting location of the election authority  
2 during the same periods provided for counting vote by mail  
3 voters' ballots under subsection (c).

4 (e) Except as otherwise provided in this Section, vote by  
5 mail voters' ballots and special write-in vote by mail voter's  
6 blank ballots received by the election authority after the  
7 closing of the polls on the day of election shall be endorsed  
8 by the person receiving the ballots with the day and hour of  
9 receipt and shall be safely kept unopened by the election  
10 authority for the period of time required for the preservation  
11 of ballots used at the election, and shall then, without being  
12 opened, be destroyed in like manner as the used ballots of that  
13 election.

14 (f) Counting required under this Section to begin on  
15 election day after the closing of the polls shall commence no  
16 later than 8:00 p.m. and shall be conducted by a panel or  
17 panels of election judges appointed in the manner provided by  
18 law. The counting shall continue until all vote by mail voters'  
19 ballots and special write-in vote by mail voter's blank ballots  
20 required to be counted on election day have been counted.

21 (g) The procedures set forth in Articles 17 and 18 of this  
22 Code shall apply to all ballots counted under this Section. In  
23 addition, within 2 days after a ballot subject to this Article  
24 is received, but in all cases before the close of the period  
25 for counting provisional ballots, the election judge or  
26 official shall compare the voter's signature on the



1 certification envelope of that ballot with the signature of the  
2 voter on file in the office of the election authority. If the  
3 election judge or official determines that the 2 signatures  
4 match, and that the voter is otherwise qualified to cast a  
5 ballot under this Article, the election authority shall cast  
6 and count the ballot on election day or the day the ballot is  
7 determined to be valid, whichever is later, adding the results  
8 to the precinct in which the voter is registered. If the  
9 election judge or official determines that the signatures do  
10 not match, or that the voter is not qualified to cast a ballot  
11 under this Article, then without opening the certification  
12 envelope, the judge or official shall mark across the face of  
13 the certification envelope the word "Rejected" and shall not  
14 cast or count the ballot.

15 In addition to the voter's signatures not matching, a  
16 ballot subject to this Article may be rejected by the election  
17 judge or official:

18 (1) if the ballot envelope is open or has been opened  
19 and resealed;

20 (2) if the voter has already cast an early or grace  
21 period ballot;

22 (3) if the voter voted in person on election day or the  
23 voter is not a duly registered voter in the precinct; or

24 (4) on any other basis set forth in this Code.

25 If the election judge or official determines that any of  
26 these reasons apply, the judge or official shall mark across

1 the face of the certification envelope the word "Rejected" and  
2 shall not cast or count the ballot.

3 (g-5) If a ballot subject to this Article is rejected by  
4 the election judge or official for any reason, the election  
5 authority shall, within 2 days after the rejection but in all  
6 cases before the close of the period for counting provisional  
7 ballots, notify the voter that his or her ballot was rejected.  
8 The notice shall inform the voter of the reason or reasons the  
9 ballot was rejected and shall state that the voter may appear  
10 before the election authority, on or before the 14th day after  
11 the election, to show cause as to why the ballot should not be  
12 rejected. The voter may present evidence to the election  
13 authority supporting his or her contention that the ballot  
14 should be counted. The election authority shall appoint a panel  
15 of 3 election judges to review the contested ballot,  
16 application, and certification envelope, as well as any  
17 evidence submitted by the vote by mail voter. No more than 2  
18 election judges on the reviewing panel shall be of the same  
19 political party. The reviewing panel of election judges shall  
20 make a final determination as to the validity of the contested  
21 ballot. The judges' determination shall not be reviewable  
22 either administratively or judicially.

23 A ballot subject to this subsection that is determined to  
24 be valid shall be counted before the close of the period for  
25 counting provisional ballots.

26 (g-10) All ballots determined to be valid shall be added to

1 the vote totals for the precincts for which they were cast in  
2 the order in which the ballots were opened.

3 (h) Each political party, candidate, and qualified civic  
4 organization shall be entitled to have present one pollwatcher  
5 for each panel of election judges therein assigned.

6 (Source: P.A. 98-1171, eff. 6-1-15.)

7 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
8 becoming law.