

# **IMPORTANT**

## **NEW VOTER REGISTRATION IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS**

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERY REGISTRATION FORM BE COMPLETED AS CLEARLY AND COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT VOTERS REGISTER AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID PROBLEMS NEAR THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE

### **THE VOTER MUST PROVIDE ID**

1. Starting this year, federal and state laws require that EVERY person who registers to vote MUST provide identification when they register to vote.
2. Persons registering to vote must provide their California DRIVER'S LICENSE (or state ID card) number --- if they have one.
3. *If* they don't have a driver's license (or state ID card), they must provide the last 4 digits of their SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER.
4. If they don't have a driver's license (or state ID card) number, or a social security number, they can still register to vote.

### **THE ELECTION OFFICIAL MUST VERIFY THAT THE ID IS CORRECT BEFORE THE PERSON IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE**

1. The election office must verify with DMV whether the driver's license (or state ID) number provided on the registration form is the correct number.
2. If the voter does not provide a driver's license (or state ID number), the elections office must verify with DMV that the voter does not have a driver's license (or state ID).
3. If the voter does not provide a driver's license (or state ID) number, and the elections office verifies that fact with DMV, and the voter has provided the last 4 digits of his or her social security number, the elections office must verify this information.
4. If the voter does not provide a driver's license (or state ID) number, or the last 4 digits of their social security number, and the elections office verifies that the voter does not have either number, the elections official can then assign the voter a unique identifying number.
5. If the voter does not provide a driver's license (or state ID) number, or the last 4 digits of their social security number, but the verification check with the DMV indicates the voter does have a number, the voter's registration will be delayed until the voter provides the missing information.

# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

## **WHAT IF THE VOTER HAS A DRIVER'S LICENSE BUT DOESN'T FILL IT IN?**

The elections office is required to verify whether a voter has a driver's license number and if it is correct. For example: Jane Doe, who has a driver's license, registers to vote but does not include her driver's license number on the registration form. In this case, the elections office will check with DMV and discover that she has a driver's license number, and her registration will be delayed while the elections office contacts Ms. Doe and asks that she provide this information.

## **WHAT IF THE VOTER PROVIDES ID INFORMATION BUT IT DOESN'T MATCH THE INFORMATION FOR THE VOTER THAT DMV HAS?**

The voter will not be eligible to vote until he or she confirms his or her ID information with the elections official.

## **DOES A VOTER HAVE TO PROVIDE ID INFORMATION EVERY TIME HE OR SHE REGISTERS TO VOTE?**

YES. Federal and state law require that a voter who moves and re-registers, must provide the ID information each time he or she re-registers to vote.

## **HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO "VERIFY" THE ID INFORMATION?**

That depends. If the elections office is able to match the information on the registration form with information from DMV, there should be no delay. However, if the ID information does not match, or if the DMV records indicate the voter has the required ID but did not provide it on the form, the elections office must contact the voter within 5 days to obtain the information. Depending on whether the voter is reachable by phone, the speed of mail delivery, and other factors, the time required for completing the registration can vary. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT EVERY REGISTRATION FORM BE COMPLETED AS CLEARLY AND COMPLETELY AS POSSIBLE, AND THAT VOTERS REGISTER AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO AVOID PROBLEMS NEAR THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE.

## **CAN A VOTER CHOOSE WHETHER TO PROVIDE HIS OR HER DRIVER'S LICENSE (OR STATE ID) NUMBER OR TO INSTEAD PROVIDE THE LAST 4 DIGITS OF HIS OR HER SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER?**

No. If the voter has a driver's license he or she MUST provide that number. If it is not provided, the elections office has to verify the voter does not have one. If it turns out the voter does have one, this will delay the voter's registration and they won't be able to vote until the number is provided.