Session of 2022

## SENATE BILL No. 439

By Committee on Judiciary

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AN ACT concerning elections; relating to voter registration; requiring a county election officer to send a confirmation notice if there is no election-related activity for any four calendar year period; amending K.S.A. 25-2316c and repealing the existing section.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 25-2316c is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-2316c. (a) When a registered voter changes name by marriage, divorce or legal proceeding, if—such the voter is otherwise qualified to vote at such voting place—such the voter shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot at any election, or apply for an advance voting ballot, on the condition that such the voter first completes the application for registration prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto. Completion of the application shall authorize the county election officer to update the registration records, if appropriate, for voting in future elections. The county election officer shall send, by nonforwardable mail, a notice of disposition to any voter completing such application.

- (b) When a registered voter changes residence,—such the voter shall reregister in order to be eligible to vote, except that when a registrant has moved from an address on the registration book to another address within the county and has not reregistered,—such the registrant shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot at any election, or to apply for an advance voting ballot, on the condition that—such the registrant first completes the application for registration prescribed by K.S.A. 25-2309, and amendments thereto. Completion of the application shall authorize the county election officer to update the registration record, if appropriate, for voting in future elections. The county election officer shall send, by nonforwardable mail, a notice of disposition to any such voter. Whenever the county election officer receives from any other election officer a notice of registration of a voter in a different place than that shown in the records of the county election officer,—such the officer shall remove the name of such the voter from the registration book and party affiliation list.
- (c) Every application for registration completed under this section shall be returned to the county election officer with the registration books.
- (d) A registrant shall not be removed from the registration list on the ground that the registrant has changed residence unless the registrant:

- (1) Confirms in writing that the registrant has moved outside the county in which the registrant is registered, or registers to vote in any other jurisdiction; or
- (2) has failed to respond to the notice described in subsection (e) $\frac{(4)}{(4)}$  and has not appeared to vote in an election during the period beginning on the date of the notice and ending on the day after the date of the second federal general election that occurs after the date of the notice f; or
- (3) has no election-related activity for any four calendar year period, and the confirmation notice is returned as undeliverable. No election-related activity means that the elector has not voted, attempted to vote, requested or submitted an advance ballot application, filed an updated voter registration card, signed a petition which is required by law to be verified by the county election officer or the secretary of state or responded to any official election mailing transmitted by the county election office.
- (e) A county election officer shall send a confirmation notice upon which a registrant may state such registrant's current address, within 45 days of the following events:
- (1) A notice of disposition of an application for voter registration is returned as undeliverable;
  - (2) change of address information supplied by the national change of address program identifies a registrant whose address may have changed;
  - (3) if it appears from information provided by the postal service that a registrant has moved to a different residence address in the county in which the registrant is currently registered; or {or}
- (4) if it appears from information provided by the postal service that a registrant has moved to a different residence address outside the county in which the registrant is currently registered; *or*
- (5) if the registrant has no election-related activity for any four-calendar year period. No election-related activity means that the elector-has not voted, attempted to vote, requested or submitted an advance ballot application, filed an updated voter registration card, signed a petition-which is required by law to be verified by the county election officer or the secretary of state, or responded to any official election mailing transmitted by the county election office.

The confirmation notice shall be sent by forwardable mail and shall include a postage prepaid and preaddressed return card in a form prescribed by the chief state election official.

(f) Except as otherwise provided by law, when a voter dies or is disqualified for voting, the registration of the voter shall be void, and the county election officer shall remove such voter's name from the registration books and the party affiliation lists. Whenever (1) an obituary notice appears in a newspaper having general circulation in the county

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reports the death of a registered voter, or (2) a registered voter requests in 1 writing that such voter's name be removed from registration, or (3) a court 2 3 of competent jurisdiction orders removal of the name of a registered voter 4 from registration lists, or (4) the name of a registered voter appears on a 5 list of deceased residents compiled by the secretary of health and 6 environment as provided in K.S.A. 65-2422, and amendments thereto, or 7 appears on a copy of a death certificate provided by the secretary of health 8 and environment, or appears in information provided by the social security 9 administration, the county election officer shall remove from the 10 registration books and the party affiliation lists in such officer's office the 11 name of any person shown by such list or death certificate to be deceased. 12 The county election officer shall not use or permit the use of such lists of 13 deceased residents or copies for any other purpose than provided in this 14 section 15

- (g) When the chief state election official receives written notice of a felony conviction in a United States district court, such official shall notify within five days the county election officer of the jurisdiction in which the offender resides. Upon notification of a felony conviction from the chief state election official, or from a county or district attorney or a Kansas district court, the county election officer shall remove the name of the offender from the registration records.
- (h) Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person whose name has been removed from the registration books shall be entitled to vote until such person has registered again.
  - Sec. 2. K.S.A. 25-2316c is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.