

1 AN ACT relating to voter registration.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 116.045 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Any person may:

5 (a) Register as a voter during the period registration is open if he or she  
6 possesses, or will possess on the day of the next regular election, the  
7 qualifications set forth in KRS 116.025; or

8 (b) Preregister as a voter as prescribed in subsection (8) of this section.

9 (2) The county clerk shall cause all registration to be closed the fourth Tuesday  
10 preceding through the first Monday following any primary or general election, and  
11 the twenty-eight (28) days prior to and seven (7) days following any special  
12 election. If the last day of registration falls on a state or federal holiday, the period  
13 runs until the end of the next day which is not a Saturday or Sunday nor a state or  
14 federal holiday. During the period that registration is closed, the county clerk may  
15 accept and process registrations. Any voter who registers during the period that  
16 registration is closed, except for any registered voter who transfers his or her  
17 registration pursuant to KRS 116.085(2) or (3), shall not be permitted to vote in the  
18 upcoming election.

19 (3) In all counties, the county clerk shall receive registrations, transfers, or changes of  
20 party affiliation at branch offices at any place in the county during those periods that  
21 the registration books are open except for those transfers pursuant to KRS  
22 116.085(2) or 116.085(3). However, notice in the manner provided by KRS Chapter  
23 424 shall be given at least three (3), but not more than fourteen (14), days in  
24 advance of the time and place of any branch registration, and ten (10) days' written  
25 notice shall be given to the county executive committee of each major political  
26 party in the county in which the branch registration is to be held.

27 (4) Any person may register to vote or may change his or her party affiliation in any of

1 the following ways:

2 (a) In person;

3 (b) By mail;

4 (c) By means of the federal post card application, if the person is a resident of  
5 Kentucky and a member of the Armed Forces, or a dependent of members of  
6 the Armed Forces, or overseas citizen;

7 (d) By mail-in application form prescribed by the Federal Election Commission  
8 pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993; or

9 (e) By other methods of registration, or reregistration, approved by the State  
10 Board of Elections, including the use of voluntary interested groups and  
11 political parties, under the proper supervision and directions of the county  
12 clerk, which may include door to door canvassing.

13 (5) Upon receipt of the form prescribed by the State Board of Elections or the Federal  
14 Election Commission pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993,  
15 properly filled out and signed by the applicant, the county clerk shall register the  
16 applicant.

17 (6) Any individual or group shall have access to a reasonable number of voter  
18 registration forms including the mail-in application form prescribed by the Federal  
19 Election Commission pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 in the  
20 county clerk's office. The individual or group shall act under the proper supervision  
21 and directions of the county clerk and shall return these completed forms to the  
22 county clerk for official registration by the county clerk.

23 (7) No later than December 31, 1994, the Transportation Cabinet shall equip all driver's  
24 license agencies to comply with the provisions of the National Voter Registration  
25 Act of 1993. The Secretary of State shall provide assistance and interpretation to the  
26 Transportation Cabinet in determining the requirements of the National Voter  
27 Registration Act of 1993 and of the requirements of subsection (8) of this section.

1 (8) *A person who is otherwise qualified may preregister on or after that person's*  
 2 *sixteenth birthday and may vote in any election or primary occurring on or after*  
 3 *that person's eighteenth birthday or as established in Section 3 of this Act.*

4 (9) The county clerk shall enter the specific party identification of the voter with a  
 5 political party, political organization, or political group as defined in KRS 118.015,  
 6 or independent status, as indicated by the voter on the voter registration form, into  
 7 the statewide voter registration system. The State Board of Elections shall  
 8 promulgate regulations under KRS Chapter 13A to provide for:

9 (a) Tracking of the registration of voters identifying with political organizations  
 10 and political groups as defined in KRS 118.015, and voters of independent  
 11 status; *and*

12 (b) *Preregistration as established in subsection (8) of this section.*

13 ➔Section 2. KRS 116.046 is amended to read as follows:

14 (1) The county clerk shall provide voter registration *and preregistration* forms to each  
 15 principal or assistant principal of every public high school, each area vocational  
 16 school, and upon request, private schools, who shall designate a person in each  
 17 school who shall be responsible for informing students and school personnel of the  
 18 availability of the registration *and preregistration* forms and assist them in properly  
 19 registering *or preregistering*. The completed forms shall be returned to the county  
 20 clerk, for official registration *or preregistration* by the county clerk.

21 (2) Any person designated to assist in registration *or preregistration* in subsection (1)  
 22 of this section shall fulfill this responsibility in an impartial and fair manner and  
 23 shall not recruit a registrant *or preregistrant* for any particular party.

24 (3) The State Board of Education shall implement programs of public education  
 25 regarding elections, voting procedures, and election fraud, which shall include an  
 26 audio-visual presentation for high school juniors and seniors. The State Board of  
 27 Education, after consultation with the State Board of Elections, shall update the

1 public education programs required by this section as relevant statutory changes  
2 occur, as different types of voting machines are used, or as more effective methods  
3 of presentation shall be developed.

4 ➔Section 3. KRS 116.055 is amended to read as follows:

5 Before a person shall be qualified to vote in a primary~~[-election]~~, he ***or she*** shall possess  
6 all the qualifications required of voters in a regular election. In addition, he ***or she*** shall  
7 be a registered member of the party in whose primary~~[-election]~~ he ***or she*** seeks to vote,  
8 and shall have been registered as a member of that party on December 31 immediately  
9 preceding the primary~~[-election]~~, or, in the case of new registrations made after December  
10 31 immediately preceding the primary~~[-election]~~, he ***or she*** shall have registered and  
11 remained registered as a member of that party. No person shall be allowed to vote for any  
12 party candidates or slates of candidates other than that of the party of which he ***or she*** is a  
13 registered member. The qualifications shall be determined as of the date of the primary,  
14 without regard to the qualifications or disqualifications as they may exist at the  
15 succeeding regular election, except that minors seventeen (17) years of age who will  
16 become eighteen (18) years of age on or before the day of the regular election shall be  
17 entitled to vote in the primary if ***preregistered as established in Section 1 of this Act, or***  
18 ***as*** otherwise qualified. However, any registered voter, whether registered as a member of  
19 a party, political organization, political group, or as an independent, shall be qualified to  
20 vote in ***a*** primary~~[-elections]~~ for candidates listed in all nonpartisan races.