

Subject Youth and Student Voter Registration

Authors Wolgamott and others

Analyst Matt Gehring

Date February 11, 2022

Overview

This bill authorizes otherwise-eligible individuals who are at least 16 years of age to preregister to vote, and requires certain higher education institutions to prepare lists of students residing in the institution's housing or near the institution's campus. These lists are used for proof of a voter's residence in the election day registration process.

Summary

Section	Description
---------	-------------

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Residential housing list.
Requires postsecondary institutions that enroll students accepting state financial aid to prepare a current list of students enrolled in the institution and residing in the institution's housing or within ten miles of the institution's campus, with an exception for students participating in the Safe at Home address confidentiality program. This information may be used as proof of residence for student voters registering in a precinct on election day. |
| 2 | Registration.
Permits an individual who is under the age of 18, but is at least 16 years of age, to preregister to vote by submitting a voter registration application. |
| 3 | Prohibitions; penalty.
Provides a cross-reference in a section of law outlining certain voter registration crimes, to reflect the new allowance in this bill for 16 and 17 year old individuals to preregister to vote. |
| 4 | Preregistration.
Details the specific registration procedures for individuals who are under the age of 18, but who are at least 16 years of age, to preregister to vote. These preregistrants |

Section	Description
	may submit a standard voter registration application, or may be automatically registered to vote consistent with procedures established later in the bill.
5	Additional proofs of residence permitted for students. Codifies in statute certain documents that may be used by students as proof of residence in election day registration. The administrative rules of the secretary of state currently authorize these documents to be used for that purpose.
6	Form. Updates the voter registration application form to reflect the allowance for otherwise eligible individuals to preregister to vote beginning at age 16.
7	Public information lists. Prohibits the public disclosure of data on applicants who have preregistered to vote until the voter is fully registered (upon reaching the age of 18) or has voting history.
8	Transition to new voter registration application forms. Authorizes a transition period during which elections officials may use existing stocks of voter registration applications, provided that the applications may not be further printed or copied until the application has been updated to comply with the requirements of this bill.



**MN HOUSE
RESEARCH**

Minnesota House Research Department provides nonpartisan legislative, legal, and information services to the Minnesota House of Representatives. This document can be made available in alternative formats.

www.house.mn/hrd | 651-296-6753 | 155 State Office Building | St. Paul, MN 55155