

AMENDED IN SENATE AUGUST 15, 2016  
AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 16, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 3, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2016  
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2016  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2455**

---

---

**Introduced by Assembly Members Chiu and Bonta  
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Gonzalez)**

February 19, 2016

---

---

An act to *amend Section 2265 of, and to add Section 2147 to* the Elections Code, relating to voter registration.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2455, as amended, Chiu. ~~Electronic voter~~ *Voter registration: public postsecondary educational institutions: institutions: California New Motor Voter Program.*

Under existing law, a person may not be registered to vote except by affidavit of registration. Pursuant to the Student Voter Registration Act of 2003, the Secretary of State is required to annually provide every high school, community college, California State University, and University of California campus with voter registration forms. The act also requires every community college and California State University campus that operates an automated class registration system, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to permit students during the class registration process to apply to register to vote online by submitting

an affidavit of voter registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State. The act encourages the University of California to comply with this provision.

This bill would require the California State University and the California Community Colleges to implement a process and the infrastructure to allow a person who enrolls online at the institution to submit an affidavit of voter registration electronically on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State by July 1, 2018. The bill would encourage the University of California to comply with this provision. By requiring community colleges to provide a higher level of service, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

*Existing law, the California New Motor Voter Program, requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to electronically provide to the Secretary of State the records of each person who submits an application for a driver's license or identification card or who provides the department with a change of address. The person's motor vehicle records will then constitute a completed affidavit of registration and the person will be registered to vote, except as specified.*

*This bill would require the Secretary of State, if he or she receives from the Department of Motor Vehicle the records of a person who is currently registered to vote, to use the information in the records to update the voter's registration information. If the Secretary of State does not receive information for the voter for which space is provided on the affidavit of registration, but that information was provided in the voter's previous affidavit of registration, this bill would require the information from the voter's previous affidavit of registration to remain part of the voter's record.*

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: yes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature, in enacting  
2 *Section 2 of this act*, to take preliminary measures towards the  
3 establishment of an automatic voter registration system for  
4 California citizens enrolled at state public college and university  
5 campuses.

6 SEC. 2. Section 2147 is added to the Elections Code, to read:  
7 2147. No later than July 1, 2018, the California State University  
8 and the California Community Colleges shall implement a process  
9 and the infrastructure to allow a person who enrolls online at the  
10 institution to submit an affidavit of voter registration electronically  
11 on the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State in accordance  
12 with Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 2196). The University  
13 of California is encouraged to coordinate with the Secretary of  
14 State pursuant to this section.

15 SEC. 3. *Section 2265 of the Elections Code is amended to read:*

16 2265. (a) The records of a person designated in paragraph (1)  
17 of subdivision (b) of Section 2263 shall constitute a completed  
18 affidavit of registration and the Secretary of State shall register  
19 the person to vote, unless any of the following conditions is  
20 satisfied:

21 (1) The person's records, as described in Section 2263, reflect  
22 that he or she affirmatively declined to become registered to vote  
23 during a transaction with the Department of Motor Vehicles.

24 (2) The person's records, as described in Section 2263, do not  
25 reflect that he or she has attested to meeting all voter eligibility  
26 requirements specified in Section 2101.

27 (3) The Secretary of State determines that the person is ineligible  
28 to vote.

29 (b) If a person who is registered to vote pursuant to this chapter  
30 does not provide a party preference, his or her party preference  
31 shall be designated as "Unknown" on a voter registration index  
32 under Article 5 (commencing with Section 2180) of Chapter 2,  
33 and he or she shall otherwise be treated as a "No Party Preference"  
34 voter.

35 (c) *If the Secretary of State receives from the Department of*  
36 *Motor Vehicles pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of*  
37 *Section 2263 the records of a person who is currently registered*  
38 *to vote, the Secretary of State shall use the information in the*

1 records to update the voter's registration information. If the  
2 Secretary of State does not receive information for the voter  
3 pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 2263 for  
4 which space is provided on the affidavit of registration, but that  
5 information was provided in the voter's previous affidavit of  
6 registration, the information from the voter's previous affidavit of  
7 registration shall remain part of the voter's record.

8 ~~SEC. 3.~~

9 SEC. 4. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that  
10 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to  
11 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made  
12 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division  
13 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.