By:  Hughes, Middleton S.B. No. 1070

(In the Senate - Filed February 21, 2023; March 3, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on State Affairs; April 4, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 2; April 4, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Hughes          X

Paxton          X

Bettencourt     X

Birdwell        X

LaMantia            X

Menéndez            X

Middleton       X

Parker          X

Perry           X

Schwertner      X

Zaffirini                 X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the interstate voter registration crosscheck program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 18.062, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 18.062.  INTERSTATE VOTER REGISTRATION CROSSCHECK PROGRAM.  (a)  To maintain the statewide voter registration list and to prevent duplication of registration in more than one state or jurisdiction, the secretary of state shall:

(1)  cooperate with other states and jurisdictions to develop systems to compare voters, voter history, and voter registration lists to identify voters:

(A)  whose addresses have changed;

(B)  who have been convicted of a felony; or

(C)  who are registered to vote in more than one state; or

(2)  identify and contract with the provider of a private sector data system to identify voters:

(A)  whose addresses have changed;

(B)  who are registered to vote in more than one state;

(C)  who are deceased; or

(D)  who are not eligible to vote for another reason, including a felony conviction.

(a-1)  A private sector data system under Subsection (a)(2) must have demonstrated an ability to work with registered voter identification and matching systems.

(b)  A system developed under this section must comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. Section 20501 et seq.) and the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Section 20901 et seq.).

(c)  The cost to begin operations with a system under Subsection (a)(2) may not exceed $100,000.

(d)  The cost of continuing operations with a system under Subsection (a)(2) may not exceed one dollar for each voter identified under Subsection (a)(2).

(e)  The secretary of state may not provide to a system under Subsection (a)(2) any information that is not:

(1)  found in a voter roll; and

(2)  necessary to identify voters under Subsection (a)(2).

(f)  The secretary of state shall record information related to the system under Subsection (a)(2) and shall submit to the legislature a report on that information not later than the first day of each quarter of the state's fiscal year.

(g)  A contract with a system under Subsection (a)(2) may not require any additional duty of the state not required by this section.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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