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HOUSE BILL 2081

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State of Washington

67th Legislature

2022 Regular Session

By Representative Young

1 AN ACT Relating to expanding voter registration and elections  
2 access; amending RCW 29A.08.350; adding a new section to chapter  
3 29A.08 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

6 (a) The right to vote is enshrined as one of the greatest virtues  
7 of our constitutional republic, and an engaged citizenry is essential  
8 at each level of government to ensure that all voices are heard; and

9 (b) State and local governments should take every step possible  
10 to make it easier to vote in Washington state and to ensure that the  
11 fundamental values of true democratic elections with full  
12 participation remains one of our most important functions. Providing  
13 additional opportunities for people to register to vote and helping  
14 them make their own choices about who represents them and about  
15 important issues that are central to their lives and communities is  
16 essential to upholding these values.

17 (2) Therefore, the legislature intends to increase the  
18 opportunity to register to vote for persons qualified under Article  
19 VI of the Washington state Constitution by expanding the streamlined  
20 voter registration process, which will increase opportunities for

1 voter registration without placing new undue burdens on government  
2 agencies.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 29A.08  
4 RCW to read as follows:

5 (1) A person may register to vote or update their voter  
6 registration when purchasing a firearm by indicating an intent to do  
7 so on the firearm transfer application submitted to the department of  
8 licensing.

9 (2) To register to vote or update a registration, the applicant  
10 must provide the information required by RCW 29A.08.010. The firearm  
11 transfer application must be designed such that the applicant can  
12 provide this information on the form.

13 (3) The department of licensing must record when an applicant has  
14 requested to register to vote or to update a voter registration.

15 **Sec. 3.** RCW 29A.08.350 and 2018 c 110 s 106 are each amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 The department of licensing shall produce and transmit to the  
18 secretary of state the following information from the records of each  
19 individual who requested a voter registration or update at a driver's  
20 license facility or on a firearm transfer application: The name,  
21 address, date of birth, gender of the applicant, the driver's license  
22 number, signature image, and the date on which the application for  
23 voter registration or update was submitted. The secretary of state  
24 shall process the registrations and updates as an electronic  
25 application.

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