2022 Legislative Summary

Absentee • Post-Election Audits • VVPAT • Public Meetings

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acronyms

- ABS = absentee
- DLN = driver’s license number; term is broadly meant to include credential number on IN driver’s license, learner’s permit, or ID card
- DRE = Direct Record Electronic Voting System (MicroVote)
- OpScan = Optical Scan Voting Sysmte
- SSN = Social Security Number
- VVPAT = voter verifiable paper audit trail component used with MicroVote system
absentee: mailing disclaimers

• Added a required disclaimer on mailing envelope when any person or organization mails an ABS app to another person

• Disclaimer language:
  
  <Insert name of person or organization> has sent you the enclosed application. This is unsolicited and is not sent by a state or local elections official.

• Disclaimer must be:
  • Printed on the envelope
  • Be in at least 16-point font & underlined
  • Be clearly legible

IC 3-11-4-2
absentee: mailing disclaimers

• NEW disclaimer requirement is in addition to existing requirements:
  • Name of person or organization and mailing address must be included in a communication to more than 100 persons that contains an ABS app
    • Required items must be in at least 12-point font
  • “Paid for by” disclaimer language as required by the campaign finance act
Example: Sally’s dogcatcher committee sends out a direct mail piece to 250 persons, which includes an ABS app. Her mail piece must include the following:

- Sally for Dogcatcher committee as sent you the enclosed application. This is unsolicited and is not sent by a state or local elections official.
  - Must be in at least 16-point font & underlined on the envelope
- Sally for Dogcatcher Committee, 123 Main St, Cardinal Town, IN 47777
  - Must be in at least 12-point font anywhere on the mailing
- Paid for by Sally for Dogcatcher Committee
  - Must be included anywhere on the mailing in a “clear and conspicuous manner”
absentee: online abs app security

• Codified existing requirement for voter to enter DLN or SSN that corresponds to voter’s registration record to access online ABS apps at indianavoters.com
  • Voter only has DLN on record?
    • Indianavoters.com prompts only for the DLN
  • Voter only has SSN on record?
    • Indianavoters.com prompts only for the SSN
  • Voter has both DLN or SSN on record?
    • Indianavoters.com gives option for voter to provide one or the other
  • Voter does NOT have DLN or SSN on file?
    • Voter can submit DLN number & county VR officials treat as a correction
    • Once correction approved, voter can access ABS app
Online ABS-Mail Security Check Example

• Instructions to voter include entering their credential number (IN DLN, state ID card number, learner’s permit number) or SSN4 below.
• In this case, only my DLN number is on my voter record
• Therefore, I am prompted to enter my IN credential number before accessing the online ABS-Mail app only
• If I had the last 4 of my SSN on file, then the website would give me two prompts to enter EITHER my DLN OR SSN
• If I had neither, then the site would prompt me to add the IN DLN, which goes to the SVRS Corrections Hopper
**DLN Corrections**

- Navigate to DLN Correction Hopper
- List of records to process out with corrections, such as adding DLN through online abs app security check
- Correction is effective as soon as county process record out of hopper
- Voter then can use DLN to access the online ABS apps at indianavoters.com
- Training Resource on County Portal:
  - Step-by-Step: Processing Records from DLN Correction Hopper
absentee: vpd email/fax deadlines

• Addressed gap in existing law where no deadline was provided for voters with print disabilities to submit ABS-VPD form to request an email/fax ballot
  • Deadlines for ABS-VPD form:
    • 29-days before election to make any changes to voter registration record or register for the first time
      • Move within precinct or name change can be made anytime using any ABS app, however
    • 11:59PM, 12-days before election to request a ballot by mail, fax, or email
      • NOTE: Military & overseas voters have different deadlines so do not conflate the two!
absentee: abs-vpd reminders

- Used to:
  - Register or update a voter’s registration; AND
  - Apply for an ABS ballot for one calendar year (Jan 1 to Dec 31)
    - Ballot can be sent by email/fax/mail
- Available as a “paper” form or “electronic” form online after logging in to their my voter portal page at indianaVoters.com
  - Both forms require voter to affirm under penalties of perjury that individual meets definition of a voter with print disabilities:
    - Individual who is unable to independently mark a paper ballot or ballot card due to blindness, low vision, or a physical disability that impairs manual dexterity.
New Registration Workflow

- Voter marks box to affirm they meet the definition under state law before it takes them to the ABS-VPD form to complete.
Existing Voter Workflow

- Voter logs in to indianavoters.com and selects ABS-VPD form button
- Pop-up presents to voter to mark that they qualify as a voter with print disabilities
VOTER DECLARATION:
I swear or affirm that:

☐ I am authorized to use this combined form as I am a voter with print disabilities, which is defined as an individual who is unable to independently mark a paper ballot or ballot card due to blindness, low vision, or a physical disability that impairs manual dexterity.

☐ All of the above information and all other statements on this form are true.

☐ I am a citizen of the United States.

☐ I am a resident of the State of Indiana.

☐ I will be at least 18 years of age on or before the next general, municipal, or special election.

☐ I have lived in my precinct for at least 30 days before the next general, municipal, or special election.

☐ I am NOT currently in prison after being convicted of a crime.

☐ I authorize my voter registration at any other address to be cancelled.

☐ I authorize the Bureau of Motor Vehicles to release and provide the County Voter Registration Office with both my signature and information on my Indiana Driver’s License or ID. I understand the County Voter Registration Office will use the signature and information on my Indiana Driver’s License or ID for voter registration purposes.

☐ I understand that if I affirm this statement knowing it is not true, I am committing perjury and can be fined up to $10,000, jailed up to two and one-half years, or both.

If I am requesting an absentee ballot, I understand that:

☐ I must mark my own ballot and if I need assistance with completing the ballot, then I may complete my ballot with the assistance of an individual of my choosing, that is not my employer, officer of my union, or agent of my employer or union, or I may vote before an absentee voter board or on Election Day.

☐ If I am requesting an absentee ballot by fax or email, that I am waiving my right to secret ballot and must return a secrecy waiver provided by the county with my completed ballot.

☐ This request for an absentee ballot is valid for one calendar year (January 1 to December 31) unless I cancel my registration or request an absentee ballot using a different state form.

☐ I understand signing this form authorizes my voter registration at any other address other than the residence address noted above to be canceled.

New Registration & Existing Voter Workflow Voter Declaration
Voter marks each box to affirm a variety of requirements, including the voter meets the definition of being a voter with print disabilities
absentee: abs-vpd training

• Tentative Training Dates
  • 3P (ET) on June 21
  • 1P (ET) on June 23
    • Focus on current functionality; will provide updated training at a future date when other workflow issues are addressed

• Other Resources
  • SOP – ABS1.2 ABS Voters with Print Disabilities
    • Available on county portal
  • ABS-VPD SVRS Step-By-Step
    • Being finalized before above training date & will be posted to portal ahead of training
absentee: early voting

- Beginning July 1st in-person absentee voting must be called “early voting” on all IED prescribed forms and in all communications to voters by state and county election administrators
post-election audits: terminology

• Changed the term “risk-limiting” audits to “post-election” audits
  • RLA procedures remain the same; just a new name
  • No longer a “pilot” program for the state
    • CEB can unanimously agree to a resolution to be considered for a post-election audit
    • SOS then selects counties that have opted to be considered for post-election audit
    • County coordinates with VSTOP to determine next steps for audit to be performed under approved protocols

IC 3-12-13-3 | IC 3-12-13-4 | IC 3-12-13-5 | IC 3-12-13-16 | IC 3-12-13-7
post-election audits: access to materials

- Allows CEB to access sealed materials to perform procedural audits permitted in state’s election laws
  - This is NOT permission to open sealed materials to perform an audit not authorized under title 3!
  - Instead, counties can ONLY:
    - Participate in post-election audits under IC 3-12-13 (formerly risk-limiting audits)
    - Conduct recount/contest as ordered by the courts or Indiana Recount Commission
    - Update voter registration records in SVRS by accessing poll lists/VRG-4/12, for example
    - Audit of cast optical scan ballot card under IC 3-11-13-37
    - Review the ballot counter and results on DRE voting system under IC 3-12-4-18
  
- Otherwise, materials are sealed for a period of 22-months after the election before destruction

IC 3-10-1-31.1
**vvpat: inventory requirements**

- Requires all MicroVote counties to have VVPAT units totaling at least 10% or more of the counties DRE inventory not later than July 1, 2022
  - If requirement not met, then county cannot use their DRE voting system in Nov. 2022 and until such a time the 10% minimum VVPAT inventory requirement is met
  - Additionally, DRE counties have to certify the number of VVPATs not later than Aug. 11, 2022, and by Feb. 11 in 2023 and 2024
**vvpat: inventory requirements**

- **Example:**
  - 100 DRE units in county
    - Must have at least 10 VVPAT units
    - Must use at least 10 VVPAT units on DRE voting system in each election until July 1, 2024
  - **Election A:**
    - County has 10 VVPAT units
    - County deploys 50 out of 100 DREs in an election
      - At least 10 of the 50 DRE units must have a VVPAT component used in the election
  - **Election B:**
    - County has 30 VVPATs
    - County deploys 40 out of 100 DRE units in an election
      - At least 10 of the 40 DRE units must have a VVPAT component used in the election; BUT
      - May use up to 30 VVPAT units, which is the county’s entire VVPAT inventory
vvpat: inventory requirements

• Law isn’t specific whether VVPATs used on Election Day or absentee voting DRE units

• After July 1, 2024, a county cannot use a DRE that does not include a VVPAT unit

• Note: Counties using an OpScan voting system (ES&S, Hart Intercivic, Unisyn) are exempt from this requirement, since the ballot card is the voter verifiable paper audit trail
public meetings: oral public comment

• Adds a requirement that if oral public comment is taken on a topic at a meeting, then it must occur before final action is taken

• HOWEVER, this does not require a body to make available an oral public comment period at every meeting
  • Under title 3, limited circumstances where oral public comment is required:
    • Allow party to election law complaint under IC 3-6-5-31 to be heard
    • Allow party to campaign finance hearing to be heard according to AOPA (IC 4-21.5)
    • Hearing on omission or error on ballot

IC 5-14-1.5-3
public meetings: virtual participation

• Amended 2021 law to further limit when a body can allow for electronic or “virtual” participation during a disaster emergency
  • Members can only electronically participate if:
    • Declared disaster emergency in effect for all or part of the governing body’s jurisdiction; AND
    • Meeting in person would present an imminent risk of health or safety of the members of the governing body or public due to the emergency conditions that are the basis for the declared disaster emergency
  • If these conditions are met, then the governing body may meet by electronic means and follow specific requirements in the disaster electronic participation law

IC 5-14-1.5-3.7
If these new conditions are met, then the governing body may meet by electronic communication, if:

- At least a quorum of the members can meet in-person or electronically; AND
- the public is able to simultaneously attend & observe a public meeting

Notes of the meeting must:
- State the name of each member who:
  - Attended electronically
  - Was absent
- Identify the electronic means of communication by which the board met & public observed

All votes must be roll call votes
Questions?