

1 H.624

2 Introduced by Representative Giambatista of Essex

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; statewide voter checklist; federal registry or database;  
6 personally identifying information

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to:

- 8 (1) add a person's information maintained in the statewide voter  
9 checklist to the list of personally identifying information that cannot be  
10 disclosed to the federal government; and  
11 (2) add a registered voter's telephone number to the information in the  
12 statewide voter checklist that shall be kept confidential and exempt from public  
13 inspection and copying under the Public Records Act.

14 An act relating to the protection of information in the statewide voter  
15 checklist

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 20 V.S.A. § 4651 is amended to read:

3 § 4651. PROHIBITED DISCLOSURE OF PERSONALLY IDENTIFYING  
4 INFORMATION

5 (a) As used in this section:

6 (1) “Personally identifying information” means information concerning  
7 a person’s sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, race, color,  
8 religion, national origin, immigration status, age, or disability or a person’s  
9 information maintained in the statewide voter checklist.

10 (2) “Public agency” ~~has~~ shall have the same meaning as in 1 V.S.A.  
11 § 317 and shall include all officers, employees, agents, and independent  
12 contractors of the public agency.

13 (b) A public agency shall not:

14 (1) collect information regarding the religious beliefs, practices, or  
15 affiliation of any individual for the purpose of registration of an individual  
16 based on his or her religious beliefs, practices, or affiliations;

17 (2) knowingly disclose personally identifying information to any federal  
18 agency or official for the purpose of registration of an individual based on his  
19 or her personally identifying information; or

20 (3) use public agency money, facilities, property, equipment, or  
21 personnel to assist in creating or enforcing any federal government program for

1 the registration of an individual based on his or her personally identifying  
2 information.

3 (c) Any section, term, or provision of an agreement in existence on the  
4 effective date of this section that conflicts with subsection (b) of this section  
5 shall be invalidated on that date to the extent of the conflict.

6 (d) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit or impede any public  
7 agency from complying with the lawful requirements of 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and  
8 1644. To the extent any State or local law enforcement policy or practice  
9 conflicts with the lawful requirements of 8 U.S.C. §§ 1373 and 1644, ~~said~~ the  
10 policy or practice is, to the extent of such conflict, abolished.

11 (e) Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit or impede any public  
12 agency from disclosing or exchanging aggregated information that cannot be  
13 used to identify an individual with any other public agency or federal agency  
14 or official.

15 Sec. 2. 17 V.S.A. § 2154 is amended to read:

16 § 2154. STATEWIDE VOTER CHECKLIST

17 (a) The Secretary of State shall ~~establish~~ maintain a uniform and  
18 nondiscriminatory, statewide voter ~~registration~~ checklist. This checklist shall  
19 serve as the official voter registration list for all elections in the State. In  
20 ~~establishing~~ maintaining the statewide voter checklist, the Secretary shall:



