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H.624

Senator White moves that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out in its entirety Sec. 1, 17 V.S.A. § 2154 (statewide voter checklist) and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 1 to read:

Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2154 is amended to read:

§ 2154. STATEWIDE VOTER CHECKLIST

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

- (1) limit ~~the~~ a town clerk to adding, modifying, or deleting applicant and voter information on the portion of the checklist for that clerk’s municipality;
- (2) limit access to the statewide voter checklist for a local elections official to verifying if whether the applicant is registered in another municipality in the State by a search for the individual voter;
- (3) notify a local elections official when a voter registered in that official’s district registers in another voting district so that the voter may be removed from that ~~district’s~~ official’s district checklist;
- (4) provide adequate security to prevent unauthorized access to the checklist; and

1           (5) ensure the compatibility and comparability of information on the  
2 checklist with information contained in the Department of Motor Vehicles'  
3 computer systems.

4           (b)(1) A registered voter's month and day of birth, driver's license or  
5 nondriver identification number, telephone number, e-mail address, and the  
6 last four digits of his or her Social Security number shall be kept confidential  
7 and are exempt from public ~~copying and inspection~~ and copying under the  
8 Public Records Act.

9           (2) A public agency as defined in 1 V.S.A. § 317 and any officer,  
10 employee, agent, or independent contractor of a public agency shall not  
11 knowingly disclose ~~any information pertaining to a registered voter that is~~  
12 ~~maintained in~~ a copy of all of the statewide voter checklist or ~~in~~ a  
13 municipality's portion of the statewide voter checklist to any foreign  
14 government or to a federal agency or commission or to a person acting on  
15 behalf of a foreign government or of such a federal entity for the purpose of:

16           (A) registration of a voter based on his or her information maintained  
17 in the checklist;

18           (B) publicly disclosing a voter's information maintained in the  
19 checklist; or

20           (C) comparing a voter's information maintained in the checklist to  
21 personally identifying information contained in other federal or state databases.

1           (c)(1) Any person wishing to obtain a copy of all of the statewide voter  
2           checklist must swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury pursuant to 13 V.S.A.  
3           chapter 65, that the person will not:

4                     (A) use the checklist for commercial purposes; or

5                     (B) knowingly disclose any voter information maintained in the  
6           checklist to any foreign government or to a federal agency or commission or to  
7           a person acting on behalf of a foreign government or of such a federal entity in  
8           circumvention of the prohibition prohibited purposes for using the checklist set  
9           forth in subdivision (b)(2) of this section.

10           (2) The affirmation shall be filed with the Secretary of State.

11           (d) An elections official shall not access the portion of the statewide voter  
12           checklist that is exempt from public inspection pursuant to 1 V.S.A.  
13           § 317(c)(31), except for elections purposes.