- 1 HB314
- 2 209347-3
- 3 By Representative Scott
- 4 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund
- 5 First Read: 03-FEB-21

1	<u>ENGROSSED</u>
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	Relating to voter registration lists; to amend
9	Sections 17-4-30 and 17-4-31, Code of Alabama 1975; to revise
10	the process used by the Secretary of State and boards of
11	registrars to periodically update the statewide voter
12	registration database; to authorize the Secretary of State to
13	adopt rules; and to revise the publication reimbursement rate
14	to counties relating to revising the statewide voter
15	registration database.
16	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
17	Section 1. Sections 17-4-30 and 17-4-31, Code of
18	Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:
19	"§17-4-30.
20	"(a) Beginning in <del>January 1997</del> <u>February 2025</u> , and in
21	January February of every fourth year thereafter, the boards
22	of registrars shall mail a nonforwardable notice to all
23	registered voters in the county. The notice shall be designed
24	and provided for the boards of registrars by the Secretary of
25	State. The notice shall be sent on a postcard providing
26	general information on elections. The notice shall be mailed
27	to the last known address of the voter appearing on the voter

2 registrars indicating that the voter may have relocated, the board shall send a forwardable notice to the registered voter 3 on which the voter may confirm his or her current address. The 5 forwardable notice shall be mailed no later than 90 days after receipt of the returned nonforwardable notice. The boards Secretary of State or board of registrars shall use board of registrars, or the Secretary of State, if acting as the board's agent pursuant to subsection (h), shall use 10 change-of-address information supplied by the United States Postal Service through the National Change of Address database 11 and by at least one other voter registration database, 12 13 including, but not limited to, the Electronic Registration Information Center or NVRA designated agency, to identify 14 15 registered voters whose addresses may have changed. "(b) (1) If the Secretary of State or a board of 16 17 registrars determines from the information provided by the 18 United States Postal Service that a registered voter has moved "(b)(1) If the board of registrars or Secretary of 19 State determines from the change-of-address information that a 20 21 registered voter has moved to a different residence address that is under the jurisdiction of the same board of 22 23 registrars, the board of registrars shall change the 24 registration records of that voter to show the new address, 25 and the Secretary of State or board of registrars board of registrars or Secretary of State , within 90 days after 26 identifying the potential change, shall send the voter a 27

registration list. If the notice is returned to the boards of

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notice of the change by forwardable mail along with a postage prepaid, pre-addressed return card on which the registered voter may correct his or her current address information. The notice shall inform the voter that if the voter did not change his or her residence, he or she is required to return the pre-addressed card no later than the last day to register to vote before an election.

"(2) If the Secretary of State or board of registrars determines from the information provided by the United States Postal Service that a registered voter has moved

State determines from the change-of-address information that a registered voter has moved to a different residence address that is under the jurisdiction of a different board of registrars or to a residence address outside of the state, the Secretary of State or board of registrars board of registrars or Secretary of State, within 90 days after identifying the potential change, shall send the voter a notice of the change by forwardable mail along with a postage prepaid, pre-addressed return card on which the registered voter may verify or correct his or her current address information. The notice shall include both of the following:

"a. A statement informing the voter that if the pre-addressed card is not returned within the time specified in the notice, the voter will be permitted to vote in that same jurisdiction during the period from the date the notice was mailed and ending on the day after the date of the second

general election for federal office, provided the voter

completes a voter registration update form. If the voter does

not update his or her voter registration record or vote during

the period ending on the day after the date of the second

general election for federal office, the voter's name shall be

removed from the list of eligible voters.

"b. Information concerning how the voter may

continue his or her eligibility to vote in another

jurisdiction if the voter has changed his or her residence to

an address outside of the jurisdiction of the board of

registrars under which he or she is then registered.

"(c) The Secretary of State or board of registrars

"(c) The board of registrars or Secretary of State shall record and maintain in the statewide voter registration database the dates on which the nonforwardable notice was is mailed to a registered voter and the card is subsequently returned to the board and the date on which the forwardable notice was mailed to by the registered voter.

"(b)(d) The boards board of registrars shall update the voter list for the county statewide voter registration database using the information reported to the board by the registered voters on the address confirmation prepaid, pre-addressed return cards provided for in subsection (a) this section.

"(e) If the registered voter does not respond to the forwardable notice on which the registered voter may confirm his or her address provided in this section within 90 days of

1	the date on which the notice was mailed or if the forwardable
2	notice is returned to the board of registrars as
3	undeliverable, the <del>boards</del> <u>board</u> of registrars <u>or its agent</u>
4	shall place the name of the registered voter on the inactive
5	list of registered voters and in a suspense file in the office
6	of the board. The suspense file shall contain all of the
7	following information: change the status of the voter to
8	inactive and indicate in the statewide voter registration
9	database the date the change is recorded and that the voter
10	did not respond to the mailing or that the mailing was
11	returned as undeliverable, in a manner provided by rule by the
12	Secretary of State.
13	"(1) The name of the registered voter.
14	"(2) The last known address of the registered voter.

Security number or other personal identification number of the registered voter.

"(3) At least the last four digits of the Social

"(4) The date on which the name of the registered voter was placed in the suspense file.

- "(c) The name of a registered voter who does not vote or appear to vote in one of the next two federal elections held after his or her name is placed in the suspense file shall be removed from the voter list.
- " $\frac{(d)}{(f)}$  The names of persons to be removed from the list of registered voters pursuant to this section shall be published in accordance with Section 17-4-10.

Τ	"(g) The Secretary of State may adopt rules as
2	necessary to implement this section.
3	"(h) The Secretary of State may act as an agent for
4	the boards of registrars in implementing this section. a board
5	of registrars, only upon receiving the written consent of the
6	county commission, in implementing this section.
7	"§17-4-31.
8	"The state shall reimburse each county commission

"The state shall reimburse each county commission for all the postage costs associated with voter lists maintenance activities provided for in Section 17-4-30 and one-fourth one-half of the cost of the publication of the names of persons individuals to be removed from the list of registered voters as required in Section 17-4-10. The reimbursement shall be made from the Election Expenses Account in the State Treasury upon approval by the Secretary of State on warrants drawn by the state Comptroller."

Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7 8	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on Ways and Means General Fund
9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 10-FEB-21
12 13 14	Read for the third time and passed as amended
15 16 17 18	Jeff Woodard Clerk