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Secretary of State Encourages Voters to be Ready to Register and Vote

CHEYENNE, WY – With days to go before the November 6th Midterm General Election, Secretary of State Edward Buchanan is encouraging voters to cast a ballot on Election Day and reminding Wyoming residents that if they did not vote during the 2016 General Election or are not registered to vote, that they may register to vote on Election Day.

Wyoming’s law allows Wyoming residents to register and vote on Election Day if they provide a valid Wyoming driver’s license. If a person does not bring their valid driver’s license to the polls, then a voter must provide their driver’s license number and another acceptable form of identification. If a prospective voter has not been issued a Wyoming driver’s license, they must provide the last four digits of their social security number and another form of acceptable identification. If a person has not been issued a Wyoming driver’s license or a social security number, they may still vote if they have another form of acceptable identification.

“The law on how a voter registers to vote is clear. There are multiple ways in which a voter can register if they do not have a valid Wyoming driver’s license. If a voter forgets their Wyoming driver’s license or if they don’t know their driver’s license number on Election Day, they can still cast a provisional ballot. A voter will then have the responsibility of providing the necessary documentation to their county clerk by the close of business on the following day,” said Fremont County Clerk Julie Freese.

Polls open at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 6th and close at 7:00 p.m. If a voter is unable to register at the polls they may cast a provisional ballot at that time and provide any necessary information to their county clerk by close of business on Wednesday, November 7th, to have their ballot counted.

“Wyoming was the first State to allow same-day voter registration. Voters in Wyoming have flexibility in choosing when to register and vote, so there is no excuse not to vote. My office and Wyoming’s county clerks work to ensure that the registration process is understandable, easy to navigate, transparent, and secure. The steps to register to vote on Election Day or any other day are clearly laid out in both Wyoming law and in federal law through the Help America Vote Act. While these procedures have not changed in 15 years, I am encouraging voters to come to the polls prepared so that they can register and cast their ballot without any difficulty,” said Secretary of State Edward Buchanan.

Voters may locate their polling place or vote center by using the Polling Place Locator on the Secretary of State’s website.

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22-3-103. Furnishing of oath forms; contents thereof.

(a) The county clerk shall furnish voter registration oath forms to registry agents which forms shall require the following voter information from the applicant:

(i) His full legal name;

(ii) His current residence address or if living temporarily in another state or nation, his last residence address in Wyoming;

(iii) His postal address if different from his residence address;

(iv) His date of birth;

(v) Acceptable identification as defined pursuant to W.S. 22-1-102(a)(xxxix);

(vi) His Wyoming driver's license number, or if he has no current, valid Wyoming driver's license, a statement to that effect and the last four digits of his social security number, or if he has neither, a statement to that effect;

(vii) His political party affiliation, if any.

(viii) Repealed By Laws 2010, Ch. 3, § 3.

(b) Following the provision of the information required in subsection (a) of this section, the form shall require the applicant's signature in full below the following oath:

I, ...., do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I am a citizen of the United States; that I am a bona fide resident of the state of Wyoming and this county; that if registered in another county or state, I hereby request that my registration be withdrawn; that I will be at least eighteen (18) years of age on or before the next election; that I am not currently adjudicated a mentally incompetent person, that I have not been convicted of a felony, or if I have been convicted of a felony, I have had my civil or voting rights restored by a competent authority; and that the voter registration information contained herein is true and accurate to my best knowledge and belief.
.... (Signature in full of applicant)

Subscribed and affirmed or sworn to before me by .... this .... day of ...., (year).

.... (Signature and title of registry agent or person authorized to administer oaths)

(c) Persons in the uniformed services and overseas citizens, as specified in W.S. 22-3-117, shall swear or affirm to the oath under the penalty of perjury. The oath does not require the signature of an oath-taking officer.

22-3-118. Proof of identity.

(a) Unless a voter is challenged pursuant to W.S. 22-15-101 through 22-15-109, no identification shall be required when:

(i) Voting in person or by mail after having registered in person; or

(ii) Voting in person or by mail after having registered by mail and having previously voted in a Wyoming federal election.

(b) Prior to voting, when a voter has registered by mail and is voting in person in his first Wyoming federal election, he shall provide:

(i) A current, valid photo identification; or

(ii) A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check or other government document which shows his name and address.

(c) When a voter has registered by mail and he is voting by mail in his first Wyoming federal election, he shall submit with his absentee ballot:

(i) A copy of a current, valid photo identification; or

(ii) A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document which shows his name and address.
(d) Voters who are unable to provide the required proof under the applicable provisions of subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be offered provisional ballots in accordance with W.S. 22-15-105 and permitted until the close of business on the day following the election to present documentation to the county clerk establishing their eligibility to vote in the precinct.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not apply to elections conducted pursuant to chapter 29 of this Election Code.

(f) As used in this section "Wyoming federal election" means a primary election, general election or a special election for federal office held in this state.
Section 1. Authority.
These rules are necessitated by Section 303 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 [hereafter referred to as HAVA], P.L. 107-252, and are authorized by W.S. 22-1-102(a)(xxxix) and 22-2-121(b) and (d).

Section 2. Purpose.
These rules are promulgated to assist State and local Wyoming election officials and employees in implementing the identification requirements for voters when they apply to register, for certain voters when they vote, and for voters who are challenged at the polls.

Section 3. Applicability.
These rules shall apply to all State and local election officials, employees, and election judges by whatever designation involved in the conduct of the activities addressed and to all voters and prospective voters.

Section 4. Verification of Voter Information.
The County Clerk shall verify the voter information as provided in W.S. 22-3-104(f), using the statewide voter registration system. If the required information is found to be valid and sufficient for registration, the individual shall be registered.

Section 5. Content of Voter Registration Application and of Oath Form.
(a) The voter registration oath shall conform in substance to the voter registration oath in W.S. 22-3-103 although it may vary in other respects. The statewide voter registration application form is prescribed by the Secretary of State and can be found online.

Section 6. Definition of “Acceptable Identification”
(a) Any one of the following documents shall constitute proof of the individual’s identity for the purpose of registering to vote and for voting. If the individual’s current residence address is included in the document, it shall also
constitute proof of residency, if necessary. In the event of a challenge, if the residence address is not included in the document or if it is not current, the individual may be required to produce other documentation of his residence address in accordance with W.S. 22-3-118 or 22-15-101 through 109.

(i) United States Passport;
(ii) Driver’s License or Identification Card issued by any State or Outlying Possession of the United States;
(iii) Identification Card issued by the Federal Government, any State or Local Government, or an Agency thereof;
(iv) Photo Identification Card issued by the University of Wyoming, a Wyoming Community College, or a Wyoming Public School;
(v) United States Military Card;
(vi) Identification Card issued to a Dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces.

(b) Any two or more of the following documents together shall constitute proof of the individual’s identity and residency, if necessary, for the purpose of registering to vote and for voting. In the event of a challenge, if the residence address is not included in the document or if it is not current, the individual may be required to produce other documentation of his residence address in accordance with W.S. 22-3-118 or 22-15-101 through 109.

(i) Certification of United States Citizenship;
(ii) Certificate of Naturalization;
(iii) United States Military Draft Record;
(iv) Voter’s Registration Card from another State or County;
(v) United States Social Security Card;
(vi) Certification of Birth Abroad issued by the Department of State;
(vii) Original or certified copy of a birth certificate bearing an official seal;
and
(viii) Any other form of identification issued by an official agency of the United States or a State.

(c) In the event of a challenge, the following documents, showing the individual’s name and address, are acceptable proof of identity and residency:
(i) Current utility bill;
(ii) Current bank statement;
(iii) Current government check;
(iv) Current paycheck;
(v) Any other current government document showing his name and address.