1	State of Arkansas	As Engrossed: H1/20/17
2	91st General Assembly	A Bill
3	Regular Session, 2017	HOUSE BILL 1047
4		
5		Drown, Ballinger, Barker, Bentley, Bragg, Brown, Coleman, Cozart, Davis,
6		y, Gonzales, M. Gray, Henderson, Hollowell, Ladyman, Lundstrum, Lynch,
7		eks, S. Meeks, Payton, Penzo, Pilkington, Richmond, Rushing, Rye, B.
8	*	h, Sullivan, Tosh, Vaught, Warren, Wing, Womack
9	By: Senator Rapert	
10		
11		For An Act To Be Entitled
12	AN ACT TO	REQUIRE THAT A VOTER PROVIDE VERIFICATION
13	OF VOTER F	REGISTRATION WHEN VOTING; TO AMEND AMENDMENT
14	51 OF THE	ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION; AND FOR OTHER
15	PURPOSES.	
16		
17		
18		Subtitle
19	TO R	EQUIRE THAT A VOTER PROVIDE
20	VERI	FICATION OF VOTER REGISTRATION WHEN
21	VOTI	NG; AND TO AMEND AMENDMENT 51 OF THE
22	ARKA	NSAS CONSTITUTION.
23		
24		
25	BE IT ENACTED BY THE O	GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
26		
27	SECTION 1. Arka	unsas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 6(a)(2), concerning
28	statements included or	n the mail voter registration application form, is
29	amended to read as fol	lows:
30	(2) Such	forms shall include, in identical print, statements
31	that:	
32	(A)	Specify voter eligibility requirements;
33	(B)	Contain an attestation that the applicant meets all
34	voter eligibility requ	irements and that the applicant does not claim the
35	right to vote in anoth	ner county or state;
36	(C)	Specify the penalties provided by law for submission



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     of a false voter registration application;
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                       (D) Inform applicants that where they register to vote
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     will be kept confidential; and
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                       (E) Inform applicants that declining to register will also
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     be kept confidential; and
 6
                       (F) Inform applicants that they will be required to verify
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     their registration when voting in person or by absentee ballot by providing a
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     required document or identification card as provided in Arkansas
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     Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13.
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11
           SECTION 2. Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13 is amended to
     read as follows:
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13
           § 13. Fail-safe voting.
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           (a) If a voter presents himself or herself at a polling place on the
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     date of an election but no record of his or her voter registration can be
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     located by the judges of the election on the precinct voter registration
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     list, such the voter shall be permitted to vote only under the conditions set
18
     forth in § 7-5-306 or § 7-7-308.
19
           (b)(1)(A) In order to determine that all who cast ballots in general,
20
     special, and primary elections in this state are legally qualified to vote in
     that election, each voter shall verify his or her registration by:
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22
                             (i) Presenting to the election official when
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     appearing to vote in person either early or at the polls on election day
     verification of registration in the form of a document or identification card
24
25
     that:
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                                  (a) Shows the name of the person to whom the
     document or identification card was issued;
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28
                                   (b) Shows a photograph of the person to whom
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     the document or identification card was issued;
30
                                  (c) Is issued by the United States, the State
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     of Arkansas, or an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the
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     State of Arkansas; and
33
                                  (d) If displaying an expiration date, is not
     expired or expired no more than four (4) years before the date of the
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35
     election in which the voter seeks to vote; or
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                             (ii) Submitting with an absentee ballot a copy of a
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1	document or identification card that complies with the requirements of
2	subdivision (b)(l)(A)(i) of this section.
3	(B) Documents and identification cards that comply with
4	the requirements of subdivision (b)(l)(A) of this section include without
5	limitation:
6	(i) A driver's license;
7	(ii) A photo identification card;
8	(iii) A concealed handgun carry license;
9	(iv) A United States passport;
10	(v) An employee badge or identification document;
11	(vi) A United States military identification
12	document;
13	(vii) A student identification card issued by an
14	accredited postsecondary educational institution in the State of Arkansas;
15	(viii) A public assistance identification card; and
16	(ix) A voter verification card under § 7-5-323.
17	(2)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(2)(B) of this
18	section, if a voter is unable to verify his or her registration when voting
19	in person by presenting a document or identification card that complies with
20	subdivision (b)(l)(A)(i) of this section, the election official shall:
21	(i) Indicate on the precinct voter registration list
22	that the voter did not present a required document or identification card;
23	and
24	(ii) Permit the voter to cast a provisional ballot
25	and inform the voter of the requirements under subdivision (b)4) of this
26	section.
27	(B)(i) A person who is a resident of a long-term care or
28	residential care facility licensed by the state of Arkansas is not required
29	to verify his or her registration by presenting a document or identification
30	card that complies with subdivision (b)(l)(A)(i) of this section when voting
31	in person.
32	(ii) A person not required to present a document or
33	identification card under subdivision (b)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall
34	provide documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that
35	the person is a resident of the facility.
36	(3)(A) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(3)(B) of this

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1	section, if a voter voting by absentee ballot fails to submit with the ballot
2	documentation that complies with subdivision (b)(l)(A)(ii) of this section,
3	the absentee ballot shall be considered a provisional ballot.
4	(B) The following persons shall not be required to submit
5	with his or her absentee ballot documentation that complies with subdivision
6	(b)(l)(A)(ii) of this section:
7	(i) A member on active duty of the uniformed
8	services or merchant marine who is absent from the country on election day
9	because of his or her service; or
10	(ii) The spouse or dependant of an active duty
11	member of the uniformed services or merchant marine under subdivision
12	(b)(3)(B)(i) of this section.
13	(4) A provisional ballot cast by a voter who did not present a
14	required document or identification card shall be counted if:
15	(A) The voter returns to the county board of election
16	commissioners or the county clerk by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the
17	election and:
18	(i) Presents a document or identification card that
19	complies with subdivision (b)(1) of this section; or
20	(ii) Provides an affidavit stating that the voter
21	cannot provide a document or identification card because the voter is
22	indigent or has a religious objection to being photographed; and
23	(B) The county board of election commissioners does not
24	determine that the provisional ballot is invalid and should not be counted
25	based on other grounds.
26	(5) A provisional ballot cast by an absentee voter who failed to
27	submit with an absentee ballot documentation that complies with subdivision
28	(b)(l)(A)(ii) of this section shall be counted if:
29	(A) The voter returns to the county board of election
30	commissioners or the county clerk by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the
31	election and:
32	(i) Presents a copy of a document or identification
33	card that complies with the requirements of subdivision (b)(l)(A)(i) of this
34	section; or
35	(ii) Provides an affidavit stating that the voter
36	cannot provide documentation under subdivision (b)(5)(A)(i) of this section

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1	because the voter is indigent or has a religious objection to being
2	photographed; and
3	(B) The county board of election commissioners does not
4	determine that the provisional ballot is invalid and should not be counted
5	based on other grounds.
6	(6) A person registering to vote by mail and who has not
7	previously voted in a federal election in this state shall comply with § 7-5-
8	<u>201(d).</u>
9	(7)(A) Following each election, the county board of election
10	commissioners may review the precinct voter registration lists and may
11	provide the information of the voters not presenting a document or
12	identification card necessary to verify his or her voter registration when
13	voting in person or by absentee ballot to the prosecuting attorney.
14	(B) The prosecuting attorney may investigate possible
15	voter fraud.
16	(C) Upon application based upon affidavits of one (1) or
17	more qualified voters by the appropriate prosecuting attorney alleging
18	possible voter fraud, the appropriate circuit judge, for good cause shown,
19	may order the permanent registrar to cancel the registration of the voter
20	failing to verify his or her registration as provided by this subsection.
21	
22	SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-1-101(31)-(38), concerning definitions
23	applicable to Title 7 of the Arkansas Code, are amended to read as follows:
24	(31)(A) "Proof of identity" means:
25	(i) A voter identification card under § 7-5-322; or
26	(ii) A document or identification card that:
27	(a) Shows the name of the person to whom the
28	document was issued;
29	(b) Shows a photograph of the person to whom
30	the document was issued;
31	(c) Is issued by the United States, the State
32	of Arkansas, or an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the
33	State of Arkansas; and
34	(d) If displaying an expiration date:
35	(1) Is not expired; or
36	(2) Expired no more than four (4) years

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1 before the date of the election in which the person seeks to vote. 2 (B) A proof of identity that complies with the 3 requirements under subdivision  $(31)(\Lambda)$  of this section may include without 4 limitation: 5 (i) A driver's license; 6 (ii) A photo identification card; 7 (iii) A concealed handgun carry license; 8 (iv) A United States passport; 9 (v) An employee badge or identification document; 10 (vi) A United States military identification 11 document; 12 (vii) A student identification card issued by an 13 accredited postsecondary educational institution in the State of Arkansas; 14 (viii) A public assistance identification card; and 15 (ix) A voter identification card under § 7-5-322; 16 (32)(31) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot: 17 (A) Cast by special procedures to record a vote when there 18 is some question concerning a voter's eligibility; and 19 (B) Counted contingent upon the verification of the 20 voter's eligibility; 21 (33)(32) "Qualified elector" means a person who holds the 22 qualifications of an elector and who is registered pursuant to Arkansas 23 Constitution, Amendment 51; 24 (34)(33) "Sample ballot" means a ballot for distribution to the 25 public or the press marked with the word "SAMPLE" so as to prevent the 26 production of counterfeit ballots; 27 (35)(34) "Uniformed services" means the United States Army, 28 United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, 29 United States Coast Guard, the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration 30 31 Commissioned Officer Corps, or as defined in the federal Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff et seq. 52 U.S.C. § 32 33 20301 et seq., if different from the definition stated in this subdivision 34 (35)(34);35 (36) (35) "Vacancy in election" means the vacancy in an elective 36 office created by death, resignation, or other good and legal cause arising

1 prior to election to the office at a general or special election but arising 2 subsequent to the certification of the ballot; 3 (37)(36) "Vacancy in nomination" means the circumstances in 4 which: 5 (A) The person who received the majority of votes at the 6 preferential primary election or general primary election cannot accept the 7 nomination due to death or notifies the party that he or she will not accept 8 the nomination due to serious illness, moving out of the area from which the 9 person was elected as the party's nominee, or filing for another office 10 preceding the final date for certification of nominations; or 11 (B) There is a tie vote for the same office at a general 12 primary election; (38)(A)(37)(A) "Vacancy in office" means the vacancy in an 13 14 elective office created by death, resignation, or other good and legal cause 15 arising subsequent to election to the office at a general or special election 16 or arising subsequent to taking office and before the expiration of the term 17 of office in those circumstances wherein the vacancy must be filled by a 18 special election rather than by appointment. 19 "Vacancy in office" does not apply to the election of (B) 20 a person at a general election to fill an unexpired portion of a term of 21 office; 22 (38)(A)(i) "Verification of voter registration" means presenting 23 a document or identification card that: 24 (a) Shows the name of the person to whom the 25 document or identification card was issued; 26 (b) Shows a photograph of the person to whom the document or identification card was issued; 27 28 (c) Is issued by the United States, the State 29 of Arkansas, or an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the 30 State of Arkansas; and 31 (d) If displaying an expiration date, is not 32 expired or expired no more than four (4) years before the date of the 33 election in which the voter seeks to vote; or 34 (ii) Submitting with an absentee ballot verification of voter registration in the form of a copy of a document or identification card 35 36 that complies with the requirements of subdivision (38)(A)(i) of this

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1	section.
2	(B) Documents and identification cards that comply with
3	the requirements of subdivision (38)(A) of this section include without
4	limitation:
5	(i) A driver's license;
6	(ii) A photo identification card;
7	(iii) A concealed handgun carry license;
8	(iv) A United States passport;
9	(v) An employee badge or identification document;
10	(vi) A United States military identification
11	document;
12	(vii) A student identification card issued by an
13	accredited postsecondary educational institution in the State of Arkansas;
14	(viii) A public assistance identification card; and
15	(ix) A voter verification card under § 7-5-323;
16	
17	SECTION 5. Arkansas Code § 7-5-201(d), concerning voter qualification,
18	is amended to read as follows:
19	(d)(l) Except as provided in subdivision (d)(2) of this section and
20	subsection (e) of this section, any person desiring to vote in this state
21	shall:
22	(A) Present <del>proof of identity</del> verification of voter
23	$\underline{registration}$ to the election official when appearing to vote in person either
24	early or at the polls on election day; or
25	(B) When voting by absentee ballot, submit with the ballot
26	verification of voter registration in the form of a copy of a current and
27	valid photo identification or a copy of a current utility bill, bank
28	statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that
29	shows the name and address of the voter unless the voter is:
30	(i) A member of the uniformed services on active
31	duty who is absent from the county on election day because of active duty;
32	(ii) A member of the merchant marine who is absent
33	from the county on election day because of his or her service in the merchant
34	marine; or
35	(iii) The spouse or dependent of a member identified
36	in subdivision (d)(l)(B)(i) of this section or subdivision (d)(l)(B)(ii) of

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     this section who is absent from the county on election day because of the
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     active duty or service of the member.
                 (2)(A) A person who is a resident of a long-term care or
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     residential care facility licensed by the state is not required to provide
 5
     proof of identity present verification of voter registration before voting.
 6
                       (B) A person not required to provide proof of identity
     present verification of voter registration under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of
 7
8
     this section shall provide documentation from the administrator of the
9
     facility, attesting that the person is a resident of the facility.
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           SECTION 6. Arkansas Code § 7-5-305(a)(8), concerning requests for
12
     identification when voting, is amended to read as follows:
                 (8)(A)(i) Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(8)(A)(ii) and
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14
     (a)(8)(B)(ii) of this section, request the voter for purposes of
15
     identification to provide proof of identity that the voter present
     verification of voter registration by providing a document or identification
16
17
     card that meets the requirements of Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, §
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     13, if required by that section.
19
                             (ii)(a) A person who is a resident of a long-term
20
     care or residential care facility licensed by the state is not required to
21
     provide proof of identity before voting.
22
                                   (b) A person not required to provide proof of
23
     identity under subdivision (a)(8)(A)(ii)(a) of this section shall provide
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     documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that the
25
     person is a resident of the facility.
26
                       (B)(i) If a voter is unable to provide this proof of
27
     identity present verification of voter registration in the form of a document
     or identification card required by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13,
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29
     the poll worker shall:
30
                                   (a) Indicate on the precinct voter
31
     registration list that the voter did not provide proof of identity present
32
     verification of voter registration by providing a document or identification
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     card required by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13, to the Arkansas
34
     Constitution; and
35
                                   (b) Permit the voter to cast a provisional
36
     ballot.
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1 (ii) When a voter is unable to provide proof of 2 identity, the voter and the election official shall follow the procedure 3 under § 7-5-321 Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13. 4 (iii) A first-time voter who registers by mail 5 without providing identification when registering and desires to vote in 6 person but who does not meet the identification verification of voter 7 registration requirements of § 7-5-201(e) § 7-5-201(d) may cast a provisional 8 ballot. 9 (iv) Following each election, the county board of 10 election commissioners may review the precinct voter registration lists and 11 may provide the information of the voters not providing proof of identity 12 presenting verification of voter registration at the polls to the prosecuting 13 attorney. 14 The prosecuting attorney may investigate (v) 15 possible voter fraud; 16 17 SECTION 7. Arkansas Code §§ 7-5-321 and 7-5-322 are repealed. 18 7-5-321. Procedure when voter fails to provide proof of identity. 19 (a) If the voter is listed on the precinct voter registration list but 20 fails to provide proof of identity, the election official shall: 21 (1) Indicate on the precinct voter registration list that the 22 voter did not provide proof of identity; and 23 (2) Permit the voter to cast a provisional ballot. (b)(1) A person who is a resident of a long-term care or residential 24 25 care facility licensed by the state is not required to provide proof of 26 identity before voting. 27 (2) A person not required to provide proof of identity under subdivision (b)(1) of this section shall provide documentation from the 28 29 administrator of the facility attesting that the person is a resident of the 30 facility. 31 (c) A provisional ballot cast by a voter who did not provide proof of 32 identity shall be counted if: 33 (1) The voter returns to the county board of election 34 commissioners or the county clerk by 12:00 noon on the Monday following the election and: 35 36 (A) Provides proof of identity; or

1	(B) Provides an affidavit stating that the voter cannot
2	provide proof of identity because the voter:
3	(i) Is indigent; or
4	(ii) Has a religious objection to being
5	photographed; and
6	(2) The voter has not been challenged or required to vote a
7	provisional ballot for any other reason.
8	
9	7-5-322. Voter identification card.
10	(a)(l)(A) The Secretary of State shall provide by rule for the
11	issuance of a voter identification card that may be requested by an
12	individual to be used as proof of identity when appearing to vote in person.
13	(B) The rules shall include without limitation:
14	(i) A requirement that the voter identification card
15	include a photograph of the voter;
16	(ii) Specification of the information to be included
17	on the voter identification card;
18	(iii) Provisions concerning the expiration of a
19	voter identification card; and
20	(iv) Provisions for the proof of identity to be
21	<del>provided by the county clerk of the county in which the voter is registered</del>
22	to vote.
23	(2) Providing for the issuance of a voter identification card
24	under subdivision (a)(l)(A) of this section may include without limitation
25	the purchase by the Secretary of State of cameras and other equipment
26	necessary to generate a voter identification card in the office of the county
27	<del>clerk.</del>
28	(b) A voter identification card shall be issued without the payment of
29	a fee or charge to an individual who:
30	(1) Does not have another valid form of proof of identity; and
31	(2)(A) Is registered to vote; or
32	(B) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the
33	next election and has submitted a voter registration application.
34	(c)(l) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall not require or
35	accept payment for a voter identification card issued for the sole purpose of
36	voter identification.

1	(2)(A) A person requesting a voter identification card for the
2	sole purpose of voter identification shall sign an oath that he or she does
3	not possess proof of identity under § 7-1-101(31).
4	(B) The oath shall include the definition of proof of
5	identity under § 7-1-101(31).
6	
7	SECTION 8. Arkansas Code Title 7, Chapter 5, Subchapter 3, is amended
8	to add an additional section to read as follows:
9	7-5-323. Voter verification card.
10	(a)(l)(A) The Secretary of State shall provide by rule for the
11	issuance of a voter verification card that may be requested by an individual
12	to be used to verify his or her voter registration under Arkansas
13	Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13, when appearing to vote in person or by
14	absentee ballot.
15	(B) The rules shall include without limitation:
16	(i) A requirement that the voter verification card
17	include a photograph of the voter;
18	(ii) Specification of the information to be included
19	on the voter verification card;
20	(iii) Provisions concerning the expiration of a
21	voter verification card; and
22	(iv) Provisions for the voter verification card to
23	be provided by the county clerk of the county in which the voter is
24	registered to vote.
25	(2) Providing for the issuance of a voter verification card
26	under subdivision (a)(l)(A) of this section may include without limitation
27	the purchase by the Secretary of State of cameras and other equipment
28	necessary to generate a voter verification card in the office of the county
29	<u>clerk.</u>
30	(b) A voter verification card shall be issued without the payment of a
31	fee or charge to an individual who:
32	(1) Does not have another valid form of identification meeting
33	the requirements of Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13; and
34	(2)(A) Is registered to vote; or
35	(B) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the
36	next election and has submitted a voter registration application.

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1	(c)(l) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall not require or
2	accept payment for a voter verification card issued for the sole purpose of
3	voter verification.
4	(2) A person requesting a voter verification card for the sole
5	purpose of voter verification shall sign an oath that he or she does not
6	possess a valid form of identification meeting the requirements of Arkansas
7	Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13.
8	
9	SECTION 9. Arkansas Code § 7-5-418(c) and (d), concerning early voting
10	procedures, are amended to read as follows:
11	(c) Before a person is permitted to cast an early vote, the county
12	clerk or election official shall:
13	(1) Request the voter to identify himself or herself by stating
14	his or her name, date of birth, and address in order to verify his or her
15	registration;
16	(2) Request <del>the voter to present proof of identity to the county</del>
17	<del>clerk or election official</del> that the voter verify his or her registration by
18	providing a document or identification card that meets the requirements of
19	Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13, if required by that section;
20	(3) If the voter's name or address is not the same as that in
21	the county voter registration record files, request the voter to complete an
22	updated voter registration application form;
23	(4) Request the voter to sign an early voting roster or early
24	voting request form that identifies his or her name, address, date of birth,
25	and the date on the roster or form; and
26	(5) Enter the voter's precinct number on the early voting roster
27	or early voting request form.
28	(d)(1) If the voter is not listed in the county voter registration
29	record files and the county clerk is unable to verify the voter's
30	registration and if the voter contends that he or she is eligible to vote,
31	then the voter may vote a provisional ballot that shall be counted only upon
32	verification of the voter's registration status.
33	(2) <del>(A)</del> If the voter fails <del>to provide proof of identity</del> <u>to</u>
34	present verification of voter registration, the election official shall
35	follow the procedure in <del>§ 7-5-321</del> <u>Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 51, § 13</u> .
36	(B)(i) A person who is a resident of a long-term care or

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1	residential care facility licensed by the state is not required to provide
2	proof of identity before voting.
3	(ii) A person not required to provide proof of
4	identity under subdivision (d)(2)(B)(i) of this section shall provide
5	documentation from the administrator of the facility attesting that the
6	person is a resident of the facility.
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