LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 514**

FINAL READING

Introduced by Brewer, 43.

Read first time January 17, 2023

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to government; to amend sections 32-308, 1 2 32-914, 32-941, 32-942, 32-943, 32-953, 32-957, 60-4,119, 60-4,120, and 71-612, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 3 32-101, 32-103, 32-202, 32-318.01, 32-915, 32-1027, and 60-4,115, 4 5 Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022; to provide for valid photographic identification for voting purposes; to provide for 6 7 verification of citizenship of registered voters; to provide 8 procedures for a voter with a reasonable impediment or a religious 9 objection to being photographed; to change provisions relating to 10 votina and counting ballots; to provide for free state identification cards and certified copies of birth records for 11 12 voting purposes as prescribed; to change provisions relating to issuance of a state identification card or an operator's license; to 13 14 harmonize provisions; to provide operative dates; to repeal the original sections; and to declare an emergency. 15

16 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

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LB514 2023	LB514 2023
1	Section 1. Section 32-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2	2022, is amended to read:
3	32-101 Sections 32-101 to 32-1551 <u>and sections 3, 5, 10, 11, 12, and</u>
4	<u>18 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Election Act.</u>
5	Sec. 2. Section 32-103, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
6	2022, is amended to read:
7	32-103 For purposes of the Election Act, the definitions found in
8	sections 32-104 to 32-120 and section 3 of this act shall be used.
9	Sec. 3. Valid photographic identification means:
10	<u>(1) A document issued by the United States, the State of Nebraska,</u>
11	an agency or a political subdivision of the State of Nebraska, or a
12	postsecondary institution within the State of Nebraska that:
13	<u>(a) Shows the name of the individual to whom the document was</u>
14	<u>issued; and</u>
15	<u>(b) Shows a photograph or digital image of the individual to whom</u>
16	the document was issued;
17	(2) A document issued by the United States Department of Defense,
18	the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or its predecessor, the
19	Veterans Administration, a branch of the uniformed services as defined in
20	section 85-2902, or a Native American Indian tribe or band recognized by
21	the United States Government that:
22	<u>(a) Shows the name of the individual to whom the document was</u>
23	<u>issued; and</u>
24	<u>(b) Shows a photograph or digital image of the individual to whom</u>
25	the document was issued; or
26	(3) A hospital, an assisted-living facility, a nursing home, or any
27	other skilled care facility record that:
28	<u>(a) Shows the name of the individual who is the subject of the</u>
29	record; and
30	(b) Shows a photograph or digital image of the individual who is the
31	subject of the record.

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Sec. 4. Section 32-202, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
 2022, is amended to read:

3 32-202 In addition to any other duties prescribed by law, the
4 Secretary of State shall:

5 (1) Supervise the conduct of primary and general elections in this6 state;

7 (2) Provide training and support for election commissioners, county 8 clerks, and other election officials in providing for day-to-day 9 operations of the office, registration of voters, and the conduct of 10 elections;

11 (3) Enforce the Election Act;

12 (4) With the assistance and advice of the Attorney General, make13 uniform interpretations of the act;

(5) Provide periodic training for the agencies and their agents and
contractors in carrying out their duties under sections 32-308 to 32-310;
(6) Develop and print forms for use as required by sections 32-308,

17 32-310, 32-320, 32-329, 32-947, 32-956, and 32-958;

(7) Contract with the Department of Administrative Services for
 storage and distribution of the forms;

20 (8) Require reporting to ensure compliance with sections 32-308 to21 32-310;

(9) Prepare and transmit reports as required by the National Voter
Registration Act of 1993, 52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.;

(10) Develop and print a manual describing the requirements of the initiative and referendum process and distribute the manual to election commissioners and county clerks for distribution to the public upon request;

28 (11) Develop and print pamphlets described in section 32-1405.01;

(12) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as necessary for
elections conducted under sections 32-952 to 32-959; and

31 (13) Establish a free access system, such as a toll-free telephone

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number or an Internet website, that any voter who casts a provisional 1 2 ballot may access to discover whether the vote of that voter was counted 3 and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not counted. The Secretary of State shall establish and maintain reasonable 4 procedures necessary to protect the security, confidentiality, and 5 integrity of personal information collected, stored, or otherwise used by 6 7 the free access system. Access to information about an individual provisional ballot shall be restricted to the individual who cast the 8 9 ballot; -

10 <u>(14) Provide a website dedicated to voter identification</u> 11 <u>requirements and procedures. The Secretary of State shall establish,</u> 12 <u>maintain, and regularly update on the website a document entitled "List</u> 13 <u>of Acceptable Forms of Identification" that lists forms of identification</u> 14 <u>that qualify as valid photographic identification for purposes of voter</u> 15 <u>identification;</u>

16 (15) Provide a public awareness campaign regarding the voter 17 identification requirements and procedures, including communication 18 through multiple mediums and in-person events;

19 <u>(16) Provide instructions and information to the Department of</u> 20 <u>Health and Human Services, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the</u> 21 <u>State Department of Education for distribution by such agencies to</u> 22 <u>Nebraska residents regarding the requirement to present valid</u> 23 <u>photographic identification in order to vote and the way to obtain free</u> 24 <u>valid photographic identification; and</u>

25 (17) Not use or allow the use of citizenship information shared with
 26 or collected by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Election Act for
 27 any purpose other than maintenance of the voter registration list,
 28 including law enforcement purposes.

29 Sec. 5. <u>The Secretary of State shall develop a process to use the</u> 30 <u>information in possession of or available to his or her office to match</u> 31 <u>and verify the citizenship of the corresponding registered voter. The</u>

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Attorney General and the Department of Motor Vehicles shall cooperate
 with the Secretary of State for such purpose. The Secretary of State may
 adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out this section.

4 Sec. 6. Section 32-308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 5 amended to read:

32-308 (1) The Secretary of State and the Director of Motor Vehicles 6 shall enter into an agreement to match information in the computerized 7 statewide voter registration list with information in the database of the 8 9 Department of Motor Vehicles to the extent required to enable each such 10 official to verify the accuracy of the information, including citizenship, provided on applications for voter registration. 11 The Director of Motor Vehicles shall enter into an agreement with the 12 13 Commissioner of Social Security under section 205(r)(8) of the federal 14 Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 405(r)(8), as such section existed on April 17, 2003, for purposes of the Election Act. 15

16 (2) The Department of Motor Vehicles, with the assistance of the 17 Secretary of State, shall prescribe a voter registration application which may be used to register to vote or change his or her address for 18 voting purposes at the same time an elector applies for an original or 19 renewal motor vehicle operator's license, an original or renewal state 20 identification card, or a replacement thereof. The voter registration 21 application shall contain the information required pursuant to section 22 32-312 and shall be designed so that it does not require the duplication 23 24 of information in the application for the motor vehicle operator's license or state identification card, except that it may require a second 25 signature of the applicant. The department and the Secretary of State 26 shall make the voter registration application available to any person 27 28 applying for an operator's license or state identification card. The application shall be completed at the office of the department by the 29 close of business on the third Friday preceding any election to be 30 registered to vote at such election. A registration application received 31

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after the deadline shall not be processed by the election commissioner or
 county clerk until after the election.

3 (3) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in conjunction with the Secretary of State, shall develop a process to electronically transmit 4 voter registration application information received under subsection (2) 5 of this section to the election commissioner or county clerk of the 6 7 county in which the applicant resides within the time limits prescribed in subsection (4) of this section. The Director of Motor Vehicles shall 8 9 designate an implementation date for the process which shall be on or before January 1, 2016. 10

(4) The voter registration application information shall 11 be transmitted to the election commissioner or county clerk of the county in 12 13 which the applicant resides not later than ten days after receipt, except that if the voter registration application information is received within 14 five days prior to the third Friday preceding any election, it shall be 15 transmitted not later than five days after its original submission. Any 16 17 information on whether an applicant registers or declines to register and the location of the office at which he or she registers shall be 18 confidential and shall only be used for voter registration purposes. 19

(5) For each voter registration application for which information is 20 transmitted electronically pursuant to this section, the Secretary of 21 State shall obtain a copy of the electronic representation of the 22 applicant's signature from the Department of Motor Vehicles' records of 23 24 his or her motor vehicle operator's license or state identification card for purposes of voter registration. Each voter registration application 25 electronically transmitted under this section shall include information 26 provided by the applicant that includes whether the applicant is a 27 28 citizen of the United States, whether the applicant is of sufficient age to register to vote, the applicant's residence address, the applicant's 29 postal address if different from the residence address, the date of birth 30 of the applicant, the party affiliation of the applicant or an indication 31

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1 that the applicant is not affiliated with any political party, the 2 applicant's motor vehicle operator's license number, the applicant's 3 previous registration location by city, county, or state, if applicable, 4 and the applicant's signature.

5 (6) State agency personnel involved in the voter registration 6 process pursuant to this section and section 32-309 shall not be 7 considered deputy registrars or agents or employees of the election 8 commissioner or county clerk.

9 Sec. 7. Section 32-318.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
10 2022, is amended to read:

32-318.01 (1)(a) Except as provided by subsection (2) of this 11 section, a person who registers to vote by mail after January 1, 2003, 12 and has not previously voted in an election within the state shall 13 present a photographic identification which is current and valid or a 14 copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or 15 government document which is dated within the sixty days 16 other 17 immediately prior to the date of presentation and which shows the same name and residence address of the person provided on the registration 18 19 application in order to avoid identification requirements at the time of voting pursuant to section 32-914 or 32-947. 20

(b) Such documentation may be presented at the time of application 21 for registration, after submission of the application for registration, 22 or at the time of voting. The documentation must be received by the 23 24 election commissioner or county clerk not later than 6 p.m. on the second 25 Friday preceding the election to avoid additional identification requirements at the time of voting at the polling place if the voter 26 votes in person. If the voter is voting using a ballot for early voting, 27 28 the documentation must be received by the election commissioner or county clerk prior to the date on which the ballot is mailed to the voter to 29 avoid additional identification requirements at the time of voting. 30 Documentation received after the ballot has been mailed to the voter but 31

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not later than the deadline for the receipt of ballots specified in
 subsection (2) of section 32-908 will be considered timely for purposes
 of determining the applicant's eligibility to vote in the election.

4 (c) Such documentation may be presented in person, by mail, or by5 facsimile transmission.

6 (d) Failure to present such documentation may result in the ballot
7 not being counted pursuant to verification procedures prescribed in
8 sections 32-1002 and 32-1027.

9 (2) <u>This section shall not apply to a</u> A person who registers to vote 10 by mail after January 1, 2003, and has not previously voted in an 11 election within the state <del>shall not be required to present identification</del> 12 if he or she:

(a) Has provided his or her Nebraska driver's license number or the
last four digits of his or her social security number and the election
commissioner or county clerk verifies the number provided pursuant to
subsection (2) of section 32-312.03;

(b) Is a member of the armed forces of the United States who by
reason of active duty is absent from his or her place of residence where
the member is otherwise eligible to vote;

(c) Is a member of the United States Merchant Marine who by reason
of service is away from his or her place of residence where the member is
otherwise eligible to vote;

(d) Is a spouse or dependent of a member of the armed forces of the
United States or United States Merchant Marine who is absent from his or
her place of residence due to the service of that member;

(e) Resides outside the United States and but for such residence
would be qualified to vote in the state if the state was the last place
in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States; or

(f) Is elderly or handicapped and has requested to vote by
alternative means other than by casting a ballot at his or her polling
place on election day.

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(3) In addition to the requirements of this section, a qualified
 voter shall present valid photographic identification before casting a
 ballot.

Sec. 8. Section 32-914, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
amended to read:

6 32-914 (1) Official ballots shall be used at all elections. No 7 person shall receive a ballot or be entitled to vote unless and until he 8 or she is registered as a voter except as provided in section 32-914.01, 9 32-914.02, 32-915, 32-915.01, or 32-936.

10 (2) Except as otherwise specifically provided, no ballot shall be11 handed to any voter at any election until:

(a) <u>The voter has presented valid photographic identification and</u>
<u>stated the voter's</u> He or she announces his or her name and address to the
clerk of election <u>unless otherwise entitled to vote in the precinct under</u>
<u>section 10 of this act;</u>

(b) The clerk has found that <u>the voter</u> he or she is a registered
voter at the address as shown by the precinct list of registered voters
unless otherwise entitled to vote in the precinct under section 32-328,
32-914.01, 32-914.02, 32-915, or 32-915.01;

(c) The voter has presented a photographic identification which is 20 current and valid at the time of the election, or a copy of a utility 21 bill, bank statement, paycheck, government check, or other government 22 document which is current at the time of the election and which shows the 23 24 same name and residence address of the voter that is on the precinct list 25 of registered voters, if the voter registered by mail after January 1, 2003, and has not previously voted in an election for a federal office 26 within the county and a notation appears on the precinct list of 27 registered voters that the voter has not previously presented 28 identification to the election commissioner or county clerk; 29

30 (d) As instructed by the clerk of election, the registered voter has
31 personally written his or her name (i) in the precinct sign-in register

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1 on the appropriate line which follows the last signature of any previous 2 voter or (ii) in the combined document containing the precinct list of 3 registered voters and the sign-in register; and

4 (e) The clerk has listed on the precinct list of registered voters
5 the corresponding line number and name of the registered voter or has
6 listed the name of the voter in a separate book as provided in section
7 32-913.

8 Sec. 9. Section 32-915, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
9 2022, is amended to read:

10 32-915 (1) A person whose name does not appear on the precinct list 11 of registered voters at the polling place for the precinct in which he or 12 she resides, whose name appears on the precinct list of registered voters 13 at the polling place for the precinct in which he or she resides at a 14 different residence address as described in section 32-914.02, or whose 15 name appears with a notation that he or she received a ballot for early 16 voting may vote a provisional ballot if he or she:

(a) Claims that he or she is a registered voter who has continuously
resided in the county in which the precinct is located since registering
to vote;

(b) Is not entitled to vote under section 32-914.01 or 32-914.02;

(c) Has not registered to vote or voted in any other county since
registering to vote in the county in which the precinct is located;

(d) Has appeared to vote at the polling place for the precinct to
which the person would be assigned based on his or her residence address;
and

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(e) Completes and signs a registration application before voting.

(2) A voter whose name appears on the precinct list of registered voters for the polling place with a notation that the voter is required to present identification pursuant to section 32-318.01 but fails to present identification may vote a provisional ballot if he or she completes and signs a registration application before voting.

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1 (3) Each person voting by provisional ballot shall enclose his or 2 her ballot in an envelope marked Provisional Ballot and shall, by signing the certification on the front of the envelope or a separate form 3 4 attached to the envelope, certify to the following facts: 5 (a) I am a registered voter in ..... County; (b) My name or address did not correctly appear on the precinct list 6 7 of registered voters; 8 (c) I registered to vote on or about this date .....; 9 (d) I registered to vote 10 .... in person at the election office or a voter registration site, .... by mail, 11 .... by using the Secretary of State's website, 12 .... through the Department of Motor Vehicles, 13 .... on a form through another state agency, 14 .... in some other way; 15 (e) I have not resided outside of this county or voted outside of 16 17 this county since registering to vote in this county; (f) My current address is shown on the registration application 18 19 completed as a requirement for voting by provisional ballot; and (g) I am eligible to vote in this election and I have not voted and 20 will not vote in this election except by this ballot. 21 (4) The voter shall sign the certification under penalty of election 22 falsification. The following statements shall be on the front of the 23 24 envelope or on the attached form: By signing the front of this envelope 25 or the attached form you are certifying to the information contained on under envelope attached form penalty of election 26 this or the falsification. Election falsification is a Class IV felony and may be 27 28 punished by up to two years imprisonment and twelve months post-release

30 (5) If the voter is also required to fill out a provisional voter
 31 identification verification envelope pursuant to section 10 of this act,

supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

LB514 LB514 2023 2023 the provisional ballot envelope shall be placed inside the provisional 1 2 voter identification verification envelope. 3 (6) (5) If the person's name does not appear on the precinct list of registered voters for the polling place and the judge or clerk of 4 election determines that the person's residence address is located in 5 6 another precinct within the same county, the judge or clerk of election 7 shall direct the person to his or her correct polling place to vote. Sec. 10. (1) A registered voter shall fill out a provisional voter 8 9 identification verification envelope if: 10 (a)(i) The voter fails to produce valid photographic identification at the polling place; and 11 (ii) The voter's name appears on the precinct list of registered 12 voters for the polling place or the voter has voted a provisional ballot 13 as provided in section 32-915; 14 15 (b) The voter fails to produce valid photographic identification at the time of voting early in person at the office of the election 16 17 commissioner or county clerk; or (c) The voter has a reasonable impediment preventing the voter from 18 presenting valid photographic identification or the voter's name appears 19 on the precinct list of registered voters for the polling place with a 20 21 notation that the voter has a religious objection to being photographed. 22 (2) Each voter casting a ballot using a provisional voter identification verification envelope shall enclose the ballot in an 23 24 envelope marked provisional voter identification verification and shall, 25 by signing the certification on the front of the envelope or a separate form attached to the envelope, certify to the following facts: 26 27 (a) My name is .....; 28 (b) I am registered to vote at .....; (c) I did not provide valid photographic identification as required 29 by law or I have a reasonable impediment preventing me from presenting 30 valid photographic identification; 31

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1	(d) I am eligible to vote in this election and have not voted and
2	will not vote in this election except by this ballot; and
3	(e) I acknowledge that my ballot will not be counted if:
4	(i) I do not provide valid photographic identification to my county
5	election office on or before the Tuesday after the election; or
6	(ii) I have a reasonable impediment that prevents me from presenting
7	valid photographic identification and:
8	(A) I do not complete a reasonable impediment certification; or
9	(B) My county election official cannot verify the signature on my
10	reasonable impediment certification.
11	(3) The voter shall sign the certification under penalty of election
12	falsification. The following statements shall be on the front of the
13	envelope or on the attached form: By signing the front of this envelope
14	or the attached form you are certifying to the information contained on
15	this envelope or the attached form under penalty of election
16	falsification. Election falsification is a Class IV felony and may be
17	punished by up to two years imprisonment and twelve months post-release
18	supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.
19	Sec. 11. <u>(1) The Secretary of State shall provide a standard</u>
20	certification for a voter with a reasonable impediment preventing the
21	voter from presenting valid photographic identification. The
22	certification shall include the following as separate boxes that a voter
23	may check to identify the applicable reasonable impediment:
24	(a) Inability to obtain valid photographic identification due to:
25	<u>(i) Disability or illness; or</u>
26	<u>(ii) Lack of a birth certificate or other required documents; or</u>
27	(b) Religious objection to being photographed.
28	(2) The Secretary of State shall provide the form of the
29	certification to the election commissioners and county clerks. A voter
30	who has a reasonable impediment shall execute the certification. The
31	election commissioner or county clerk shall verify the signature on the

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certification with the signature appearing on the voter registration 1 2 record. A voter who casts a ballot by mail shall include the certification with the application, except that a voter who casts a 3 4 ballot pursuant to section 32-953 shall include the certification within 5 the ballot envelope. (1) A voter with a religious objection to being 6 Sec. 12. 7 photographed may inform the election commissioner or county clerk of the county in which the voter resides of such objection in writing prior to

an election. If the election commissioner or county clerk receives 9 10 written notice not later than 6 p.m. on the second Friday preceding the election, the election commissioner or county clerk shall place a 11 notation on the precinct list of registered voters for the polling place 12 that the voter has a religious objection to being photographed. 13

(2) For all subsequent elections, the election commissioner or 14 county clerk shall place a notation on the precinct list of registered 15 voters for the polling place that the voter has a religious objection to 16 17 being photographed if such voter:

(a) Completes a reasonable impediment certification pursuant to 18 19 section 11 of this act;

## (b) Has a ballot accepted pursuant to section 18 of this act; and 20 (c) Is otherwise eligible to vote. 21

22 Sec. 13. Section 32-941, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read: 23

24 32-941 (1) Any registered voter permitted to vote early pursuant to 25 section 32-938 may, not more than one hundred twenty days before any election and not later than the close of business on the second Friday 26 27 preceding the election, request a ballot for the election to be mailed to a specific address. A registered voter shall request a ballot in writing 28 to the election commissioner or county clerk in the county where the 29 registered voter has established his or her home, and shall indicate his 30 or her residence address, the address to which the ballot is to be mailed 31

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1 if different, and his or her telephone number if available, and shall
2 include:

3 (a) The identification number of the voter's driver's license or
4 state identification card issued by the State of Nebraska;

5 (b) A photocopy of any other valid photographic identification
6 issued to or related to the voter; or

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<u>(c) The voter's reasonable impediment certification.</u>

8 (2) If such identification or certification is not provided, the 9 election commissioner or county clerk shall contact the voter and inform 10 the voter that the ballot will not be issued until the voter provides the 11 identification or certification required under this section.

12 (3) The registered voter may use the form published by the election 13 commissioner or county clerk pursuant to section 32-808. The registered 14 voter shall sign the request. A registered voter may use a facsimile 15 machine or electronic mail for the submission of a request for a ballot.

16 (4) The election commissioner or county clerk shall include a 17 registration application with the ballots if the person is not registered. Registration applications shall not be mailed after the third 18 19 Friday preceding the election. If the person is not registered to vote, the registration application shall be returned not later than the closing 20 of the polls on the day of the election. No ballot issued under this 21 22 section shall be counted unless such registration application is properly completed and processed. 23

24 (5) Subdivisions (1)(a) through (c) of this section do not apply to
 25 any voter who casts a ballot pursuant to section 32-939.02 or 32-939.03.

26 Sec. 14. Section 32-942, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 27 amended to read:

32-942 (1)(a) A (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2)
of this section, a registered voter of this state who anticipates being
absent from the county of his or her residence on the day of any election
may appear in person before the election commissioner or county clerk not

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more than thirty days prior to the day of election, present valid
photographic identification, and obtain his or her ballot unless
otherwise entitled to vote in the office under section 10 of this act.
The registered voter shall vote the ballot in the office of the election
commissioner or county clerk or shall return the ballot to the office not
later than the closing of the polls on the day of the election.

7 (b) A registered voter who is present in the county on the day of 8 the election and who chooses to vote on the day of the election shall 9 vote at the polling place assigned to the precinct in which he or she 10 resides unless he or she is returning a ballot for early voting or voting 11 pursuant to section 32-943.

(2) If a person registers to vote and requests a ballot at the same 12 time under this section, he or she shall, in addition to the requirements 13 of subsection (1) of this section, (a)(i) present one of the address 14 confirmation documents as prescribed in subdivision (1)(a) of section 15 16 32-318.01, (ii) present proof that he or she is a member of the armed 17 forces of the United States who by reason of active duty has been absent from his or her place of residence where the member is otherwise eligible 18 19 to vote, is a member of the United States Merchant Marine who by reason of service has been away from his or her place of residence where the 20 member is otherwise eligible to vote, is a spouse or dependent of a 21 member of the armed forces of the United States or United States Merchant 22 Marine who has been absent from his or her place of residence due to the 23 24 service of that member, or resides outside the United States and but for 25 such residence would be qualified to vote in the state if the state was the last place in which the person was domiciled before leaving the 26 United States, or (iii) state that he or she is elderly or handicapped 27 and has requested to vote by alternative means other than by casting a 28 ballot at his or her polling place on election day or (b) vote a ballot 29 which is placed in an envelope with the voter's name and address and 30 other necessary identifying information and kept securely for counting as 31

provided in this subsection. This subsection does not extend the deadline for voter registration specified in section 32-302. A ballot cast pursuant to subdivision (b) of this subsection shall be rejected and shall not be counted if the acknowledgment of registration sent to the registrant pursuant to section 32-322 is returned as undeliverable for a reason other than clerical error within ten days after it is mailed, otherwise after such ten-day period, the ballot shall be counted.

8 (3) This section applies only to a person who appears in person to 9 obtain a ballot as provided in subsection (1) of this section and does 10 not apply to a ballot mailed to a voter pursuant to section 32-945.

11 Sec. 15. Section 32-943, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 12 amended to read:

13 32-943 (1) Any registered voter who is permitted to vote early pursuant to section 32-938 may appoint an agent to submit a request for a 14 ballot for early voting on his or her behalf. The registered voter or his 15 or her agent may request that the ballot be sent to the registered voter 16 by mail or indicate on the request that the agent will personally pick up 17 the ballot for such registered voter from the office of the election 18 commissioner or county clerk. A registered voter or an agent acting on 19 behalf of a registered voter shall request a ballot in writing to the 20 election commissioner or county clerk in the county where the registered 21 voter has established his or her residence, and shall indicate the 22 voter's residence address, the address to which the ballot is to be 23 24 mailed if different, and the voter's telephone number if available and precinct if known, and shall: -25

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<u>(a) Present a valid photographic identification of the voter; or</u>

27 <u>(b) Include, with the request:</u>

(i) The identification number of the voter's driver's license or
 state identification card issued by the State of Nebraska;

30 (ii) A photocopy of valid photographic identification issued to or 31 related to the voter; or (iii) The voter's reasonable impediment certification. The
 certification shall be verified pursuant to section 18 of this act.

3 (2) The registered voter or the voter's agent may use the form 4 published by the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to 5 section 32-808. The registered voter or his or her agent shall sign the 6 request.

7 (3) (2) A candidate for office at such election and any person 8 serving on a campaign committee for such a candidate shall not act as an 9 agent for any registered voter requesting a ballot pursuant to this 10 section unless such person is a member of the registered voter's family. 11 No person shall act as agent for more than two registered voters in any 12 election.

13 (4) (3) The agent shall pick up the ballot before one hour prior to 14 the closing of the polls on election day and deliver the ballot to the 15 registered voter. The ballot shall be returned not later than the closing 16 of the polls on the day of the election <u>and shall be returned in an</u> 17 <u>identification envelope as provided in section 32-947</u>.

18 (5) (4) The election commissioner or county clerk shall adopt
 19 procedures for the distribution of ballots under this section.

20 (6) Subdivisions (1)(a) and (b) of this section do not apply to any
 21 voter who casts a ballot pursuant to section 32-939.02 or 32-939.03.

22 Sec. 16. Section 32-953, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 23 amended to read:

32-953 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this 24 section, the election commissioner or county clerk shall mail the 25 official ballot to all registered voters of the political subdivision or 26 the district or ward of the political subdivision at the addresses 27 28 appearing on the voter registration register on the same day. The ballots shall be mailed by nonforwardable first-class mail not sooner than the 29 twenty-second day before the date set for the election and not later than 30 31 the tenth day before the date set for the election. The election

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commissioner or county clerk shall include with the ballot instructions 1 2 sufficient to describe the voting process and an unsealed identification envelope. Upon the back of the identification envelope shall be printed 3 boxes sufficient for the voter to provide the voter's Nebraska driver's 4 license number or state identification card number and a form 5 6 substantially as follows: meeting the requirements of subsection (2) of 7 section 32-947 and instructions sufficient to describe the voting 8 process. 9 VOTER'S OATH 10 I, the undersigned voter, declare that the enclosed ballot or ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received them and 11 that I caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed in the 12 identification envelope, and sealed in such envelope. 13 To the best of my knowledge and belief, I declare under penalty of 14 15 election falsification that: 16 (a) I, ...., am a registered voter 17 <u>in .....County;</u> (b) I reside in the State of Nebraska at .....; 18 (c) I have voted the enclosed ballot and am returning it in 19 20 compliance with Nebraska law; (d) I have not voted and will not vote in this election except by 21 22 this ballot; and (e)(i) My Nebraska driver's license number or state identification 23 card number is written in the corresponding boxes; 24 25 (ii) A photocopy of my valid photographic identification is 26 enclosed; or (iii) I have a reasonable impediment that prevents me from 27 presenting valid photographic identification and my certification is 28 enclosed. 29 ANY PERSON WHO SIGNS THIS FORM KNOWING THAT ANY OF THE INFORMATION 30 IN THE FORM IS FALSE SHALL BE GUILTY OF ELECTION FALSIFICATION, A CLASS 31

IV FELONY UNDER SECTION 32-1502 OF THE STATUTES OF NEBRASKA. THE PENALTY
 FOR ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO TWO YEARS AND TWELVE
 MONTHS POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION OR A FINE NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND
 DOLLARS, OR BOTH.

5 <u>I also understand that failure to sign below will invalidate my</u>
6 <u>ballot.</u>

7

<u>Signature .....</u>

8 (2) The election commissioner or county clerk may choose not to mail 9 a ballot to all registered voters who have been sent a notice pursuant to 10 section 32-329 and failed to respond to the notice. If the election 11 commissioner or county clerk chooses not to mail a ballot to such voters, 12 he or she shall mail a notice to all such registered voters explaining 13 how to obtain a ballot and stating the applicable deadlines.

14 (3) This section does not apply to any voter who casts a ballot
 15 pursuant to section 32-939.02 or 32-939.03.

16 Sec. 17. Section 32-957, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 17 amended to read:

18 32-957 (1) An official ballot under section 32-953 shall be counted 19 only if it is returned in the identification envelope, the envelope is 20 signed by the voter to whom it was issued, and the signature is verified 21 by the election commissioner or county clerk, and the voter provided the 22 voter's driver's license number or state identification card number on 23 the envelope or provided a photocopy of valid photographic identification 24 or a reasonable impediment certification inside the envelope.

25 (2) The election commissioner or county clerk shall verify the 26 signature on each identification envelope received in his or her office 27 with the signature appearing on the voter registration records. If the 28 election commissioner or county clerk is unable to verify a signature, 29 the election commissioner or county clerk shall contact the voter within 30 two days after determining that he or she is unable to verify the 31 signature to ascertain whether the voter cast a ballot. The election

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1 commissioner or county clerk may request that the registered voter sign 2 and submit a current signature card pursuant to section 32-318. The 3 election commissioner or county clerk may begin verifying the signatures 4 as the envelopes are received in his or her office.

5 (3) If a voter fails to provide the voter's driver's license number or state identification card number, valid photographic identification, 6 7 or a reasonable impediment certification as required under subsection (1) of this section, the election commissioner or county clerk shall contact 8 9 the voter no later than the day after the election and the voter shall 10 present valid photographic identification or a reasonable impediment certification to the election commissioner or county clerk on or before 11 the Tuesday after the election or the ballot shall not be counted. 12

13 <u>(4)</u> If the election commissioner or county clerk determines that a 14 voter has voted more than once, no ballot cast by that voter in that 15 election shall be counted. The election commissioner or county clerk 16 shall make public any record or list of registered voters who have 17 returned their ballots.

18 (5) Subsections (1) and (3) of this section do not apply to any
 19 voter who casts a ballot pursuant to section 32-939.02 or 32-939.03.

20 Sec. 18. <u>(1) As the ballots are removed from the ballot box</u> 21 <u>pursuant to sections 32-1012 to 32-1018, the receiving board shall</u> 22 <u>separate the provisional voter identification verification envelopes from</u> 23 <u>the rest of the ballots and deliver them to the election commissioner or</u> 24 <u>county clerk.</u>

25 (2) Upon receipt of a provisional voter identification verification
26 envelope, the election commissioner or county clerk shall verify that the
27 certificate on the front of the envelope or the form attached to the
28 envelope is in proper form and that the certification has been signed by
29 the voter.

30 (3) The election commissioner or county clerk shall also verify that
 31 such person has not voted anywhere else in the county or been issued a

1	<u>ballot for early voting.</u>
2	<u>(4) A ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 10 of this act</u>
3	shall be counted if the voter completed and signed the certification on
4	the provisional voter identification verification envelope and the voter:
5	<u>(a) Presented valid photographic identification to the election</u>
6	commissioner or county clerk on or before the Tuesday after the election;
7	<u>or</u>
8	<u>(b) Has a reasonable impediment preventing the voter from presenting</u>
9	valid photographic identification, the voter completes a reasonable
10	impediment certification, and the election commissioner or county clerk
11	verifies the signature on the reasonable impediment certification with
12	the signature appearing on the voter registration record.
13	<u>(5) A ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 10 of this act</u>
14	shall not be counted if:
15	<u>(a) The voter failed to complete and sign the certification on the</u>
16	provisional voter identification verification envelope pursuant to
17	subsection (2) of section 10 of this act;
18	(b) The voter failed to present valid photographic identification to
19	the election commissioner or county clerk on or before the Tuesday after
20	<u>the election; or</u>
21	(c) The voter has a reasonable impediment preventing the voter from
22	presenting valid photographic identification and:
23	<u>(i) The voter did not complete a reasonable impediment</u>
24	<u>certification; or</u>
25	<u>(ii) The election commissioner or county clerk was not able to</u>
26	verify the signature on the reasonable impediment certification with the
27	signature appearing on the voter registration record.
28	<u>(6) Upon determining that the voter's ballot is eligible to be</u>
29	counted, the election commissioner or county clerk shall remove the
30	ballot from the provisional voter identification verification envelope

1 the ballots to be counted by the county canvassing board.

2 <u>(7) The election commissioner or county clerk shall notify the</u> 3 system administrator of the free access system created pursuant to 4 section 32-202 as to whether the ballot was counted and, if not, the 5 reason the ballot was not counted.

6 (8) The verification shall be completed within seven business days
7 after the election.

8 Sec. 19. Section 32-1027, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
9 2022, is amended to read:

10 32-1027 (1) The election commissioner or county clerk shall appoint two or more registered voters to the counting board for early voting. One 11 registered voter shall be appointed from the political party casting the 12 13 highest number of votes for Governor or for President of the United States in the county in the immediately preceding general election, and 14 one registered voter shall be appointed from the political party casting 15 the next highest vote for such office. The election commissioner or 16 county clerk may appoint additional registered voters to serve on the 17 counting board and may appoint registered voters to serve in case of a 18 19 vacancy among any of the members of the counting board. Such appointees shall be balanced between the political parties and may include 20 registered voters unaffiliated with any political party. The counting 21 22 board may begin carrying out its duties not earlier than the second 23 Friday before the election and shall meet as directed by the election commissioner or county clerk. 24

(2) The counting board shall place all identification envelopes in
order and shall review each returned identification envelope pursuant to
verification procedures prescribed in subsections (3) and (4) of this
section.

29 (3) In its review, the counting board shall determine if:

30 (a) The voter has provided his or her name, residence address, and
 31 signature on the voter identification envelope;

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1 (b) The ballot has been received from the voter who requested it and 2 the residence address is the same address provided on the voter's request 3 for a ballot for early voting, by comparing the information provided on 4 the identification envelope with information recorded in the record of 5 early voters or the voter's request;

6 (c) A completed and signed registration application has been 7 received from the voter by the deadline in section 32-302, 32-321, or 8 32-325 or by the close of the polls pursuant to section 32-945;

9 (d) An identification document has been received from the voter not 10 later than the close of the polls on election day if required pursuant to 11 section 32-318.01; and

(e) A completed and signed registration application and oath has
been received from the voter by the close of the polls on election day if
required pursuant to section 32-946.

(4) On the basis of its review, the counting board shall determinewhether the ballot shall be counted or rejected as follows:

(a) A ballot received from a voter who was properly registered on or
prior to the deadline for registration pursuant to section 32-302 or
32-321 shall be accepted for counting without further review if:

(i) The name on the identification envelope appears to be that of a
registered voter to whom a ballot for early voting has been issued or
sent;

(ii) The residence address provided on the identification envelope
is the same residence address at which the voter is registered or is in
the same precinct and subdivision of a precinct, if any; and

26

(iii) The identification envelope has been signed by the voter;

(b) In the case of a ballot received from a voter who was not
properly registered prior to the deadline for registration pursuant to
section 32-302 or 32-321, the ballot shall be accepted for counting if:

30 (i) A valid registration application completed and signed by the31 voter has been received by the election commissioner or county clerk

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1 prior to the close of the polls on election day;

2 (ii) The name on the identification envelope appears to be that of3 the person who requested the ballot;

4 (iii) The residence address provided on the identification envelope 5 and on the registration application is the same as the residence address 6 as provided on the voter's request for a ballot for early voting; and

7

(iv) The identification envelope has been signed by the voter;

8 (c) In the case of a ballot received from a voter without a 9 residence address who requested a ballot pursuant to section 32-946, the 10 ballot shall be accepted for counting if:

(i) The name on the identification envelope appears to be that of a
 registered voter to whom a ballot has been sent;

(ii) A valid registration application completed and signed by the voter, for whom the residence address is deemed to be the address of the office of the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to section 32-946, has been received by the election commissioner or county clerk prior to the close of the polls on election day;

(iii) The oath required pursuant to section 32-946 has been
completed and signed by the voter and received by the election
commissioner or county clerk by the close of the polls on election day;
and

22 (iv) The identification envelope has been signed by the voter; and

(d) In the case of a ballot received from a registered voter
required to present identification before voting pursuant to section
32-318.01, the ballot shall be accepted for counting if:

(i) The name on the identification envelope appears to be that of a
 registered voter to whom a ballot has been issued or sent;

(ii) The residence address provided on the identification envelope
is the same address at which the voter is registered or is in the same
precinct and subdivision of a precinct, if any;

31 (iii) A copy of an identification document authorized in section

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32-318.01 has been received by the election commissioner or county clerk
 prior to the close of the polls on election day; and

3 (iv) The identification envelope has been signed by the voter; and 4 (e) In the case of a ballot received from a registered voter who
5 filled out a reasonable impediment certification pursuant to section 11
6 of this act, the ballot shall be accepted for counting if:

7 (i) The signature on the certification matches the signature on file
8 with the election commissioner or county clerk;

9 (ii) The name on the identification envelope appears to be that of a
10 registered voter to whom a ballot has been issued or sent;

11 (iii) The residence address provided on the identification envelope 12 is the same address at which the voter is registered or is in the same 13 precinct and subdivision of a precinct, if any; and

14

<u>(iv) The identification envelope has been signed by the voter.</u>

(5) In opening the identification envelope or the return envelope to determine if registration applications, oaths, or identification documents have been enclosed by the voters from whom they are required, the counting board shall make a good faith effort to ensure that the ballot remains folded and that the secrecy of the vote is preserved.

(6) The counting board may, on the second Friday before the 20 election, open all identification envelopes which are approved, and if 21 22 the signature of the election commissioner or county clerk or his or her employee is on the ballot, the ballot shall be unfolded, flattened for 23 purposes of using the optical scanner, and placed in a sealed container 24 25 for counting as directed by the election commissioner or county clerk. At the discretion of the election commissioner or county clerk, the counting 26 board may begin counting early ballots no earlier than twenty-four hours 27 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of the election. 28

(7) If an identification envelope is rejected, the counting board
shall not open the identification envelope. The counting board shall
write Rejected on the identification envelope and the reason for the

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rejection. If the ballot is rejected after opening the identification envelope because of the absence of the official signature on the ballot, the ballot shall be reinserted in the identification envelope which shall be resealed and marked Rejected, no official signature. The counting board shall place the rejected identification envelopes and ballots in a container labeled Rejected Ballots and seal it.

7 (8) As soon as all ballots have been placed in the sealed container 8 and rejected identification envelopes or ballots have been sealed in the 9 Rejected Ballots container, the counting board shall count the ballots 10 the same as all other ballots and an unofficial count shall be reported 11 to the election commissioner or county clerk. No results shall be 12 released prior to the closing of the polls on election day.

Sec. 20. Section 60-4,115, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

60-4,115 (1) Fees for operators' licenses and state identification 15 16 cards shall be collected by department personnel or the county treasurer and distributed according to the table in subsection (2) of this section, 17 except for the ignition interlock permit and associated fees as outlined 18 19 in subsection (4) of this section and the 24/7 sobriety program permit and associated fees as outlined in subsection (5) of this section. County 20 officials shall remit the county portion of the fees collected to the 21 county treasurer for placement in the county general fund. All other fees 22 23 collected shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the 24 appropriate fund.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7) of this section,
 the The fees provided in this subsection in the following dollar amounts
 apply for operators' licenses and state identification cards.

28			Department			
29			County	of Motor	State	
30	Document	Total	General	Vehicles	General	
31		Fee	Fund	Cash Fund	Fund	

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LB514 2023					LB514 2023
1	State identification card:				
2	Valid for 1 year or less	5.00	2.75	1.25	1.00
3	Valid for more than 1 year				
4	but not more than 2 years	10.00	2.75	4.00	3.25
5	Valid for more than 2 years				
6	but not more than 3 years	14.00	2.75	5.25	6.00
7	Valid for more than 3 years				
8	but not more than 4 years	19.00	2.75	8.00	8.25
9	Valid for more than 4 years				
10	for person under 21	24.00	2.75	10.25	11.00
11	Valid for 5 years	24.00	3.50	13.25	7.25
12	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
13	Class O or M operator's				
14	license:				
15	Valid for 1 year or less	5.00	2.75	1.25	1.00
16	Valid for more than 1 year				
17	but not more than 2 years	10.00	2.75	4.00	3.25
18	Valid for more than 2 years				
19	but not more than 3 years	14.00	2.75	5.25	6.00
20	Valid for more than 3 years				
21	but not more than 4 years	19.00	2.75	8.00	8.25
22	Valid for 5 years	24.00	3.50	13.25	7.25
23	Bioptic or telescopic lens				
24	restriction:				
25	Valid for 1 year or less	5.00	0	5.00	0
26	Valid for more than 1 year				
27	but not more than 2 years	10.00	2.75	4.00	3.25
28	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
29	Add, change, or remove class,				
30	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	Θ	5.00	Θ

LB514 2023					LB514 2023
1	Provisional operator's permit:				
2	Original	15.00	2.75	12.25	Θ
3	Bioptic or telescopic lens				
4	restriction:				
5	Valid for 1 year or less	5.00	0	5.00	Θ
6	Valid for more than 1 year				
7	but not more than 2 years	15.00	2.75	12.25	Θ
8	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
9	Add, change, or remove class,				
10	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	0	5.00	0
11	LPD-learner's permit:				
12	Original	8.00	.25	5.00	2.75
13	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
14	Add, change, or remove class,				
15	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	0	5.00	Θ
16	LPE-learner's permit:				
17	Original	8.00	.25	5.00	2.75
18	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
19	Add, change, or remove class,				
20	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	Θ	5.00	Θ
21	School permit:				
22	Original	8.00	.25	5.00	2.75
23	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
24	Add, change, or remove class,				
25	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	0	5.00	Θ
26	Farm permit:				
27	Original or renewal	5.00	.25	Θ	4.75
28	Replacement	5.00	.25	Θ	4.75
29	Add, change, or remove class,				
30	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	Θ	5.00	Θ

LB514 2023	L				LB514 2023
1	Driving permits:				
2	Employment	45.00	Θ	5.00	40.00
3	Medical hardship	45.00	Θ	5.00	40.00
4	Replacement	10.00	.25	5.00	4.75
5	Add, change, or remove class,				
6	endorsement, or restriction	5.00	Θ	5.00	Θ
7	Commercial driver's license:				
8	Valid for 1 year or less	11.00	1.75	5.00	4.25
9	Valid for more than 1 year				
10	but not more than 2 years	22.00	1.75	5.00	15.25
11	Valid for more than 2 years				
12	but not more than 3 years	33.00	1.75	5.00	26.25
13	Valid for more than 3 years				
14	but not more than 4 years	44.00	1.75	5.00	37.25
15	Valid for 5 years	55.00	1.75	5.00	48.25
16	Bioptic or telescopic lens				
17	restriction:				
18	Valid for one year or less	11.00	1.75	5.00	4.25
19	Valid for more than 1 year				
20	but not more than 2 years	22.00	1.75	5.00	15.25
21	Replacement	11.00	2.75	6.00	2.25
22	Add, change, or remove class,				
23	endorsement, or restriction	10.00	1.75	5.00	3.25
24	CLP-commercial learner's				
25	permit:				
26	Original or renewal	10.00	.25	5.00	4.75
27	Replacement	10.00	.25	5.00	4.75
28	Add, change, or remove class,				
29	endorsement, or restriction	10.00	. 25	5.00	4.75
30	Seasonal permit:				

LB514 2023					LB514 2023
1	Original or renewal	10.00	.25	5.00	4.75
2	Replacement	10.00	.25	5.00	4.75
3	Add, change, or remove class,				

4 endorsement, or restriction 10.00 .25 5.00 4.75

5 (3) If the department issues an operator's license or a state 6 identification card and collects the fees, the department shall remit the 7 county portion of the fees to the State Treasurer for credit to the 8 Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

9 (4)(a) The fee for an ignition interlock permit shall be forty-five 10 dollars. Five dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer 11 for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund. Forty dollars 12 of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the 13 Department of Motor Vehicles Ignition Interlock Fund.

(b) The fee for a replacement ignition interlock permit shall be eleven dollars. Two dollars and seventy-five cents of the fee shall be remitted to the county treasurer for credit to the county general fund. Six dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund. Two dollars and twenty-five cents of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the General Fund.

(c) The fee for adding, changing, or removing a class, endorsement,
or restriction on an ignition interlock permit shall be five dollars. The
fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department
of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(5)(a) The fee for a 24/7 sobriety program permit shall be fortyfive dollars. Twenty-five dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund. Fifteen dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the General Fund. Five dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the county treasurer for credit to the county general fund.

31 (b) The fee for a replacement 24/7 sobriety program permit shall be

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eleven dollars. Two dollars and seventy-five cents of the fee shall be
remitted to the county treasurer for credit to the county general fund.
Six dollars of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for
credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund. Two dollars and
twenty-five cents of the fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for
credit to the General Fund.

7 (c) The fee for adding, changing, or removing a class, endorsement,
8 or restriction on a 24/7 sobriety program permit shall be five dollars.
9 The fee shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the
10 Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund.

(6) The department and its agents may collect an identity security 11 surcharge to cover the cost of security and technology practices used to 12 protect the identity of applicants for and holders of operators' licenses 13 and state identification cards and to reduce identity theft, fraud, and 14 forgery and counterfeiting of such licenses and cards to the maximum 15 extent possible. The surcharge shall be in addition to all other required 16 17 fees for operators' licenses and state identification cards. The amount of the surcharge shall be determined by the department. The surcharge 18 shall not exceed eight dollars. The surcharge shall be remitted to the 19 State Treasurer for credit to the Department of Motor Vehicles Cash Fund. 20

21 (7) No fee shall be charged for issuance of an original, renewal, or
22 duplicate state identification card to a resident of Nebraska who (a)
23 does not have a valid Nebraska driver's license, (b) is requesting
24 issuance of such card for voting purposes, and (c) is at least eighteen
25 years of age or is seventeen years of age and will attain the age of
26 eighteen years on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
27 November of the then-current calendar year.

28 Sec. 21. Section 60-4,119, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 29 amended to read:

30 60-4,119 (1) All state identification cards and operators' licenses,
 31 except farm permits, shall include a digital image and a digital

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signature of the cardholder or licensee as provided in section 60-484.02. 1 Receipts for state identification cards and operators' licenses shall 2 include a digital image of the cardholder or licensee and shall be issued 3 by the county treasurer or the Department of Motor Vehicles. The director 4 shall negotiate and enter into a contract to provide the necessary 5 equipment, supplies, and forms for the issuance of the licenses and 6 cards. All costs incurred by the Department of Motor Vehicles under this 7 section shall be paid by the state out of appropriations made to the 8 9 department. All costs of capturing the digital images and digital signatures shall be paid by the issuer from the fees provided to the 10 issuer pursuant to section 60-4,115. 11

(2) A person who is out of the state at the time of renewal of his or her operator's license may apply for a license upon payment of a fee as provided in section 60-4,115. The license may be issued at any time within one year after the expiration of the original license. Such application shall be made to the department, and the department shall issue the license.

18 (3) Any operator's license and any state identification card issued 19 to a minor as defined in section 53-103.23, as such definition may be 20 amended from time to time by the Legislature, shall be of a distinct 21 designation, of a type prescribed by the director, from the operator's 22 license or state identification card of a person who is not a minor.

23 Sec. 22. Section 60-4,120, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 24 amended to read:

60-4,120 (1) Any person duly licensed or holding a valid state identification card issued under the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act who loses his or her operator's license or card may make application to the department for a replacement license or card.

(2) If any person changes his or her name because of marriage or
divorce or by court order or a common-law name change, he or she shall
apply to the department for a replacement operator's license or state

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identification card and furnish proof of identification in accordance
with section 60-484. If any person changes his or her address, the person
shall apply to the department for a replacement operator's license or
state identification card and furnish satisfactory evidence of such
change. The application shall be made within sixty days after the change
of name or address.

(3) In the event a mutilated or unreadable operator's license is 7 held by any person duly licensed under the act or a mutilated or 8 9 unreadable state identification card which was issued under the act is held by a person, such person may obtain a replacement license or card. 10 Upon report of the mutilated or unreadable license or card and 11 application for a replacement license or card, a replacement license or 12 card may be issued if the department is satisfied that the original 13 license or card is mutilated or unreadable. 14

(4) If any person duly licensed under the act loses his or her operator's license or if any holder of a state identification card loses his or her card while temporarily out of the state, he or she may make application to the department for a replacement operator's license or card by applying to the department and reporting such loss. Upon receipt of a correctly completed application, the department shall cause to be issued a replacement operator's license or card.

(5) Any person who holds a valid operator's license or state identification card without a digital image shall surrender such license or card to the department within thirty days after resuming residency in this state. After the thirty-day period, such license or card shall be considered invalid and no license or card shall be issued until the individual has made application for replacement or renewal.

(6) Application for a replacement operator's license or state
identification card shall include the information required under sections
60-484 and 60-484.04.

31

(7) An applicant may obtain a replacement operator's license or

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state identification card pursuant to subsection (1) or (3) of this
 section by electronic means in a manner prescribed by the department. No
 replacement license or card shall be issued unless the applicant has a
 digital image and digital signature preserved in the digital system.

5 (8) Each replacement operator's license or state identification card 6 shall be issued with the same expiration date as the license or card for 7 which the replacement is issued. The replacement license or card shall 8 also state the new issuance date. Upon issuance of any replacement 9 license or card, the license or card for which the replacement is issued 10 shall be void.

(9) A replacement operator's license or state identification card issued under this section shall be delivered to the applicant as provided in section 60-4,113 after the county treasurer or department collects the fee and surcharge prescribed in section 60-4,115 and issues the applicant a receipt with driving privileges which is valid for up to thirty days. <u>The receipt shall contain the digital image of the applicant.</u>

17 Sec. 23. Section 71-612, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 18 amended to read:

71-612 (1) The department, as the State Registrar, shall preserve 19 permanently and index all certificates received. The department shall 20 supply to any applicant for any proper purpose, as defined by rules and 21 regulations of the department, a certified copy of the record of any 22 23 birth, death, marriage, annulment, or dissolution of marriage or an 24 abstract of marriage. The department shall supply a copy of a public vital record for viewing purposes at its office upon an application 25 signed by the applicant and upon proof of the identity of the applicant. 26 The application may include the name, address, and telephone number of 27 the applicant, purpose for viewing each record, and other information as 28 may be prescribed by the department by rules and regulations to protect 29 the integrity of vital records and prevent their fraudulent use. Except 30 as provided in subsections (2), (3), (5), (6), and (7), and (9) of this 31

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section, the department shall be entitled to charge and collect in advance a fee of sixteen dollars to be paid by the applicant for each certified copy or abstract of marriage supplied to the applicant or for any search made at the applicant's request for access to or a certified copy of any record or abstract of marriage, whether or not the record or abstract is found on file with the department.

(2) The department shall, free of charge, search for and furnish a 7 certified copy of any record or abstract of marriage on file with the 8 9 department upon the request of (a) the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or any lawful service organization empowered 10 to represent veterans if the copy of the record or abstract of marriage is 11 to be issued, for the welfare of any member or veteran of the armed 12 forces of the United States or in the interests of any member of his or 13 14 her family, in connection with a claim growing out of service in the armed forces of the nation or (b) the Military Department. 15

16 (3) The department may, free of charge, search for and furnish a 17 certified copy of any record or abstract of marriage on file with the 18 department when in the opinion of the department it would be a hardship 19 for the claimant of old age, survivors, or disability benefits under the 20 federal Social Security Act to pay the fee provided in this section.

(4) A strict account shall be kept of all funds received by the 21 department. Funds received pursuant to subsections (1), (5), (6), and (8) 22 of this section shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to 23 24 the Health and Human Services Cash Fund. Money credited to the fund 25 pursuant to this section shall be used for the purpose of administering the laws relating to vital statistics and may be used to create a petty 26 cash fund administered by the department to facilitate the payment of 27 refunds to individuals who apply for copies or abstracts of records. The 28 petty cash fund shall be subject to section 81-104.01, except that the 29 amount in the petty cash fund shall not be less than twenty-five dollars 30 31 nor more than one thousand dollars.

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1 (5) The department shall, upon request, conduct a search of death 2 certificates for stated individuals for the Nebraska Medical Association 3 or any of its allied medical societies or any inhospital staff committee pursuant to sections 71-3401 to 71-3403. If such death certificate is 4 found, the department shall provide a noncertified copy. The department 5 shall charge a fee for each search or copy sufficient to cover its actual 6 7 direct costs, except that the fee shall not exceed three dollars per individual search or copy requested. 8

9 (6) The department may permit use of data from vital records for statistical or research purposes under section 71-602 or disclose data 10 from certificates or records to federal, state, county, or municipal 11 agencies of government for use in administration of their official duties 12 13 and charge and collect a fee that will recover the department's cost of production of the data. The department may provide access to public vital 14 records for viewing purposes by electronic means, if available, under 15 16 security provisions which shall assure the integrity and security of the records and database and shall charge and collect a fee that shall 17 recover the department's costs. 18

(7) In addition to the fees charged under subsection (1) of this 19 section, the department shall charge and collect an additional fee of one 20 dollar for any certified copy of the record of any birth or for any 21 search made at the applicant's request for access to or a certified copy 22 of any such record, whether or not the record is found on file with the 23 24 department. Any county containing a city of the metropolitan class which has an established city-county or county health department pursuant to 25 sections 71-1626 to 71-1636 which has an established system 26 of registering births and deaths shall charge and collect in advance a fee 27 of one dollar for any certified copy of the record of any birth or for 28 any search made at the applicant's request for such record, whether or 29 not the record is found on file with the county. All fees collected under 30 this subsection shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to 31

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1 the Nebraska Child Abuse Prevention Fund.

2 (8) The department shall not charge other state agencies the fees 3 authorized under subsections (1) and (7) of this section for automated 4 review of any certificates or abstracts of marriage. The department shall 5 charge and collect a fee from other state agencies for such automated 6 review that will recover the department's cost.

7 (9) The department shall not charge any fee for a certified copy of 8 a birth record if the applicant does not have a current Nebraska driver's 9 license or state identification card and indicates in the application 10 that the applicant needs a certified copy of the birth record to apply 11 for a state identification card for voting purposes.

Sec. 24. Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 25 of this act become operative on April 1, 2024. The other sections of this act become operative on their effective date.

Sec. 25. Original sections 32-914, 32-941, 32-942, 32-943, 32-953, and 32-957, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 32-318.01, 32-915, and 32-1027, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, are repealed.

Sec. 26. Original sections 32-308, 60-4,119, 60-4,120, and 71-612,
Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 32-101, 32-103,
32-202, and 60-4,115, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, are
repealed.

23 Sec. 27. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when 24 passed and approved according to law.

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