LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 742

Introduced by Vargas, 7.

Read first time January 18, 2023

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

1	A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to elections; to amend sections 32-307,
2	32-308, 32-315, 32-1506, 60-484, 60-484.02, 60-4,130, 60-4,130.02,
3	and 60-4,144, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections
4	32-202, 32-301, 32-301.01, 32-312, and 32-1002, Revised Statutes
5	Cumulative Supplement, 2022; to change provisions relating to
6	registration of voters and voting; to change penalty provisions; to
7	eliminate obsolete provisions; to harmonize provisions; to repeal
8	the original sections; and to outright repeal section 32-309,
9	Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

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

Section 1. 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;

18 (7) Contract with the Department of Administrative Services for19 storage and distribution of the forms;

20 (8) Require reporting to ensure compliance with sections 32-308 <u>and</u>
21 to 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 and, if the vote was not counted, the reason that the vote was not 3 4 counted. The Secretary of State shall establish and maintain reasonable 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.

Sec. 2. Section 32-301, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
2022, is amended to read:

32-301 (1) The Secretary of State shall implement, in a uniform and 12 nondiscriminatory manner, a single, uniform, official, centralized, 13 interactive computerized statewide voter registration list defined, 14 maintained, and administered at the office of the Secretary of State that 15 16 contains the name and registration information of every legally 17 registered voter in the state and assigns a unique identifier to each legally registered voter in the state. The computerized list shall serve 18 as the single system for storing and managing the official list of 19 registered voters throughout the state and shall comprise the voter 20 registration register. The computerized list shall be coordinated with 21 other agency databases within the state and shall be available for 22 23 electronic access by election commissioners and county clerks. The 24 computerized list shall serve as the official voter registration list for 25 the conduct of all elections under the Election Act and beginning July 1, 2019, shall be the basis for electronic poll books at each precinct if 26 applicable. The Secretary of State shall provide such support as may be 27 28 required so that election commissioners and county clerks are able to electronically enter voter registration information obtained by such 29 officials on an expedited basis at the time the information is received. 30 The Secretary of State shall provide adequate technological security 31

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measures to prevent unauthorized access to the computerized list.

2 (2) The election commissioner or county clerk shall provide for the registration of the electors of the county. Upon receipt of a voter 3 4 registration application in his or her office from an eligible elector, the election commissioner or county clerk shall enter the information 5 from the application in the voter registration register and may create an 6 electronic image, photograph, microphotograph, or reproduction in an 7 electronic digital format to be used as the voter registration record. 8 9 The election commissioner or county clerk shall provide a precinct list 10 of registered voters for each precinct for the use of judges and clerks of election in their respective precincts on election day. Beginning July 11 1, 2019, the election commissioner or county clerk may provide an 12 13 electronic poll book as described in section 32-301.01 to meet the requirements for a precinct list of registered voters. 14

(3) The digital signatures <u>and photographs</u> in the possession of the Secretary of State, the election commissioner, or the county clerk shall not be public records as defined in section 84-712.01 and are not subject to disclosure under sections 84-712 to 84-712.09.

Sec. 3. Section 32-301.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,20 2022, is amended to read:

32-301.01 The Beginning July 1, 2019, the electronic poll books for 21 22 a precinct shall contain the list of registered voters and the sign-in register for the precinct combined in one database and shall include the 23 24 registration information, and the digital signatures, and photographs 25 used to verify identification for the registered voters of the precinct. A registered voter without a photograph in the electronic poll book shall 26 be required to show identification or photographic identification, in the 27 form determined by law, before casting a ballot. 28

Sec. 4. Section 32-307, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, isamended to read:

31 32-307 No materials advocating or advertising any political issue,

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1 candidate, or party shall be displayed or distributed within fifty feet 2 of any voter registration site. No alcohol shall be served within fifty 3 feet of any voter registration site. The registration procedure shall be 4 conducted in a neutral manner and shall not be connected with anything 5 unrelated to the object of registering electors except as otherwise 6 provided in sections 32-308 and ± 9 32-310.

Sec. 5. Section 32-308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, isamended to read:

9 32-308 (1) The Secretary of State and the Director of Motor Vehicles shall enter into an agreement to match information in the computerized 10 statewide voter registration list with information in the database of the 11 Department of Motor Vehicles to the extent required to enable each such 12 13 official to verify the accuracy of the information provided on applications for voter registration. The Director of Motor Vehicles shall 14 enter into an agreement with the Commissioner of Social Security under 15 section 205(r)(8) of the federal Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 405(r) 16 17 (8), as such section existed on April 17, 2003, for purposes of the 18 Election Act.

(2) The Department of Motor Vehicles, with the assistance of the 19 Secretary of State, shall prescribe a voter registration application 20 which may be used to register to vote or change his or her address for 21 22 voting purposes at the same time an elector applies for an original or renewal motor vehicle operator's license, an original or renewal state 23 24 identification card, or a replacement thereof. The voter registration 25 application shall be designed so that the elector's information is transmitted to the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to 26 subsection (3) of this section unless the elector specifies on the form 27 28 that he or she does not want to register to vote or update his or her voter registration record. The voter registration application shall 29 contain the information required pursuant to section 32-312 and shall be 30 designed so that it does not require the duplication of information in 31

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1 the application for the motor vehicle operator's license or state 2 identification card, except that it may require a second signature of the applicant. The department and the Secretary of State shall make the voter 3 registration application available to any person applying for 4 an 5 operator's license or state identification card. The application shall be completed at the office of the department by the close of business on the 6 7 third Friday preceding any election to be registered to vote at such election. A registration application received after the deadline shall 8 9 not be processed by the election commissioner or county clerk until after the election. If a voter registration application is submitted under this 10 section with the signature of the applicant but the applicant is not 11 eligible to register to vote, the submission shall not be considered a 12 violation of section 32-1502 or 32-1503 and the document submitted shall 13 not be considered a valid or completed voter registration application for 14 purposes of registration or enforcement of the Election Act unless the 15 applicant has willfully and knowingly taken affirmative steps to register 16 17 to vote knowing that he or she is not eligible to do so.

(3) The Department of Motor Vehicles, in conjunction with the 18 19 Secretary of State, shall develop a process to electronically transmit voter registration application information received under subsection (2) 20 of this section to the election commissioner or county clerk of the 21 county in which the applicant resides within the time limits prescribed 22 in subsection (4) of this section for each applicant who indicates on the 23 24 application that he or she is a citizen of the United States and at least 25 eighteen years of age or will be eighteen years of age on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the then-current 26 year. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall not transmit voter 27 registration application information for applications pursuant to section 28 29 60-480.01. The Director of Motor Vehicles shall designate an 30 implementation date for the process which shall be on or before January 1, 2016. 31

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1 (4) The voter registration application information shall be 2 transmitted to the election commissioner or county clerk of the county in 3 which the applicant resides not later than ten days after receipt, except 4 that if the voter registration application information is received within 5 five days prior to the third Friday preceding any election, it shall be transmitted not later than five days after its original submission. Any 6 7 information on whether an applicant registers or declines to register and the location of the office at which he or she registers shall be 8 9 confidential and shall only be used for voter registration purposes.

(5) For each voter registration application for which information is 10 transmitted electronically pursuant to this section, the Secretary of 11 State shall obtain a copy of the electronic representation of the 12 applicant's signature from the Department of Motor Vehicles' records of 13 his or her motor vehicle operator's license or state identification card 14 for purposes of voter registration. Each voter registration application 15 16 electronically transmitted under this section shall include information 17 provided by the applicant that includes whether the applicant is a citizen of the United States, whether the applicant is of sufficient age 18 19 to register to vote, the applicant's residence address, the applicant's postal address if different from the residence address, the date of birth 20 of the applicant, the party affiliation of the applicant or an indication 21 that the applicant is not affiliated with any political party, the 22 23 applicant's motor vehicle operator's license number, the applicant's 24 previous registration location by city, county, or state, if applicable, 25 and the applicant's signature.

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

30 Sec. 6. Section 32-312, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 31 2022, is amended to read:

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1 32-312 The registration application prescribed by the Secretary of 2 State pursuant to section 32-304 or 32-311.01 shall provide the 3 instructional statements and request the information from the applicant 4 as provided in this section.

5 CITIZENSHIP—"Are you a citizen of the United States of America?" 6 with boxes to check to indicate whether the applicant is or is not a 7 citizen of the United States.

8 AGE—"Are you at least eighteen years of age or will you be eighteen 9 years of age on or before the first Tuesday following the first Monday of 10 November of this year?" with boxes to check to indicate whether or not 11 the applicant will be eighteen years of age or older on election day.

12 WARNING—"If you checked 'no' in response to either of these 13 questions, do not complete this application.".

14 NAME—the name of the applicant giving the first and last name in 15 full, the middle name in full or the middle initial, and the maiden name 16 of the applicant, if applicable.

17 RESIDENCE-the name and number of the street, avenue, or other location of the dwelling where the applicant resides if there is a 18 number. If the registrant resides in a hotel, apartment, tenement house, 19 or institution, such additional information shall be included as will 20 give the exact location of such registrant's place of residence. If the 21 registrant lives in an incorporated or unincorporated area not identified 22 by the use of roads, road names, or house numbers, the registrant shall 23 24 state the section, township, and range of his or her residence and the 25 corporate name of the school district as described in section 79-405 in which he or she is located. 26

POSTAL ADDRESS—the address at which the applicant receives mail if
 different from the residence address.

ADDRESS OF LAST REGISTRATION—the name and number of the street, avenue, or other location of the dwelling from which the applicant last registered.

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1 TELEPHONE NUMBERS—the telephone numbers of the applicant. At the 2 request of the applicant, a designation shall be made that a telephone 3 number is an unlisted number, and such designation shall preclude the 4 listing of such telephone number on any list of voter registrations.

5 EMAIL ADDRESS—an email address of the applicant. At the request of 6 the applicant, a designation shall be made that the email address is 7 private, and such designation shall preclude the listing of the 8 applicant's email address on any list of voter registrations.

9 DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER OR LAST FOUR DIGITS OF SOCIAL SECURITY 10 NUMBER—if the applicant has a Nebraska driver's license, the license 11 number, and if the applicant does not have a Nebraska driver's license, 12 the last four digits of the applicant's social security number.

DATE OF APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION—the month, day, and year when the applicant presented himself or herself for registration, when the applicant completed and signed the registration application if the application was submitted by mail or delivered to the election official by the applicant's personal messenger or personal agent, or when the completed application was submitted if the registration application was completed pursuant to section 32-304.

PLACE OF BIRTH-show the state, country, kingdom, empire, or dominion
where the applicant was born.

DATE OF BIRTH—show the date of the applicant's birth. The applicant shall be at least eighteen years of age or attain eighteen years of age on or before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November to have the right to register and vote in any election in the present calendar year.

27 REGISTRATION TAKEN BY—show the signature of the authorized official 28 or staff member accepting the application pursuant to section 32-309 or 29 32-310 or at least one of the deputy registrars taking the application 30 pursuant to section 32-306, if applicable.

31 PARTY AFFILIATION—show the party affiliation of the applicant as

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Democratic, Republican, or Other or show no party affiliation as 1 2 Nonpartisan. (Note: If you wish to vote in both partisan and nonpartisan primary elections for state and local offices, you must indicate a 3 4 political party affiliation on the registration application. If you register without a political party affiliation (nonpartisan), you will 5 receive only the nonpartisan ballots for state and local offices at 6 7 primary elections. If you register without a political party affiliation, you may vote in partisan primary elections for congressional offices.) 8

9 OTHER—information the Secretary of State determines will assist in
10 the proper and accurate registration of the voter.

11 Immediately following the spaces for inserting information as 12 provided in this section, the following statement shall be printed:

13 To the best of my knowledge and belief, I declare under penalty of 14 election falsification that:

(1) I live in the State of Nebraska at the address provided in thisapplication;

17 (2) I have not been convicted of a felony or, if convicted, it has
18 been at least two years since I completed my sentence for the felony,
19 including any parole term;

20 (3) I have not been officially found to be non compos mentis21 (mentally incompetent); and

22 (4) I am a citizen of the United States.

Any registrant who signs this application knowing that any of the information in the application is false shall be guilty of a Class IV felony under section 32-1502 of the statutes of Nebraska. The penalty for a Class IV felony is up to two years imprisonment and twelve months postrelease supervision, a fine of up to ten thousand dollars, or both.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE-require the applicant to affix his or hersignature to the application.

30 Sec. 7. Section 32-315, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

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1 32-315 Upon receiving a completed voter registration application pursuant to section 32-308, 32-309, or 32-310 indicating that a voter who 2 is registered in the county has changed his or her name or moved to 3 4 another residence within the same county, the election commissioner or 5 county clerk shall change the voter registration record of the registered voter to the new name or new address and shall send an acknowledgment 6 7 card to the registered voter indicating that the change of registration has been completed and the address of the voter's new polling place. 8

9 Sec. 8. Section 32-1002, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 32-1002 (1) As the ballots are removed from the ballot box pursuant 12 to sections 32-1012 to 32-1018, the receiving board shall separate the 13 envelopes containing the provisional ballots from the rest of the ballots 14 and deliver them to the election commissioner or county clerk.

15 (2) Upon receipt of a provisional ballot, the election commissioner 16 or county clerk shall verify that the certificate on the front of the 17 envelope or the form attached to the envelope is in proper form and that 18 the certification has been signed by the voter.

19 (3) The election commissioner or county clerk shall also (a) verify that such person has not voted anywhere else in the county or been issued 20 a ballot for early voting, (b) investigate whether any credible evidence 21 exists that the person was properly registered to vote in the county 22 before the deadline for registration for the election, (c) investigate 23 24 whether any information has been received pursuant to section 32-308, 32-309, 32-310, or 32-324 that the person has resided, registered, or 25 voted in any other county or state since registering to vote in the 26 county, and (d) upon determining that credible evidence exists that the 27 28 properly registered to vote in the county, make person was the appropriate changes to the voter registration register by entering the 29 information contained in the registration application completed by the 30 voter at the time of voting a provisional ballot. 31

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(4) A provisional ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 32-915
 shall be counted if:

3 (a) Credible evidence exists that the voter was properly registered
4 in the county before the deadline for registration for the election;

5 (b) The voter has resided in the county continuously since6 registering to vote in the county;

7 (c) The voter has not voted anywhere else in the county or has not8 otherwise voted early using a ballot for early voting;

9 (d) The voter has completed a registration application prior to 10 voting as prescribed in subsection (6) of this section and:

(i) The residence address provided on the registration application completed pursuant to subdivision (1)(e) of section 32-915 is located within the precinct in which the person voted; and

(ii) If the voter is voting in a primary election, the party affiliation provided on the registration application completed prior to voting the provisional ballot is the same party affiliation that appears on the voter's voter registration record based on his or her previous registration application; and

(e) The certification on the front of the envelope or form attachedto the envelope is in the proper form and signed by the voter.

(5) A provisional ballot cast by a voter pursuant to section 32-915
shall not be counted if:

(a) The voter was not properly registered in the county before thedeadline for registration for the election;

(b) Information has been received pursuant to section 32-308, 32-309, 32-310, or 32-324 that the voter has resided, registered, or voted in any other county or state since registering to vote in the county in which he or she cast the provisional ballot;

(c) Credible evidence exists that the voter has voted elsewhere orhas otherwise voted early;

31 (d) The voter failed to complete and sign a registration application

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1 pursuant to subsection (6) of this section and subdivision (1)(e) of 2 section 32-915;

3 (e) The residence address provided on the registration application 4 completed pursuant to subdivision (1)(e) of section 32-915 is in a 5 different county or in a different precinct than the county or precinct 6 in which the voter voted;

7 (f) If the voter is voting in a primary election, the party 8 affiliation on the registration application completed prior to voting the 9 provisional ballot is different than the party affiliation that appears 10 on the voter's voter registration record based on his or her previous 11 registration application; or

12 (g) The voter failed to complete and sign the certification on the 13 envelope or form attached to the envelope pursuant to subsection (3) of 14 section 32-915.

(6) An error or omission of information on the registration
application or the certification required under section 32-915 shall not
result in the provisional ballot not being counted if:

18 (a)(i) The errant or omitted information is contained elsewhere on
19 the registration application or certification; or

(ii) The information is not necessary to determine the eligibilityof the voter to cast a ballot; and

(b) Both the registration application and the certification aresigned by the voter.

(7) Upon determining that the voter's provisional ballot is eligible to be counted, the election commissioner or county clerk shall remove the ballot from the envelope without exposing the marks on the ballot and shall place the ballot with the ballots to be counted by the county canvassing board.

(8) The election commissioner or county clerk shall notify the
system administrator of the system created pursuant to section 32-202 as
to whether the ballot was counted and, if not, the reason the ballot was

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1 not counted.

2 (9) The verification and investigation shall be completed within3 seven business days after the election.

Sec. 9. Section 32-1506, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
amended to read:

32-1506 Any deputy registrar, judge or clerk of election, or other 6 officer having the custody of records, registers, copies of records or 7 registers, oaths, certificates, or any other paper, document, or evidence 8 9 of any description by law directed to be made, filed, or preserved (1)10 who steals, willfully destroys, mutilates, defaces, falsifies, or fraudulently removes such paper, document, or evidence or any part 11 thereof, (2) who fraudulently makes an entry, erasure, or alteration in 12 13 such paper, document, or evidence except as allowed and directed by the Election Act, (3) who uses the voter registration records for any purpose 14 other than voter registration, election administration, or enforcement of 15 the Election Act, (4) who permits any other person to commit any 16 17 violation listed in this section, or (5) who advises, procures, or abets the commission of such a violation shall be quilty of a Class III 18 19 misdemeanor and shall forfeit his or her office. Any other person who violates this section shall be quilty of a Class III misdemeanor. 20

21 Sec. 10. Section 60-484, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 22 amended to read:

60-484 (1) Except as otherwise provided in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act, no resident of the State of Nebraska shall operate a motor vehicle upon the alleys or highways of this state until the person has obtained an operator's license for that purpose.

(2) Application for an operator's license or a state identificationcard shall be made in a manner prescribed by the department.

(3) The applicant shall provide his or her full legal name, date of
birth, mailing address, gender, race or ethnicity, and social security
number, two forms of proof of address of his or her principal residence

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unless the applicant is a program participant under the Address 1 2 Confidentiality Act, evidence of identity as required by subsection (6) of this section, and a brief physical description of himself or herself. 3 The applicant: 4 (a) Shall may also complete the voter registration portion pursuant 5 6 to section 32-308, (b) shall be provided the advisement language required 7 by subsection (5) of section 60-6,197; (b) Shall $_{1}$ (c) shall answer the following: 8 9 (i) Have you within the last three months (e.g. due to diabetes, 10 epilepsy, mental illness, head injury, stroke, heart condition, neurological disease, etc.): 11 12 (A) lost voluntary control or consciousness ... yes ... no 13 (B) experienced vertigo or multiple episodes of dizziness or fainting ... yes ... no 14 15 (C) experienced disorientation ... yes ... no (D) experienced seizures ... yes ... no 16 17 (E) experienced impairment of memory, memory loss ... yes ... no 18 Please explain: (ii) Do you experience any condition which affects your ability to 19 operate a motor vehicle? (e.g. due to loss of, or impairment of, foot, 20 21 leg, hand, arm; neurological or neuromuscular disease, etc.) ... yes ... 22 no 23 Please explain: 24 (iii) Since the issuance of your last driver's license/permit, has 25 your health or medical condition changed or worsened? ... yes ... no Please explain, including how the above affects your ability to 26 27 28 (c) Shall be advised as follows: We will use your information to update your voter registration record or register you to vote. 29 30 The applicant shall be given the opportunity to choose not to use his or her information for voter registration, otherwise the applicant 31

shall complete the voter registration portion that is transmitted to the 1 2 election commissioner or county clerk to register the applicant to vote or update his or her voter registration record pursuant to section 3 4 32-308. If the voter registration portion is only partially completed, 5 the department may still proceed to issue the operator's license or state identification card and shall transmit the incomplete voter registration 6 7 portion to the election commissioner or county clerk pursuant to section 32-308. The department may still proceed to issue the operator's license 8 9 or state identification card if the applicant refuses to answer or does 10 not complete the voter registration portion; and (d) May , and (d) may answer the following: 11 (i) Do you wish to register to vote as part of this application 12 process? 13 (i) (ii) Do you wish to have a veteran designation displayed on the 14

14 (1) (11) bo you wish to have a veteral designation displayed on the 15 front of your operator's license or state identification card to show 16 that you served in the armed forces of the United States? (To be eligible 17 you must register with the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs 18 registry.)

(ii) (iii) Do you wish to include your name in the Donor Registry of
 Nebraska and donate your organs and tissues at the time of your death?

21 <u>(iii)</u> (iv) Do you wish to receive any additional specific 22 information regarding organ and tissue donation and the Donor Registry of 23 Nebraska?

24 (iv) (v) Do you wish to donate \$1 to promote the Organ and Tissue
 25 Donor Awareness and Education Fund?

(4) Application for an operator's license or state identification
card shall include a signed oath, affirmation, or declaration of the
applicant that the information provided on the application for the
license or card is true and correct.

30 (5) The social security number shall not be printed on the 31 operator's license or state identification card and shall be used only

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1 (a) to furnish information to the United States Selective Service System 2 under section 60-483, (b) with the permission of the director in connection with the verification of the status of an individual's driving 3 4 record in this state or any other state, (c) for purposes of child 5 support enforcement pursuant to section 42-358.08 or 43-512.06, (d) to furnish information regarding an applicant for or holder of a commercial 6 7 driver's license with a hazardous materials endorsement to the Transportation Security Administration of the United States Department of 8 Homeland Security or its agent, (e) to furnish information to the 9 Department of Revenue under section 77-362.02, or (f) to furnish 10 information to the Secretary of State for purposes of the Election Act. 11

(6)(a) Each individual applying for an operator's license or a state identification card shall furnish proof of date of birth and identity with documents containing a photograph or with nonphoto identity documents which include his or her full legal name and date of birth. Such documents shall be those provided in subsection (1) of section 60-484.04.

(b) Any individual under the age of eighteen years applying for an 18 operator's license or a state identification card shall provide a 19 certified copy of his or her birth certificate or, if such individual is 20 unable to provide a certified copy of his or her birth certificate, other 21 22 reliable proof of his or her identity and age, as required in subdivision (6)(a) of this section, accompanied by a certification signed by a parent 23 24 or guardian explaining the inability to produce a copy of such birth certificate. The applicant also may be required to furnish proof to 25 department personnel that the parent or guardian 26 signing the certification is in fact the parent or guardian of such applicant. 27

(c) An applicant may present other documents as proof of
identification and age designated by the director. Any documents accepted
shall be recorded according to a written exceptions process established
by the director.

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1 (7) Any individual applying for an operator's license or a state 2 identification card who indicated his or her wish to have a veteran 3 designation displayed on the front of such license or card shall comply 4 with section 60-4,189.

5 (8) No person shall be a holder of an operator's license and a state identification card at the same time. A person who has a digital image 6 7 and digital signature on file with the department may apply electronically to change his or her Class O operator's license to a state 8 9 identification card.

Sec. 11. Section 60-484.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

60-484.02 (1) Each applicant for an operator's license or state 12 13 identification card shall have his or her digital image captured. Digital images shall be preserved for use as prescribed in sections 60-4,119, 14 60-4,151, and 60-4,180. The images shall be used for issuing operators' 15 licenses and state identification cards. The images may be retrieved only 16 17 by the Department of Motor Vehicles for issuing renewal and replacement operators' licenses and state identification cards and may not be 18 19 otherwise released except in accordance with subsection (3) of this section. 20

application for 21 (2) Upon an operator's license or state 22 identification card, each applicant shall provide his or her signature in a form prescribed by the department. Digital signatures shall be 23 preserved for use on original, renewal, and replacement operators' 24 25 licenses and state identification cards and may not be otherwise released except in accordance with subsection (4) of this section. 26

(3) No officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the department or
law enforcement officer shall release a digital image except to a
federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, a certified law
enforcement officer employed in an investigative position by a federal,
state, or local agency, or a driver licensing agency of another state for

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1 the purpose of carrying out the functions of the agency or assisting 2 another agency in carrying out its functions upon the verification of the identity of the person requesting the release of the information and the 3 4 verification of the purpose of the requester in requesting the release. Any officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the department or law 5 enforcement officer that knowingly discloses or knowingly permits 6 7 disclosure of a digital image or digital signature in violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. 8

9 (4) No officer, employee, agent, or contractor of the department or 10 law enforcement officer shall release a digital signature except (a) to a federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, a certified law 11 enforcement officer employed in an investigative position by a state or 12 13 federal agency, or a driver licensing agency of another state for the purpose of carrying out the functions of the agency or assisting another 14 agency in carrying out its functions upon the verification of the 15 16 identity of the person requesting the release of the information and the 17 verification of the purpose of the requester in requesting the release or (b) to the office of the Secretary of State for the purpose of voter 18 19 registration as described in section 32-304 or 7 32-308, or 32-309 upon the verification of the identity of the person requesting the release of 20 the information and the verification of the purpose of the requester in 21 requesting the release. No employee or official in the office of the 22 Secretary of State shall release a digital signature except to a federal, 23 24 state, or local law enforcement agency, a certified law enforcement 25 officer employed in an investigative position by a state or federal agency, or a driver licensing agency of another state for the purpose of 26 carrying out the functions of the agency or assisting another agency in 27 28 carrying out its functions upon the verification of the identity of the person requesting the release of the information and the verification of 29 the purpose of the requester in requesting the release. Any officer, 30 employee, agent, or contractor of the department, law enforcement 31

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officer, or employee or official in the office of the Secretary of State that knowingly discloses or knowingly permits disclosure of a digital signature in violation of this section shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor.

5 Sec. 12. Section 60-4,130, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 6 amended to read:

60-4,130 (1) Application for an employment driving permit shall be 7 made to the Department of Motor Vehicles on forms furnished for that 8 9 purpose by the department. The application form shall contain such information as deemed necessary by the director to carry out this section 10 and section 60-4,129. If the department has a digital image and digital 11 signature of the applicant preserved in the digital system implemented 12 under section 60-484.01, the employment driving permit, if issued, may 13 contain such image and signature. The application form shall also include 14 a voter registration portion pursuant to subdivision (3)(c) of section 15 16 60-484. 32-308 and the following specific question: Do you wish to 17 register to vote as part of this application process? To be eligible for an employment driving permit, the applicant shall furnish, along with the 18 application to the director, the following: 19

(a) An affidavit from the applicant's employer stating that such
applicant is required to operate a motor vehicle from his or her
residence to his or her place of employment and return;

(b) If such applicant requires the use of a motor vehicle during the
normal course of employment, an affidavit from the applicant's employer
setting forth the facts establishing such requirement;

(c) An affidavit stating that there exists no other reasonable
alternative means of transportation to and from work available to the
applicant; and

(d) If the applicant is self-employed, an affidavit to thedepartment setting forth the provisions of his or her employment.

31 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, upon making

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1 application for such permit, the applicant shall certify that he or she 2 will attend and complete, within sixty days, a driver improvement course presented by the department or show successful completion of the driver 3 education and training course as provided in section 60-4,183. If such 4 5 course is not completed, the employment driving permit shall be surrendered to the department. If any person fails to return to the 6 department the permit as provided in this subsection, the department 7 shall direct any peace officer or authorized representative of the 8 9 department to secure possession of the permit and to return the permit to the department. An applicant whose operator's license has been suspended 10 pursuant to section 43-3318 is not required to fulfill such driver 11 improvement or education and training course requirements. All applicants 12 13 shall file and maintain proof of financial responsibility as required by the Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Act. 14

(3) Any person who fails to surrender a permit, as required by thissection, shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor.

17 (4) The fee prescribed in section 60-4,115 shall be submitted to the18 department along with the application for an employment driving permit.

(5) When the holder of an employment driving permit is convicted, on 19 or after the date of issuance of the employment driving permit, of any 20 traffic violation or of operating a motor vehicle for a purpose other 21 than specified by such permit, the person shall not be eligible to 22 receive another employment driving permit during that particular period 23 24 of revocation. This subsection does not apply to a holder of an 25 employment driving permit if the reason for his or her license revocation or suspension only involved a suspension under section 43-3318 and not a 26 revocation under any other section. 27

(6) Any person who feels himself or herself aggrieved because of the
refusal of the director to issue the employment driving permit may appeal
in the manner set forth in section 60-4,105.

31 Sec. 13. Section 60-4,130.02, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska,

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1 is amended to read:

60-4,130.02 (1) Application for a medical hardship driving permit 2 shall be made to the Department of Motor Vehicles on forms furnished for 3 4 that purpose by the department. The application form shall contain such 5 information as deemed necessary by the director to carry out this section and section 60-4,130.01. If the department has a digital image and 6 digital signature of the applicant preserved in the digital system 7 implemented under section 60-484.01, the medical hardship driving permit, 8 9 if issued, may contain such image and signature. The application form 10 shall also include a voter registration portion pursuant to subdivision (3)(c) of section 60-484. 32-308 and the following specific question: Do 11 you wish to register to vote as part of this application process? To be 12 13 eligible for a medical hardship driving permit, the applicant shall furnish, along with the application to the director, the following: 14

(a) An affidavit from the applicant's physician stating that it is necessary for such applicant to receive medical treatment at a location other than the applicant's residence and that the treatment will not impair the applicant's ability to operate a motor vehicle; and

(b) An affidavit stating that there exists no other reasonable
alternative means of transportation to and from the site of medical
treatment available to the applicant.

(2) The applicant shall also be required to file and maintain proof
of financial responsibility as required by the Motor Vehicle Safety
Responsibility Act.

(3) The fee prescribed in section 60-4,115 shall be submitted to the department along with the application for a medical hardship driving permit.

(4) When the holder of a medical hardship driving permit is
convicted, on or after the date of issuance of the permit, of any traffic
violation or of operating a motor vehicle for a purpose other than
specified by such permit, the person shall not be eligible to receive

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another medical hardship driving permit during that particular period of
 revocation.

3 (5) Any person who feels himself or herself aggrieved because of the
4 refusal of the director to issue the medical hardship driving permit may
5 appeal in the manner set forth in section 60-4,105.

Sec. 14. Section 60-4,144, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
amended to read:

60-4,144 (1) An applicant for issuance of any original or renewal 8 9 commercial driver's license or an applicant for a change of class of 10 commercial motor vehicle, endorsement, or restriction shall demonstrate his or her knowledge and skills for operating a commercial motor vehicle 11 as prescribed in the Motor Vehicle Operator's License Act. An applicant 12 13 for a commercial driver's license shall provide the information and documentation required by this section and section 60-4,144.01. Such 14 information and documentation shall include any additional information 15 required by 49 C.F.R. parts 383 and 391 and also include: 16

(a) Certification that the commercial motor vehicle in which the applicant takes any driving skills examination is representative of the class of commercial motor vehicle that the applicant operates or expects to operate; and

(b) The names of all states where the applicant has been licensed to operate any type of motor vehicle in the ten years prior to the date of application.

(2)(a) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or 24 25 commercial driver's license, the applicant shall provide (i) his or her full legal name, date of birth, mailing address, gender, race or 26 ethnicity, and social security number, (ii) two forms of proof of address 27 28 of his or her principal residence unless the applicant is a program participant under the Address Confidentiality Act, except that a 29 30 nondomiciled applicant for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license holder does not have to provide 31

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proof of residence in Nebraska, (iii) evidence of identity as required by this section, and (iv) a brief physical description of himself or herself.

4 (b) The applicant's social security number shall not be printed on the CLP-commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license and 5 shall be used only (i) to furnish information to the United States 6 7 Selective Service System under section 60-483, (ii) with the permission of the director in connection with the certification of the status of an 8 9 individual's driving record in this state or any other state, (iii) for 10 purposes of child support enforcement pursuant to section 42-358.08 or 43-512.06, (iv) to furnish information regarding an applicant for or 11 holder of a commercial driver's license with a hazardous materials 12 13 endorsement to the Transportation Security Administration of the United States Department of Homeland Security or its agent, (v) to furnish 14 information to the Department of Revenue under section 77-362.02, or (vi) 15 to furnish information to the Secretary of State for purposes of the 16 17 Election Act.

(c) No person shall be a holder of a CLP-commercial learner's permit
 or commercial driver's license and a state identification card at the
 same time.

(3) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
commercial driver's license, an applicant, except a nondomiciled
applicant, shall provide proof that this state is his or her state of
residence. Acceptable proof of residence is a document with the person's
name and residential address within this state.

(4)(a) Before being issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 commercial driver's license, an applicant shall provide proof of
 identity.

29 (b) The following are acceptable as proof of identity:

30 (i) A valid, unexpired United States passport;

31 (ii) A certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state

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1 office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the individual's state
2 of birth;

3 (iii) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States
4 Department of State;

5 (iv) A valid, unexpired permanent resident card issued by the United
6 States Department of Homeland Security or United States Citizenship and
7 Immigration Services;

8 (v) An unexpired employment authorization document issued by the
9 United States Department of Homeland Security;

(vi) An unexpired foreign passport with a valid, unexpired United
States visa affixed accompanied by the approved form documenting the
applicant's most recent admittance into the United States;

13 (vii) A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United States
14 Department of Homeland Security;

15 (viii) A Certificate of Citizenship issued by the United States
16 Department of Homeland Security;

(ix) A driver's license or identification card issued in compliance
with the standards established by the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law
109-13, division B, section 1, 119 Stat. 302; or

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(x) Such other documents as the director may approve.

(c) If an applicant presents one of the documents listed under subdivision (b)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (vii), or (viii) of this subsection, the verification of the applicant's identity will also provide satisfactory evidence of lawful status.

25 (d) If the applicant presents one of the identity documents listed 26 under subdivision (b)(v), (vi), or (ix) of this subsection, the 27 verification of the identity documents does not provide satisfactory 28 evidence of lawful status. The applicant must also present a second 29 document from subdivision (4)(b) of this section, a document from 30 subsection (5) of this section, or documentation issued by the United 31 States Department of Homeland Security or other federal agencies

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demonstrating lawful status as determined by the United States
 Citizenship and Immigration Services.

3 (e) An applicant may present other documents as designated by the 4 director as proof of identity. Any documents accepted shall be recorded 5 according to a written exceptions process established by the director.

6 (5)(a) Whenever a person is renewing, replacing, upgrading, 7 transferring, or applying as a nondomiciled individual to this state for 8 a CLP-commercial learner's permit or commercial driver's license, the 9 Department of Motor Vehicles shall verify the citizenship in the United 10 States of the person or the lawful status in the United States of the 11 person.

12 (b) The following are acceptable as proof of citizenship or lawful13 status:

14

(i) A valid, unexpired United States passport;

(ii) A certified copy of a birth certificate filed with a state
office of vital statistics or equivalent agency in the individual's state
of birth, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, or the
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

19 (iii) A Consular Report of Birth Abroad issued by the United States20 Department of State;

(iv) A Certificate of Naturalization issued by the United States
Department of Homeland Security;

(v) A Certificate of Citizenship issued by the United States
 Department of Homeland Security; or

(vi) A valid, unexpired Permanent Resident Card issued by the United
States Department of Homeland Security or United States Citizenship and
Immigration Services.

(6) An applicant may present other documents as designated by the director as proof of lawful status. Any documents accepted shall be recorded according to a written exceptions process established by the director.

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(7)(a) An applicant shall obtain a nondomiciled CLP-commercial
 driver's license or nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit:

3 (i) If the applicant is domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction and the 4 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrator has not determined that the 5 commercial motor vehicle operator testing and licensing standards of that 6 jurisdiction meet the standards contained in subparts G and H of 49 7 C.F.R. part 383; or

8 (ii) If the applicant is domiciled in a state that is prohibited 9 from issuing commercial learners' permits and commercial drivers' 10 licenses in accordance with 49 C.F.R. 384.405. Such person is eligible to 11 obtain a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled 12 commercial driver's license from Nebraska that complies with the testing 13 and licensing standards contained in subparts F, G, and H of 49 C.F.R. 14 part 383.

(b) An applicant for a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permitand nondomiciled commercial driver's license must do the following:

17 (i) Complete the requirements to obtain a CLP-commercial learner's permit or a commercial driver's license under the Motor Vehicle 18 19 Operator's License Act, except that an applicant domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction must provide an unexpired employment authorization document 20 issued by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services or an 21 22 unexpired foreign passport accompanied by an approved I-94 form 23 documenting the applicant's most recent admittance into the United 24 States. No proof of domicile is required;

(ii) After receipt of the nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit or nondomiciled commercial driver's license and, for as long as the permit or license is valid, notify the Department of Motor Vehicles of any adverse action taken by any jurisdiction or governmental agency, foreign or domestic, against his or her driving privileges. Such adverse actions include, but are not limited to, license disqualification or disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle for the

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convictions described in 49 C.F.R. 383.51. Notifications must be made
 within the time periods specified in 49 C.F.R. 383.33; and

3 (iii) Provide a mailing address to the Department of Motor Vehicles. 4 If the applicant is applying for a foreign nondomiciled CLP-commercial 5 learner's permit or foreign nondomiciled commercial driver's license, he 6 or she must provide a Nebraska mailing address and his or her employer's 7 mailing address to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

8 (c) An applicant for a nondomiciled CLP-commercial learner's permit 9 or nondomiciled commercial driver's license who holds a foreign 10 operator's license is not required to surrender his or her foreign 11 operator's license.

(8) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 commercial driver's license may answer the following:

14 (a) Do you wish to register to vote as part of this application 15 process?

16 (a) (b) Do you wish to have a veteran designation displayed on the 17 front of your operator's license to show that you served in the armed 18 forces of the United States? (To be eligible you must register with the 19 Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs registry.)

(b) (c) Do you wish to include your name in the Donor Registry of
 Nebraska and donate your organs and tissues at the time of your death?
 (c) (d) Do you wish to receive any additional specific information
 regarding organ and tissue donation and the Donor Registry of Nebraska?

24 (d) (e) Do you wish to donate \$1 to promote the Organ and Tissue 25 Donor Awareness and Education Fund?

26 (9) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or
 27 commercial driver's license shall answer the voter registration question
 28 as provided in subdivision (3)(c) of section 60-484.

29 <u>(10)</u> (9) Application for a CLP-commercial learner's permit or 30 commercial driver's license shall include a signed oath, affirmation, or 31 declaration of the applicant that the information provided on the

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1 application for the permit or license is true and correct.

2 <u>(11)</u> (10) Any person applying for a CLP-commercial learner's permit 3 or commercial driver's license must make one of the certifications in 4 section 60-4,144.01 and any certification required under section 60-4,146 5 and must provide such certifications to the Department of Motor Vehicles 6 in order to be issued a CLP-commercial learner's permit or a commercial 7 driver's license.

(12) (11) Every person who holds any commercial driver's license 8 9 must provide to the department medical certification as required by section 60-4,144.01. The department may provide notice and prescribe 10 medical certification compliance requirements for all holders 11 of commercial drivers' licenses. Holders of commercial drivers' licenses who 12 13 fail to meet the prescribed medical certification compliance requirements may be subject to downgrade. 14

Sec. 15. Original sections 32-307, 32-308, 32-315, 32-1506, 60-484,
60-484.02, 60-4,130, 60-4,130.02, and 60-4,144, Reissue Revised Statutes
of Nebraska, and sections 32-202, 32-301, 32-301.01, 32-312, and 32-1002,
Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022, are repealed.

Sec. 16. The following section is outright repealed: Section
 32-309, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.

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