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SENATE BILL NO. 364

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee for Courts of Justice

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator Ebbin)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 24.2-418 and 24.2-1000 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 10 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-1020, relating to elections; protection of electors and election officials; penalties.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 24.2-418 and 24.2-1000 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 10 of Title 24.2 a section numbered 24.2-1020 as follows:

§ 24.2-418. Application for registration.

A. Each applicant to register shall provide, subject to felony penalties for making false statements pursuant to § 24.2-1016, the information necessary to complete the application to register. Unless physically disabled, he shall sign the application. The application to register shall be only on a form or forms prescribed by the State Board.

The form of the application to register shall require the applicant to provide the following information: full name; gender; date of birth; social security number, if any; whether the applicant is presently a United States citizen; address of residence in the precinct; place of last previous registration to vote; and whether the applicant has ever been adjudicated incapacitated and disqualified to vote or convicted of a felony, and if so, whether the applicant's right to vote has been restored. The form shall contain a statement that whoever votes more than once in any election in the same or different jurisdictions is guilty of a Class 6 felony. Unless directed by the applicant or as permitted in § 24.2-411.2 or 24.2-411.3, the registration application shall not be pre-populated with information the applicant is required to provide.

27 The form of the application to register shall request that the applicant provide his telephone number
28 and email address, but no application shall be denied for failure to provide such information.

29 B. The form shall permit any individual, as follows, or member of his household, to furnish, in
30 addition to his residence street address, a post office box address located within the Commonwealth to be
31 included in lieu of his street address on the lists of registered voters and persons who voted, which are
32 furnished pursuant to §§ 24.2-405 and 24.2-406, on voter registration records made available for public
33 inspection pursuant to § 24.2-444, or on lists of absentee voter applicants furnished pursuant to § 24.2-
34 706 or 24.2-710. The voter shall comply with the provisions of § 24.2-424 for any change in the post
35 office box address provided under this subsection.

36 1. Any active or retired law-enforcement officer, as defined in § 9.1-101 and in 5 U.S.C. §
37 8331(20), but excluding officers whose duties relate to detention as defined in 5 U.S.C. § 8331(20);

38 2. Any party granted a protective order issued by or under the authority of any court of competent
39 jurisdiction, including but not limited to courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia;

40 3. Any party who has furnished a signed written statement by the party that he is in fear for his
41 personal safety from another person who has threatened or stalked him;

42 4. Any party participating in the address confidentiality program pursuant to § 2.2-515.2;

43 5. Any active or retired federal or Virginia justice, judge, or magistrate and any active or retired
44 attorney employed by the United States Attorney General or Virginia Attorney General; ~~and~~

45 6. Any person who has been approved to be a foster parent pursuant to Chapter 9 (§ 63.2-900 et
46 seq.) of Title 63.2;

47 7. Any current or former elector for President and Vice President of the United States; and

48 8. Any current or former election official or employee of an election official.

49 C. If the applicant formerly resided in another state, the general registrar shall send the information
50 contained in the applicant's registration application to the appropriate voter registration official or other
51 authority of another state where the applicant formerly resided, as prescribed in subdivision 15 of § 24.2-
52 114.

53 **§ 24.2-1000. Intimidation and threats toward electors and officers of election; penalties.**

54 A. Any person who, by bribery, intimidation, threats, coercion, or other means in violation of the
 55 election laws willfully and intentionally hinders or prevents, or attempts to hinder or prevent, the officers
 56 of an election at any polling place, voter satellite office, or other location being used by a locality for
 57 voting purposes from holding an election official or employee of an election official from administering
 58 elections pursuant to this title is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

59 B. Any person who, by bribery, intimidation, threats, coercion, or other means in violation of the
 60 election laws willfully and intentionally hinders or prevents, or attempts to hinder or prevent, an elector
 61 for President and Vice President of the United States from fulfilling his duty pursuant to § 24.2-203 and
 62 the Constitution and laws of the United States is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

63 C. Any person who, by threats to kill or to do bodily injury, willfully and intentionally intimidates,
 64 coerces, or harasses or attempts to intimidate, coerce, or harass another because of his current or former
 65 status as an elector for President and Vice President of the United States, an election official, or an
 66 employee of an election official is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

67 **§ 24.2-1020. Civil action for violations.**

68 Any person who was a victim of any conduct that constitutes a felony or misdemeanor in this title
 69 or Title 18.2 and establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that such conduct was directed at him
 70 because of his status as an elector for President and Vice President of the United States, election official,
 71 employee of an election official, election worker, or election volunteer shall be entitled to file a civil action
 72 to recover compensatory damages, including pain and suffering, punitive damages, and reasonable
 73 attorney fees and costs.

74 **2. That the provisions of this act may result in a net increase in periods of imprisonment or**
 75 **commitment. Pursuant to § 30-19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary**
 76 **appropriation is _____ for periods of imprisonment in state adult correctional facilities;**
 77 **therefore, Chapter 1 of the Acts of Assembly of 2023, Special Session I, requires the Virginia**
 78 **Criminal Sentencing Commission to assign a minimum fiscal impact of \$50,000. Pursuant to § 30-**
 79 **19.1:4 of the Code of Virginia, the estimated amount of the necessary appropriation is _____ for**
 80 **periods of commitment to the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice.**

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