A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration of voters, so as to provide for the automatic registration of voters who obtain, renew, or change their name or address on a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 6 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to registration of voters, is amended by revising Code Section 21-2-221, relating to driver's license or identification card application as application for voter registration, forms and procedure, and electronic transmission of applications and signatures, as follows:

"21-2-221.

(a) Prior to allowing any person to complete an application to obtain, renew, or change his or her name or address on a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 40, other than an application made pursuant to Code Section 40-5-21.1, the Department of Driver Services shall require such person to make a written statement under penalty of perjury of whether such person is a citizen of the United States, is serving a sentence for conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude, or has been found mentally incompetent by a judge. Each application to obtain, renew, or change the name or address on a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services pursuant to Chapter 5 of Title 40, other than an application made pursuant to Code Section 40-5-21.1, made by an applicant who is within six months of such applicant's eighteenth birthday or older, who is a citizen of the United States, who is not serving a sentence for conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude, and who has not been found mentally incompetent by a judge shall also serve as an
application for voter registration unless the applicant declines to register to vote through specific declination or by failing to sign the voter registration application.

(b) The commissioner of driver services and the Secretary of State shall agree upon and design such procedures and forms as will be necessary to comply with this Code section.

(c) The forms designed by the commissioner of driver services and the Secretary of State:

(1) Shall be a single application for purposes of obtaining, renewing, or changing the name or address on a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services and voter registration where the signature of the applicant on such application shall perform all required attestations for both purposes not require the applicant to duplicate any information required in the driver's license portion of the application with the exception of a second signature;

(2) Shall include such information as required on other voter registration cards issued by the Secretary of State;

(3) Shall contain a statement that states each eligibility requirement contained in Code Section 21-2-216, that contains an attestation that the applicant meets each such requirement, and that requires the signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury; and

(4) Shall include, in print that is identical to that used in the attestation, the penalties provided by law for submission of a false voter registration application and a statement that, if an applicant declines to register to vote, the fact that the applicant has declined to register will remain confidential and will be used only for voter registration purposes.

(d) Any change of address submitted to the Department of Driver Services for the purpose of changing the information contained on a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services shall serve as a notification of change of address for voter registration unless the registrant states that at the time of submitting the change of address that the change of address is not for voter registration purposes.

(e) An application completed pursuant to this Code section shall be a completed application for voter registration. The Department of Driver Services shall transmit the completed applications for voter registration to the Secretary of State at the conclusion of each business day. The Secretary of State shall forward the applications to the appropriate county board of registrars to determine the eligibility of the applicant and, if found eligible and if not already registered to vote, to add the applicant's name to the list of electors and to place the applicant in the correct precinct and voting districts.

(f) The Department of Driver Services shall maintain such statistical records on the number of registrations and declinations as requested by the Secretary of State.

(g) No information relating to the failure of an applicant for a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Driver Services to sign a voter registration application may be used for any purpose other than voter registration.
The Secretary of State and the commissioner of driver services shall have the authority
to promulgate rules and regulations to provide for the transmission of voter registration
applications and signatures electronically. Such electronically transmitted signatures shall
be valid as signatures on the voter registration application and shall be treated in all
respects as a manually written original signature and shall be recognized as such in any
matter concerning the voter registration application."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.