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SENATE BILL 678

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Linda M Lopez

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; REGULATING THIRD-PARTY REGISTRATION  
AGENTS; PROVIDING A PENALTY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of Chapter 1, Article 1 NMSA  
1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] REGISTRATION AGENT.--As used in the  
Election Code, "registration agent" means a state or federal  
employee who provides voter registration at a state agency or  
any other individual who assists another person in completion  
of a voter registration application."

Section 2. A new section of Chapter 1, Article 4 NMSA  
1978 is enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] THIRD-PARTY REGISTRATION AGENTS--  
REGISTRATION REQUIRED-- PROCEDURES-- REPORTS-- PENALTY.--

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1           A. Registration agents who either register or  
2 assist persons to register to vote on behalf of an organization  
3 that is not a state or federal agency shall register with the  
4 secretary of state and the organization shall provide the  
5 secretary of state with:

6                   (1) the name and permanent address of the  
7 organization;

8                   (2) the names, permanent addresses, temporary  
9 addresses, if any, dates of birth and social security numbers  
10 of each person registering persons to vote in the state on  
11 behalf of the organization; and

12                   (3) a sworn statement from each registration  
13 agent employed by or volunteering for the organization stating  
14 that the agent will obey all state laws and rules regarding the  
15 registration of voters on a form that gives notice of the  
16 criminal penalties for false registration.

17           B. Organizations employing registration agents or  
18 using volunteer registration agents shall deliver a certificate  
19 of registration to the secretary of state or county clerk  
20 within twenty-four hours of its completion by the person  
21 registering to vote or the next business day if the appropriate  
22 office is closed for that twenty-four-hour period.

23           C. The secretary of state may issue rules to ensure  
24 the integrity of the registration process, including rules  
25 requiring that organizations account for all registration forms

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1 used by their registration agents.

2 D. A person who violates the provisions of this  
3 section is guilty of a fourth degree felony."

4 Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
5 provisions of this act is July 1, 2005.

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