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SENATE BILL 13

52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2015

INTRODUCED BY

Jacob R. Candelaria

FOR THE LEGISLATIVE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO VOTER REGISTRATION; ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF
CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 4 NMSA 1978 TO PROVIDE FOR VOTER
REGISTRATION THROUGH THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE;
ENACTING A NEW SECTION OF THE NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE
EXCHANGE ACT TO REQUIRE VOTER REGISTRATION REPORTING TO THE
SECRETARY OF STATE.

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

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

"[NEW MATERIAL] NEW MEXICO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE--
VOTER REGISTRATION.--

A. A person who applies to enroll in or renew
enrollment in a qualified health plan shall be simultaneously
registered to vote:

.198158.1

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 (1) if the applicant or enrollee consents to
2 registration; and

3 (2) if the applicant or enrollee who
4 prospectively registers to vote is in fact qualified to
5 register to vote.

6 B. The chief executive officer of the exchange
7 shall identify employees or agents of the exchange that shall
8 be charged with administration of voter registration of
9 qualified health plan applicants and enrollees at sites at
10 which the exchange provides in-person assistance to applicants
11 for or enrollees in qualified health plans.

12 C. Any site at which the exchange provides in-
13 person assistance to applicants for or enrollees of qualified
14 health plans shall post signs visible to applicants and
15 enrollees stating "voter registration assistance available"
16 and:

17 (1) personnel in each office shall advise each
18 applicant and enrollee that initial voter registration or a
19 change of address for voter registration may be made
20 simultaneously by qualified electors with enrollment in or
21 renewal of a qualified health plan;

22 (2) voter registration shall be conducted in a
23 manner such that the prospective registrant completes the full
24 certificate of registration electronically; and

25 (3) the prospective registrant's digital

underscoring material = new
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1 signature shall be affixed to the certificate of registration
2 using an electronic signature in conformance with the
3 Electronic Authentication of Documents Act and the Uniform
4 Electronic Transactions Act.

5 D. An agent or employee of the exchange shall not
6 intentionally influence the prospective registrant in the
7 selection of political party, or independent status, by word or
8 act. An agent or employee of the exchange shall not reveal the
9 existence of or the nature of the voter registration to anyone
10 other than a registration officer.

11 E. A voter registration made or accepted at an
12 exchange in-person assistance site shall be transmitted to the
13 secretary of state and the appropriate registration officer
14 within seven calendar days.

15 F. The secretary of state shall work with the chief
16 executive officer of the exchange to:

17 (1) ensure compliance in the application of
18 the provisions of this section with the federal National Voter
19 Registration Act of 1993;

20 (2) ensure consistent implementation in the
21 various counties, based on county classification and developing
22 technology; and

23 (3) develop procedures to ensure that, once
24 voter registration information is transmitted to the
25 appropriate registration officer, the voter's certificate of

.198158.1

underscoring material = new
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1 registration is printed and placed in the county's register of
2 voters.

3 G. For the purposes of this section:

4 (1) "exchange" means the New Mexico health
5 insurance exchange established pursuant to the New Mexico
6 Health Insurance Exchange Act; and

7 (2) "qualified health plan" means health
8 insurance coverage offered through the exchange."

9 SECTION 2. A new section of the New Mexico Health
10 Insurance Exchange Act is enacted to read:

11 "[NEW MATERIAL] VOTER REGISTRATION--REPORTING.--The chief
12 executive officer of the exchange shall report annually the
13 following information to the secretary of state pursuant to the
14 chief executive officer's duties as provided in Section 1 of
15 this 2015 act:

16 A. the number of applicants or enrollees applying
17 to enroll or to renew enrollment in a qualified health plan who
18 have registered to vote in the preceding calendar year; and

19 B. the number of applicants or enrollees applying
20 to enroll or to renew enrollment in a qualified health plan who
21 have updated their voter registration with a change of address
22 during the preceding calendar year."