

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL 412

**55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; PERMITTING PERSONS SEVENTEEN YEARS OF  
AGE TO BE CONSIDERED VOTERS FOR STATEWIDE AND SPECIAL  
ELECTIONS.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1-4-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969,  
Chapter 240, Section 60, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-4-2. REGISTRATION OF QUALIFIED RESIDENTS--RIGHT TO  
VOTE IN PRIMARY.--

A. Any qualified resident of New Mexico shall be  
permitted within the provisions of the Election Code to submit  
a voter registration certificate in paper form, through the  
online voter registration portal provided by the secretary of  
state, electronically when conducting an in-person transaction  
at the motor vehicle division of the taxation and revenue

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1 department or as otherwise prescribed by the secretary of  
2 state. The certificate shall be processed by the county clerk  
3 in the same manner as for a qualified elector, but the  
4 qualified resident shall not become a voter nor be considered a  
5 voter except as provided by this section.

6 B. If a qualified resident submits a voter  
7 registration certificate in accordance with the provisions of  
8 Subsection A of this section and pursuant to the requirements  
9 of Section 1-4-8 NMSA 1978, the qualified resident shall:

10 (1) become a voter upon the qualified  
11 resident's eighteenth birthday; or

12 (2) be considered a voter for ~~[the purpose of~~  
13 ~~participation in a statewide or special election where the~~  
14 ~~qualified resident will turn eighteen on or before the day of~~  
15 ~~the statewide or special election; or~~

16 ~~(3) be considered a voter for the purpose of~~  
17 ~~participation in a political party primary election where the~~  
18 ~~qualified resident will turn eighteen on or before the day of~~  
19 ~~the general election immediately succeeding the primary~~  
20 ~~election] purposes of participation in any statewide or special~~  
21 ~~election occurring as of the qualified resident's seventeenth~~  
22 ~~birthday.~~

23 C. Any resident of New Mexico who may be a  
24 qualified elector upon the resident's eighteenth birthday, who  
25 obtains a license, permit or identification card from the motor

1 vehicle division of the taxation and revenue department and who  
2 has not submitted a voter registration certificate pursuant to  
3 Subsection A of this section shall be sent a notification by  
4 the secretary of state advising the resident of the  
5 requirements and opportunity to register to vote and a uniform  
6 resource locator for a web page where the resident may submit a  
7 voter registration certificate online. When applicable, a  
8 notification shall be sent to a resident described in this  
9 subsection within the sixty days following the resident's  
10 seventeenth birthday, when the resident obtained a license,  
11 permit or identification card from the motor vehicle division  
12 prior to the resident's seventeenth birthday and within thirty  
13 days prior to the resident's eighteenth birthday."

14 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
15 provisions of this act is January 1, 2022.

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