

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1139

To amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require individuals applying to register to vote in elections for Federal office to produce actual proof of citizenship and to permit States to require individuals to produce a photographic identification in order to vote in an election for Federal office.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. TAUZIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on House Oversight

A BILL

To amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require individuals applying to register to vote in elections for Federal office to produce actual proof of citizenship and to permit States to require individuals to produce a photographic identification in order to vote in an election for Federal office.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Ballot Security Act
5 of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING ACTUAL PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP FOR**
2 **INDIVIDUALS APPLYING TO REGISTER TO**
3 **VOTE.**

4 (a) REGISTRATION WITH MOTOR VEHICLE DRIVER'S
5 LICENSE APPLICATION.—Section 5(c) of the National
6 Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–3(c))
7 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
8 graph:

9 “(3) The voter registration portion of an application
10 for a State motor vehicle driver's license shall not be con-
11 sidered to be completed unless the applicant provides to
12 the appropriate State motor vehicle authority proof that
13 the applicant is a citizen of the United States.”.

14 (b) REGISTRATION WITH VOTER REGISTRATION
15 AGENCIES.—Section 7(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–
16 5(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new
17 paragraph:

18 “(8) A voter registration application received by a
19 voter registration agency shall not be considered to be
20 completed unless the applicant provides to the agency
21 proof that the applicant is a citizen of the United States.”.

22 (c) MAIL REGISTRATION.—Section 9(b) of such Act
23 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–7(b)) is amended—

24 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
25 (3);

1 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
 2 graph (4) and inserting “; and”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following new
 4 paragraph:

5 “(5) shall include a statement that the registra-
 6 tion shall not be accepted unless the applicant pro-
 7 vides proof that the applicant is a citizen of the
 8 United States.”.

9 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8(a)(5)(A)
 10 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–6(a)(5)(A)) is amended
 11 by striking the semicolon and inserting the following: “,
 12 including the requirement that the applicant provide proof
 13 of citizenship;”.

14 **SEC. 3. PERMITTING STATE TO REQUIRE VOTERS TO**
 15 **PRODUCE PHOTOGRAPHIC IDENTIFICATION.**

16 Section 8 of the National Voter Registration Act of
 17 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg–6) is amended—

18 (1) by redesignating subsection (j) as sub-
 19 section (k); and

20 (2) by inserting after subsection (i) the follow-
 21 ing new subsection:

22 “(i) PERMITTING STATES TO REQUIRE VOTERS TO
 23 PRODUCE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION.—A State may require
 24 an individual to produce a valid photographic identifica-

1 tion before receiving a ballot for voting in an election for
2 Federal office.”.

3 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

4 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with
5 respect to elections for Federal office occurring after De-
6 cember 1997.

