By Senator Clemens

27-00249-13 2013234

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to voter registration; amending s. 97.057, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to automatically register to vote or update a voter registration record of an eligible individual; requiring the department to notify the individual that certain information gathered for the completion of a driver license or identification card application, renewal, or change of address is automatically transferred to a voter registration application or used to update a voter registration record; requiring a driver license examiner to notify an applicant that, by applying for, renewing, or updating a driver license or identification card, the applicant is consenting to automatically register to vote or update his or her voter registration record; authorizing an applicant to revoke consent to automatically register to vote or update a voter registration record; requiring that an applicant who fails to designate party affiliation be registered without party affiliation; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 97.057, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

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(1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall automatically provide the opportunity to register to vote or to update a voter registration record of to each individual who comes to an office of that department to:

- (a) Apply for or renew a driver driver's license;
- (b) Apply for or renew an identification card pursuant to chapter 322; or
- (c) Change an address on an existing <u>driver driver's</u> license or identification card.
- (2) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall:
 - (a) Notify each individual, orally or in writing, that:
- 1. Information gathered for the completion of a <u>driver</u> driver's license or identification card application, renewal, or change of address <u>will can</u> be automatically transferred to a voter registration application;
- 2. If additional information and a signature are provided, the voter registration application will be completed and sent to the proper election authority;
- 3. Information provided $\underline{\text{will}}$ can also be used to update a voter registration record;
- 4. All declinations will remain confidential and may be used only for voter registration purposes; and
- 5. The particular driver license office in which the person applies to register to vote or updates a voter registration record will remain confidential and may be used only for voter registration purposes.
- (b) Require a <u>driver driver's</u> license examiner to <u>notify</u> inquire orally or, if the applicant is hearing impaired, <u>notify</u>

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inquire in writing that by applying for or renewing a driver license, by applying for or renewing an identification card pursuant to chapter 322, or by changing an address on an existing driver license or identification card, the qualified applicant is consenting to register to vote or to update his or her voter registration record. However, the applicant may revoke consent by notifying the driver license examiner, orally or in writing, that he or she chooses not to automatically register to vote or update his or her voter registration record. whether the applicant wishes to register to vote or update a voter registration record during the completion of a driver's license or identification card application, renewal, or change of address.

- 1. If the applicant <u>does not revoke consent to</u>
 <u>automatically chooses to register to vote or to update his or</u>
 her a voter registration record:
- a. All applicable information received by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in the course of filling out the forms necessary under subsection (1) must be transferred to a voter registration application.
- b. The additional necessary information must be obtained by the driver's license examiner and must not duplicate any information already obtained while completing the forms required under subsection (1).
- c. A voter registration application with all of the applicant's voter registration information required to establish the applicant's eligibility pursuant to s. 97.041 must be presented to the applicant to review and verify the voter registration information received and provide an electronic

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signature affirming the accuracy of the information provided.

- d. A qualified applicant who is automatically registered to vote under this section and who fails to designate party affiliation must be registered without party affiliation pursuant to s. 97.053(5)(b).
- 2. If the applicant revokes consent to automatically declines to register to vote or, update his or her the applicant's voter registration record, or change the applicant's address by either orally declining orally or in writing or by failing to sign the voter registration application, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles must note such declination on its records and shall forward the declination to the statewide voter registration system.
 - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.