Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1355 (2011)

Amendment No.

## CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House

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Representative Pafford offered the following:

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## Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove lines 508-615 and insert:

(3) A third-party voter registration organization shall turn in each voter registration application received from its authorized registration agents regardless of whether the third-party voter registration organization believes the voter registration application may be invalid or incomplete. If, when submitting a voter registration application, a third-party voter registration organization also submits information stating why the organization believes the application may be invalid or incomplete, the third-party voter registration organization shall be presumed to be in compliance with this section.

(1) Prior to engaging in any voter registration

activities, a third-party voter registration organization shall
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name a registered agent in the state and submit to the division, in a form adopted by the division, the name of the registered agent and the name of those individuals responsible for the day-to-day operation of the third-party voter registration organization, including, if applicable, the names of the entity's board of directors, president, vice president, managing partner, or such other individuals engaged in similar duties or functions. On or before the 15th day after the end of each calendar quarter, each third-party voter registration organization shall submit to the division a report providing the date and location of any organized voter registration drives conducted by the organization in the prior calendar quarter.

(2) The failure to submit the information required by subsection (1) does not subject the third-party voter registration organization to any civil or criminal penalties for such failure, and the failure to submit such information is not a basis for denying such third-party voter registration organization with copies of voter registration application forms.

(4) (a) (3) A third-party voter registration organization that collects voter registration applications serves as a fiduciary to the applicant, ensuring that any voter registration application entrusted to the third-party voter registration organization, irrespective of party affiliation, race, ethnicity, or gender, shall be promptly delivered to the division or the supervisor of elections within 48 hours after the applicant completes it or the next business day if the appropriate office is closed for that 48-hour period. If a voter 186541

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registration application collected by any third-party voter registration organization is not promptly delivered to the division or supervisor of elections, the third-party voter registration organization is shall be liable for the following fines:

1.(a) A fine in the amount of \$50 for each application received by the division or the supervisor of elections more than 48 hours 10 days after the applicant delivered the completed voter registration application to the third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf or the next business day, if the office is closed. A fine in the amount of \$250 for each application received if the third-party voter registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

2.(b) A fine in the amount of \$100 for each application collected by a third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, before prior to book closing for any given election for federal or state office and received by the division or the supervisor of elections after the book-closing book closing deadline for such election. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each application received if the third-party registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

3.(c) A fine in the amount of \$500 for each application collected by a third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, which is not submitted to the division or supervisor of elections. A fine in the amount of \$1,000 for any application not submitted if the 186541

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third-party <u>voter</u> registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

The aggregate fine pursuant to this <u>paragraph</u> subsection which may be assessed against a third-party voter registration organization, including affiliate organizations, for violations committed in a calendar year is <u>shall be</u> \$1,000.

- (b) A showing by the fines provided in this subsection shall be reduced by three-fourths in cases in which the third-party voter registration organization that the failure to deliver the voter registration application within the required timeframe is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance shall be an affirmative defense to a violation of this subsection has complied with subsection (1). The secretary may shall waive the fines described in this subsection upon a showing that the failure to deliver the voter registration application promptly is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance.
- (5) If the Secretary of State reasonably believes that a person has committed a violation of this section, the secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General for enforcement.

  The Attorney General may institute a civil action for a violation of this section or to prevent a violation of this section. An action for relief may include a permanent or temporary injunction, a restraining order, or any other appropriate order.
- $\underline{\text{(6)}}$  (4)(a) The division shall adopt by rule a form to elicit specific information concerning the facts and 186541

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circumstances from a person who claims to have been registered to vote by a third-party voter registration organization but who does not appear as an active voter on the voter registration rolls. The division shall also adopt rules to ensure the integrity of the registration process, including rules requiring third-party voter registration organizations to account for all state and federal registration forms used by their registration agents.

- (b) The division may investigate any violation of this section. Civil fines shall be assessed by the division and enforced through any appropriate legal proceedings.
- $\underline{(7)}$  The date on which an applicant signs a voter registration application is presumed to be the date on which the third-party voter registration organization received or collected the voter registration application.
- (8) (6) The civil fines provided in this section are in addition to any applicable criminal penalties.
- $\underline{(9)}$  Fines collected pursuant to this section shall be annually appropriated by the Legislature to the department for enforcement of this section and for voter education.
- $\underline{\text{(10)}}$  (8) The division may adopt rules to administer this section.

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Remove line 31 and insert:

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TITLE AMENDMENT

## HOUSE AMENDMENT

## Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1355 (2011)

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128	any other appropriate order; requiring submission of all voter
129	registration applications received by a third-party voter
130	registration organization; providing circumstances under which a
131	third-party voter registration organization shall be deemed to
132	be in compliance with the law when submitting voter registration
133	applications; requiring that the division