**RA 26-413**

# SECRETARY OF STATE[721]

**Regulatory Analysis**

Notice of Intended Action to be published: rules 721—28.5(47,48A) and 721—28.8(48A)
"Voter Registration File (I-Voters) Management"

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 17A and 48A
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code section 48A.25B

*Public Hearing*

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| December 15, 2026<br>11 a.m. to 12 noon | Microsoft Teams<br>Meeting ID: 251 763 739 310 173 8<br>Passcode: NQ7GV7PS |

*Public Comment*

Any interested person may submit written comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Secretary of State no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

Emma Larson
Office of the Secretary of State
Lucas State Office Building
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Email: emma.larson@sos.iowa.gov

*Purpose and Summary*

This proposed rulemaking provides the time frame for annual voter verification.

*Analysis of Impact*

1. **Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:**

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

There are no costs associated with the proposed rulemaking.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

The rulemaking does not create or alter benefits.

2. **Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:**

- **Quantitative description of impact:**

There is no economic impact of the proposed rulemaking.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

There is no qualitative impact of the proposed rulemaking.

3. **Costs to the State:**

- **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

There are no costs to the Secretary of State or any other agency.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

The rulemaking has no effect on State revenues.

4. **Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:**

There is no cost difference between rulemaking and inaction.

5. **Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:**

No less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist.

6. **Alternative methods considered by the agency:**

- **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

No alternative methods were considered.

- **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

No alternative methods were considered.

*Small Business Impact*

**If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:**

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.
- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.
- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.
- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

**If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?**

The proposed rulemaking does not have a substantial impact on small business.

*Text of Proposed Rulemaking*

ITEM 1. Rescind and reserve rule **721—28.5(47,48A)**.

ITEM 2. Adopt the following **new** rule 721—28.8(48A):

**721—28.8(48A) Verification of citizenship.**

**28.8(1)** For the purposes of this rule, registered voters shall include statuses of active, inactive, pending, incomplete, and unconfirmed.

**28.8(2)** The state commissioner shall verify the citizenship of registered voters no later than the fifteenth of February of each year as set forth in Iowa Code section 48A.25B as enacted by 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2218.

**28.8(3)** Within seven days of receiving from the state commissioner notification that a registrant has not been verified as a United States citizen, a county commissioner shall designate the records as unconfirmed.

**28.8(4)** Once a registration is designated as unconfirmed, the registrant must provide documentation to validate the registration within 90 days or the registration will be canceled.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 48A.25B as enacted by 2026 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2218.