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H.B. 49*
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House State and Local Government

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Greenspan

Abby McMahon, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Specifies that certain county-issued licenses qualify as photo identification for voting purposes.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Certain county-issued licenses as photo identification

The bill specifies that certain county-issued licenses qualify as photo identification for voting purposes. A county-issued identification that includes a person's name, current address, photograph, and expiration date qualifies as photo identification for voting purposes if, in order to obtain that identification, the county required proof of county residency and presentation of a birth certificate, passport, or Ohio driver's license or state identification card.

Under current Election Law, an elector who votes in person on Election Day is required to provide proof of identity by showing a current and valid photo identification (must be issued by Ohio or the U.S. government), a military identification, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that includes the name and current address of the elector. A county-issued license does not currently qualify as photo identification because it is issued by a county, and not by the state or federal government. However, photo identification is not required for proof of identity for voting purposes if one of the other acceptable types of identification is provided. Therefore, under current law, a county-issued license that includes the name and current address of the elector qualifies as "other government document" to prove identity because it is issued by a county.¹

* This analysis was prepared before the report of the House State and Local Government Committee appeared in the House Journal. Note that the legislative history may be incomplete.

¹ R.C. 3501.01(AA)(5); R.C. 3505.18, not in the bill.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	02-12-19
Reported, H. State & Local Gov't	---
