

## **HB4 Analysis**

- HB4 introduces Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) through 3rd Party MVD and other State Agencies. This allows these agencies and additional 3rd parties to access and update the voter rolls.
- Under HB4, individuals are automatically registered to vote unless they opt out, even if they inform the MVD or other agencies that they do not wish to be registered. This could pose challenges for individuals with specific religious beliefs that prohibit participating in the voting process. It may also burden individuals with conditions such as dementia, Alzheimer's, or other mentally debilitating diseases, as they are required to take extra steps to remove themselves from the voter rolls.
- The bill grants voting rights and the ability to register to vote to inmates upon release, irrespective of whether they have completed their sentences.
- HB4 removes the requirement to cancel a voter's registration upon felony conviction, allowing felons to vote.
- The bill establishes a voluntary permanent absentee voter list, which will add to the workload of county clerks. Maintaining and updating this list could pose challenges, particularly as voter verification procedures have not been updated and absentee ballot verification was suspended by the Secretary of State during the 2022 general election. This provision could also be seen as a step towards mail-in voting only.
- HB4 mandates the presence of permanent drop boxes in each county, potentially infringing on county autonomy and violating constitutional principles.
- The bill allows individuals to register public buildings as their place of residence for voting purposes. This could render election canvassing difficult, impacting the verifiability of elections.
- The legislation expands the definition of individuals authorized to return an absentee ballot.
- HB4 designates the day of the general election and regular local election as a school holiday, without providing appropriations for staff holiday pay. This places an additional burden on school districts, as they will be required to pay staff and make up for the lost time in the school calendar.

Please note: It is important to review the actual text of the bill (available at the provided link) for a comprehensive understanding and to ensure accuracy in discussing its contents.

