AVR in Illinois

A bipartisan solution
Elections in Illinois

- Independent, bipartisan Board of Election
  - Online registration
- DMV under the Secretary of State
- Agencies under the Governor
- 109 local election authorities
  - Early and grace period voting
  - Election day registration

Illinois is a bottom-up state for elections.
Automatic Voter Registration passes.

- Senate 42–16 (4 R in favor)
- House 86–30 (17 R in favor)
- Senate concurrence 50–7

Opposition in debate focused on data privacy and citizenship concerns.

The Governor vetoed and was sustained.
COUNTERPROPOSAL

In Nov 2016 a bill is filed to address the veto.

- Limit DMV registrations to those with REAL ID
- Separate agencies based on access to citizenship information
- Provide for opt out at the point of contact
- Define a process to identify qualified agencies
- Use a realistic implementation date

This becomes the basis for 2017 negotiations.
OPT OUT vs OPT IN

If an application meets REAL ID
- Register to vote
- Change name or address
- Signature doubles for attestation
- Check to opt out

If an application does not meet REAL ID
- Register to vote
- Change name or address
- Separate signature for attestation
- Acts as opt in
Agencies that collect citizenship information act as opt out, otherwise opt in.

- Human Services
- Employment Security
- Financial and Professional Regulation
- Natural Resources
- Others as qualified

- Interagency agreement with Board of Election
- Incomplete applications stay at agency
DATA TRANSMISSION

Board of Elections is required to create a portal for automatic registration.

- Compatible with online registration
- Establish rules for technical specifications
- Redact confidential information: SSN, DL, opt out choice, ordered info by legal authority
- Transmit application to local authority
IMPLEMENTATION

The Board of Elections will hold a public hearing within six months and submit an annual report.

AVR with the Secretary of State will be implemented by July 1, 2018.

- Other agencies by July 1, 2019

AVR passes unanimously in both chambers