SB174

JG42YYN-1

By Senators Coleman-Madison, Stewart, Beasley, Coleman, Singleton, Smitherman

RFD: Judiciary

First Read: 29-Feb-24

SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, an individual who has lost his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state or federal court may have his or her right to vote restored if he or she meets certain requirements.

This bill would require notification to an individual who has lost his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state, federal, or foreign court and has had his or her right to vote restored.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to voting; to add Section 17-3-31.1 to the Code of Alabama 1975, to require notification to an individual who has lost his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state, federal, or foreign court and has had his or her right to vote restored.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 17-3-31.1 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

§17-3-31.1

(a) No later than September 1, 2025, the Board of Pardons and Paroles and the Secretary of State shall jointly develop and make available on each agency's website a form with instructions for any individual who met one of the criteria set forth in Section 15-22-36.1(a)(4) prior to October 1, 2024, to submit to the Board of Pardons and Paroles for review pursuant to the requirements set forth in Section 15-22-36.1(c).

(b) The Board of Pardons and Paroles shall post on the board's website the name of each individual whose right to vote has been restored pursuant to Section 15-22-36.1 and the county in which the individual was last registered to vote or the county of the individual's last known residence for any individual who has never registered to vote prior to losing his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state, federal, or foreign court.

(c)(1) The Board of Pardons and Paroles shall provide the Secretary of State with an individual's address and the date upon which the board restored the right to vote to an individual who has lost his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state, federal, or foreign court.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), if an individual who has had his or her right to vote restored pursuant to Section 15-22-36.1 does not have a known address, the Board of Pardons and Paroles shall notify the Secretary of State that the individual's address is unknown.

(d) Upon receipt of information provided by the Board of Pardons and Paroles pursuant to subsection (c), the

Secretary of State shall notify the individual and the board of registrars of the county in which the individual resides of the date upon which the board restored his or her right to vote.

(e) The board of registrars of the county in which the individual resides shall add the individual's name to the poll list and notify the individual of the date that he or she is eligible to vote. This subsection does not apply to any individual who has had his or her right to vote restored but has never registered to vote prior to losing his or her right to vote by reason of conviction in a state, federal, or foreign court.

Section 2. This act shall become effective on October 1, 2024.