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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
ELECTIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS**  
Senator Scott Wiener, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular

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<b>Bill No:</b>	SB 1310	<b>Hearing Date:</b>	4/7/26
<b>Author:</b>	Choi		
<b>Version:</b>	3/26/26		
<b>Urgency:</b>	No	<b>Fiscal:</b>	Yes
<b>Consultant:</b>	Carrie Cornwell		

**Subject:** Voter registration: prospective jurors

**DIGEST**

This bill requires a jury commissioner, who receives information from a perspective juror indicating that the juror is ineligible for jury duty for a reason that would also make them ineligible to vote, to share this information with state and local election officials so that the person can be removed from the voter rolls.

**ANALYSIS**

Existing law:

- 1) Entitles a person to register to vote if that person is a United States citizen, a resident of California, not in prison for the conviction of a felony, not found mentally incompetent to vote by a court, and at least 18 years of age at the time of the next election.
- 2) Prescribes processes to maintain the voter rolls, through which election officials receive death notices from the Department of Public Health, conservatorship information from the superior courts, incarceration information from the state prisons, and change of address information from the United States Postal Service, their own mailings, and credit reporting agencies.
- 3) Makes any person ineligible to serve as a trial juror if the person:
  - a) Is not citizen of the United States.
  - b) Is less than 18 years of age.
  - c) Does not have a domicile in the State of California.
  - d) Is not a resident of the jurisdiction wherein they are summoned to serve.
  - e) Has been convicted of malfeasance in office and whose civil rights have not been restored.
  - f) Is not possessed of sufficient knowledge of the English language.
  - g) Is serving as a grand or trial juror in any court of this state.
  - h) Is the subject of a conservatorship.
  - i) Is incarcerated in any prison or jail.
  - j) Has been convicted of a felony and is currently on parole, probation, or mandated supervision for the conviction of a felony.

- k) Is currently required to register as a sex offender pursuant to Section 290 of the Penal Code based on a felony conviction.
- 4) Allows a jury commissioner to require a person to complete a questionnaire that asks questions related to, among other things, juror qualification, and permits this questionnaire to be used solely for qualifying prospective jurors and for management of the jury system.

This bill:

- 1) Requires a jury commissioner to provide notice to the Secretary of State (SOS) and the county elections official if the jury commissioner receives information on a juror affidavit attesting under penalty of perjury that the prospective juror is not qualified for jury service for a reason that would make them ineligible to vote.
- 2) Requires an elections official who receives the information in 1) to determine if the person is ineligible to vote and, if so, to invalidate the person's voter registration. The elections official must send a notice to the voter to confirm their eligibility to vote. If the voter does not respond to this notice within 15 days, then the elections official cancels the person's voter registration.
- 3) Requires an elections official to update the prospective juror's voter registration with their current address, when the elections official receives information from a jury commissioner indicating that a prospective juror's current residence address is in another California county.

### **COMMENTS**

- 1) **Author's Statement.** Free and fair elections depend on accurate and reliable voter registration rolls. Currently, information provided during jury eligibility screening, often given under penalty of perjury, is not consistently shared with election officials even when it indicates a person may be ineligible to vote. This bill establishes a commonsense process to ensure that relevant information from jury records can be used to help keep voter rolls up to date. By improving coordination between courts, the Secretary of State, and election officials, this bill strengthens the integrity and public trust in California's elections. This bill uses existing information more effectively while maintaining appropriate safeguards.
- 2) **Voter Roll Maintenance.** On a regular basis, the SOS performs voter file maintenance. It receives monthly files from the California Department of Public Health of death notices, from the courts of conservatorships, and from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) of incarcerations. In each of these cases, voters are provided a notice that their registration will be canceled in 15 days, unless the voter contacts their county registrar of voters with information showing that the death notice, conservatorship notice, or incarceration notice is incorrect. CDCR also informs the SOS of individuals released from incarceration and then the county registrars reach out to those individuals to let them know they are eligible to register to vote again. For changes of address, the SOS each month provides a copy of the entire California voter file to the California Employment Development Department (EDD), who compares it to information it receives from the

United States Postal Service called the National Change of Address (NCOA) list. The EDD sends the SOS a file showing matches between the voter file and the NCOA list. SOS shares these with the relevant county election officials. County election officials follow up directly with the voters who have changed addresses. For voters that have moved to a new address in California, county election officials update these voter registrations to the new addresses. For voters that have moved out of state, election officials begin the process of cancelling their voter registrations.

- 3) Jury Commissioner Duties. Jury commissioners, typically using some sort of software based jury management system, select a pool of potential jurors to report to court for a given time period, vet those potential jurors through a questionnaire, and then provide potential jurors to individual courts so that they may conduct trials. The job of a jury commissioner is focused solely on the administration of justice. Election officials are, among other duties, charged with maintaining voter rolls and collect information from various sources to do so, as described above. This bill makes the jury commissioner an additional source of information for election officials, but in doing so, this bill would put costs, duties, and burdens on the jury commissioner.
- 4) Support if Amended. The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) supports this bill if it is amended to include a 15-day timeframe for a voter to respond to a notice before the elections official cancels the voter registration. CACEO states it supports this legislation “because it improves information sharing that will facilitate updated voter files.” CACEO appreciates the bill’s aim to prevent ineligible voters from casting ballots but makes its support conditional on the addition of a timeframe. The author made this amendment to the bill on March 26th.
- 5) Arguments in Opposition. Opponents express concern that the information collected by jury commissioners does not correspond well to the eligibility to vote. As an example, Disability Rights California notes that conservatorship is always a basis for disqualification from jury service, but only a disqualification from voting when the judge in the conservatorship case finds that the conservatorship should result in a loss of voting for specified reasons. Opponents further note that sometimes individuals wishing to be excused from jury service may not answer truthfully in their juror questionnaire, which could under this bill result in a suspended voter registration. Finally, due to time lags, someone in the naturalization process could indicate that they are not a citizen but then have their voter registration suspended after they became a citizen.
- 6) Double Referral. Should this bill pass this committee, it will next be heard in the Committee on Judiciary.

### **RELATED/PRIOR LEGISLATION**

SB 511 (Bates) of 2021, a similar bill, would have required each jury commissioner every six months to share information about potential jurors with their county elections official, who would use information received to cancel voter registrations where appropriate. This bill was set for hearing in this committee but never heard at the request of the author.

**POSITIONS**

**Sponsor:** County of Orange

**Support:** None received

**Oppose:** ACLU California Action  
Disability Rights California  
League of Women Voters of California

**-- END --**