

SB 4 Same Day Voter Registration Background and Arguments for Support/Opposition

As of November 2024, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 23 states plus Washington, D.C. allow same-day voter registration. In 2023, the Administration established that individuals who newly obtain a Commonwealth-issued driver's license or state identification card will automatically be registered to vote.

Supportive Arguments

- Many people become interested in elections the last few weeks prior to Election Day, but voter registration deadlines typically have passed at that point.
- Ensures that eligible Pennsylvanians have every opportunity to exercise their right to vote in a convenient manner.
- Increases voter turnout.

Opposition Arguments

- The significant challenge of rapidly verifying a voter's eligibility and that the elector has not already cast a ballot elsewhere.
- Places substantial burdens on local election officials and polling places, including on the limited volunteers and increased wait times for electors as the new registrations are being processed.
- Creating delays in vote tabulations and election results.