



Jon Husted Ohio Secretary of State

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ADVISORY 2016-04

August 31, 2016

To: All County Board of Elections
Directors, Deputy Directors and Board Members

Re: Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc. (ERIC)

SUMMARY

As part of my continued work to improve the accuracy of the state's voter rolls and encourage eligible Ohioans to register to vote, Ohio has become a member state of the Electronic Registration Information Center, Inc. (ERIC). ERIC is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that assists member-states with improving the accuracy of their voter rolls and strives to increase access to voter registration for all eligible citizens.¹

BACKGROUND

Member-states, like Ohio, provide ERIC with data from the Statewide Voter Registration (SWVRD) and Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV) databases. ERIC compares information in the databases to identify eligible Ohioans who do not appear in the SWVRD. Pursuant to the terms of the membership agreement with ERIC,² the Ohio Secretary of State's Office must adhere to a rigorous set of security and personal data protection protocols to anonymize and render illegible all confidential and personally identifiable information prior to the data being securely transmitted to ERIC.³

As a member-state, Ohio will send information on how to register to vote, via U.S. Mail, to those individuals who do not appear in the SWVRD and have been identified by ERIC as being eligible, but not registered to vote in Ohio. These individuals will be directed to visit MyOhioVote.com/register.html to complete and print a voter registration form or, for those individuals without access to the internet, to contact the Secretary of State's office via a toll-free number.

Information shared by member-states' voter registration and motor vehicles databases are also compiled by ERIC to provide data related to registered voters who appear to be registered in more than one county in the state or registered in another state. These individuals will be notified by mail and requested to update his or her information accordingly.

¹ For additional information on ERIC, go to <http://www.ericstates.org/>.

² http://www.ericstates.org/images/documents/ERIC_Membership_Summary_v1.0.pdf.

³ http://www.ericstates.org/images/documents/ERIC_Tech_and_Security_Brief_v2.1.pdf.

INSTRUCTIONS

As a result of the ERIC mailing to individuals eligible but unregistered within the state, boards of elections may see an increase in voter registration activity that must be timely processed.⁴ Voter registration forms completed in response to this mailing will be sent to the Ohio Secretary of State's Office for tracking purposes and disseminated to each board of elections upon receipt.

Please direct any questions concerning this Advisory to the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,



Jon Husted

⁴ *I.e.*, within "... twenty business days after receiving the application, unless that application is received during the thirty days immediately preceding the day of an election." R.C. 3503.19(C)(1). [See also, Ohio Election Official Manual, Chapter 3.](#)