



2026 South Dakota Legislature  
**Senate Bill 31**  
**ENROLLED**

AN ACT

**ENTITLED An Act to permit the use of a confirmation letter to verify a voter's registration.**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

**Section 1. That § 12-4-19.1 be AMENDED:**

**12-4-19.1.** If the acknowledgement notice sent pursuant to § 12-4-5.3 is returned to the county auditor as undeliverable, the auditor must send a confirmation mailing letter or postcard that:

- (1) States the voter's registration may be canceled if the letter or postcard is not returned;
- (2) Lists the voter's information, as it appears in the master registration file; and
- (3) Provides the following instructions:
  - (a) If the information on the letter or card is correct, the voter must sign and return the letter or card within thirty days of the date of the postmark on the letter or card, or the voter's registration will become inactive;
  - (b) If the information on the letter or card is not correct, the voter must send the correct information to update the voter's registration, within thirty days of the date of the postmark on the letter or card, or the voter's registration will become inactive; and
  - (c) If the letter or card is returned indicating a new address in another county in South Dakota or another state, the card serves as a cancellation authorization.

**Section 2. That § 12-4-19.2 be AMENDED:**

**12-4-19.2.** The county auditor must move the voter to an inactive registration file if:

- (1) The voter does not return the confirmation mailing by the deadline stated on the mailing; or
- (2) The confirmation mailing is returned to the auditor as undeliverable.

**Section 3. That § 12-4-19.7 be AMENDED:**

**12-4-19.7.** If the address verification request sent pursuant to § 12-4-19 is returned to the county auditor as undeliverable, the auditor must send a voter registration list maintenance confirmation mailing letter or postcard that:

- (1) States the voter's registration may be canceled if the letter or postcard is not returned;
- (2) Lists the voter's information, as it appears in the master registration file; and
- (3) Provides the following instructions:
  - (a) If the information on the letter or card is correct, the voter must sign and return the letter or card by the voter registration deadline of the primary election or the voter's registration will become inactive;
  - (b) If the information on the letter or card is not correct, the voter must send the correct information to update the voter's registration by the voter registration deadline of the primary election or the voter's registration will become inactive; and
  - (c) If the card is returned indicating a new address in another county in South Dakota or another state, the card serves as a cancellation authorization.

**Section 4.** This Act is effective beginning December 1, 2026.

An Act to permit the use of a confirmation letter to verify a voter's registration.

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I certify that the attached Act originated in the:

Received at this Executive Office this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,

Senate as Bill No. 31

2026 at \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

By \_\_\_\_\_  
for the Governor

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

The attached Act is hereby approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, A.D., 2026

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

**STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,**

ss.

Office of the Secretary of State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

Attest:

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 2026  
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

Senate Bill No. 31  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Secretary of State