



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2010

SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

HB 123 (Trujillo) / SB 161 (Sapien)

What Same Day Registration (SDR) for Early Voting does

- An unregistered voter can register and vote at any early voting location or at the county clerks offices.
- Previously registered voters can update their registration information, such as recording a new address, during early voting.
- However, registered voters may not change their party designation during early voting for a Primary election.
- An SDR registrant must present physical ID: either a current and valid government issued photo ID (address need not match) or a current bill/statement with address that must match registration address.

County Clerks fully support this bill, which has been crafted the bill to address their concerns:

- Same Day Registration will be allowed only at Early Voting sites, which have real time, online access to the centralized statewide electronic voter file that can be updated immediately
- This helps the clerks to clean up their registration rolls, incorporating address and other changes (currently many voters are registered in, and vote in, precincts where they no longer reside), and also
- Increases registration security, providing an alternative to 3rd party registration over which the clerks have much less control

Why Same Day Registration?

- SDR will enable more qualified citizens, especially the young, the elderly and minorities and those who move frequently, to cast their ballots.
- Much of the general public does not start paying attention to elections until the last two to four weeks, when it's already too late to register. (Registration currently closes 28 days prior to the election.)
- In 2008, NM was ranked 38th in voter turnout among the voting eligible population (behind many other western states with 69.9% turnout for the presidential race.) In 2008, turnout in states with Same Day Registration averaged 7% higher than other states.
- Nine states currently have Same Day Registration: Maine, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Idaho, Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, Wyoming and North Carolina.

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