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Voter bill passes legislature

By Mike McNamara

A move which promises to have important implications for politics in Massachusetts has been made by the Legislature last week with the passage of a bill establishing uniform standards for voter registration by local election boards in the state. The Uniform Voter Registration Bill, House Bill No. 7752, is currently on the desk of Governor John Volpe. It is expected to be signed into law this week (See The Tech, Nov 4).

The bill, according to its sponsor, Rep. John Businger, D-Brookline, "sets up a uniform affidavit which a prospective voter has to sign in order to register. This affidavit, Businger said, will be the only requirement for registration; The election commissioner will not be allowed to ask any questions about the future intentions, as many of them do now," Businger said.

"It's a common sense thing why should a person be penalized for being honest and admitting that he doesn't know what he'll be doing five or ten years from now?" We knocked out the whole domicile question at one swoop.

The bill amends the current structure of voter registration by establishing an affidavit which asks the prospective voter to give his name, address, last previous addresses, date of birth, citizenship, and occupation. The affidavit is signed "under the pains and penalties of perjury." If the registrant feels that the information on the affidavit is incomplete or false, they must notify the registrar and give him a "reasonable opportunity to remedy the defects." Only after such an opportunity has been granted can the registrar refuse to register the person, if they feel that the information given is still not complete or true.

Businger said that he was "very happy to have the bill be successful after all this work." The bill is expected to be signed into law this week (See The Tech, Nov 4).

Report studies attitudes of potential MIT students

By Barb Moore

In order for the transportation sector to curb energy usage, there must be a great decrease in the use of motor fuel. A major reason for this decrease is the increased production of new automobiles. As this sector continues to grow, the impact of increased energy consumption will be significant.

The report, "Urban transportation systems need 'dramatic change','" was written by Barb Moore and was published in the journal "Transportation Research." It focuses on the potential benefits of alternative transport modes such as public transit and carpooling.

The report states that the transportation sector is responsible for more than half of all energy consumption in the United States. It highlights the need for significant changes in transportation policies to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

The report argues that alternative transportation modes, such as public transit and carpooling, could significantly reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. It suggests that these modes should be promoted as viable alternatives to automobile usage.

The report also notes that a shift from personal automobile usage to alternative modes of transportation could have significant benefits for the environment and public health.

The report concludes with recommendations for implementing alternative transportation modes, including public transit, carpooling, and other transportation options. It suggests that these measures could have a significant impact on reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.