

**Alcorn, James (SBE)**

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**From:** Embarq Customer [topengineer@embarqmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 09, 2009 11:24 PM  
**To:** Alcorn, James (SBE)  
**Cc:** floyd artrip  
**Subject:** Suggestion regarding the Residency Task Force Recommendations

Mr. Alcorn,

I had planned to attend the meeting in Richmond tomorrow but we have an illness in the family which may prevent this. I am writing this in case I can't attend. If I am not in attendance would it be possible to read this proposal to the attendees.

The problem which many have attempted to address is the possible voting by people who are not residence of the Commonwealth and a local area. These voters are inspired by organizations such as Acorn and [www.countmore.org](http://www.countmore.org) whose purpose is to elect one or more candidates by subverting the will of the citizens.

I don't think that any of us want to deny a citizen of the right to vote, nor should we stand by while unqualified people vote in our local and national elections. Virginia is currently a purple state meaning that a small group of aligned voters can determine the outcome of our elections as happened in 2008. Attempts to solve this problem in the 2008 election such as to limiting registering students by asking whether they had an out-of-state license or auto registration were blocked by the Kaine administration.

I debated this issue with Rick Sincere in Charlottesville before the election. He pointed out the core problem during this discussion on WINA Radio. Our commonwealth has 6 or 7 different definitions of residence depending on the agency using it. For example, the State Council for Higher Education has a very restrictive definition which is used to determine the in-state or out-of-state tuition status of a student. I guarantee you that every student in college in Virginia know their status on this question. The legal definition of domicile states that a person can have only one domicile. There is no possibility of a different domicile for different usages such as in-state tuition status vs voting.

Realizing this, the solution to the problem is to have a single common definition of residency for all applications from voting to paying automobile property taxes based on the Constitutional requirements of domicile and abode. When an individual successfully applies for residency, their name would be added to the master list of citizens of Virginia. This list would be distributed to all state and local governmental agencies and used for all applications where residency is an issue. Rather than looking at whether the person has a Virginia driver's license to determine residency, this list could be used by the police to enforce the current rules for changing your driver's license when moving into the state. The same would go for local commissioners of revenue to collect local property taxes.

This registration would not be specifically for any use (such as for voting) but would be a general list for all uses for by agencies. A person would not apply for registration to vote, they would apply for citizenship in the Commonwealth and the local municipality where they reside.

This approach would eliminate all the complaints by local municipalities about people who vote but don't participate in civic duties or pay taxes which are rightfully required based on the current

Virginia and local municipalities. Regarding students moving into the state to qualify for in-state tuition, the current rules require a 12 month waiting period before they are eligible. This may need to be changed to residing here 12 months (or 24 months) while gainfully employed such as is the requirement of other states.

Thank you for your consideration.

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