

STATE OF NEW YORK

5526

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 6, 2017

Introduced by Sen. AVELLA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to authorizing early voting

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Article 8 of the election law is amended by adding a new
2 title 6 to read as follows:

TITLE VI

EARLY VOTING

Section 8-600. Early voting procedures.

6 8-602. State board of elections; powers and duties of.

7 8-604. Registration and enrollment.

8 § 8-600. Early voting procedures. 1. For fourteen consecutive days
9 starting no earlier than twenty days prior and ending no later than the
10 Thursday preceding the date of every primary, general and special
11 election, a person may vote for a candidate for public office in a
12 primary or general election, and such early voting practice may take
13 place at such person's designated polling place or as designated by and
14 through a county board of elections under the powers granted pursuant to
15 this section on or before the effective date of this section.

16 2. Each county board of elections shall establish permanent polling
17 places for early voting and shall provide at least two polling places in
18 each of the one hundred fifty assembly districts and such that no voter
19 shall have to travel more than forty miles to reach such polling place.
20 Early voting shall be made available each day during such period.

21 3. Each polling place shall be open to the public for early voting
22 from 7 A.M. until 8 P.M. on any business day and from 7 A.M. until 8
23 P.M. on any Saturday, Sunday or holiday during such early voting period.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 § 8-602. State board of elections; powers and duties of. Any rule or
2 regulation necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this
3 title shall be promulgated by the state board of elections.

4 § 8-604. Registration and enrollment. 1. Notwithstanding any law,
5 rule, or regulation to the contrary, an eligible voter may register or
6 change his or her party enrollment at any polling place located in the
7 assembly district in which the eligible voter seeks to vote at any time
8 during the operating hours of such early polling place no later than the
9 tenth day before the election.

10 2. Any voter registered or enrolled pursuant to this section shall be
11 permitted to vote immediately.

12 § 2. Section 4-117 of the election law is amended by adding a new
13 subdivision 1-a to read as follows:

14 1-a. The notice required by subdivision one of this section shall
15 include the dates, hours and locations of early voting for the general
16 and primary elections.

17 § 3. Subdivision 1 of section 8-102 of the election law is amended by
18 adding a new paragraph (k) to read as follows:

19 (k) Voting at each polling place for early voting shall be conducted
20 in a manner consistent with the provisions of this article, with the
21 exception of the tabulation and proclamation of election results.

22 § 4. Section 8-104 of the election law is amended by adding a new
23 subdivision 7 to read as follows:

24 7. This section shall apply on all early voting days as provided for
25 in section 8-600 of this article.

26 § 5. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 8-508 of the election
27 law, as amended by chapter 200 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read
28 as follows:

29 (b) The second section of such report shall be reserved for the board
30 of inspectors to enter the name, address and registration serial number
31 of each person who is challenged on the day of election or any day in
32 which there is early voting pursuant to section 8-600 of this article,
33 together with the reason for the challenge. If no voters are chal-
34 lenged, the board of inspectors shall enter the words "No Challenges"
35 across the space reserved for such names. In lieu of preparing section
36 two of the challenge report, the board of elections may provide, next to
37 the name of each voter on the computer generated registration list, a
38 place for the inspectors of election to record the information required
39 to be entered in such section two, or provide at the end of such comput-
40 er generated registration list, a place for the inspectors of election
41 to enter such information.

42 § 6. This act shall take effect immediately.