

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6395

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

April 26, 2021

Introduced by Sen. COMRIE -- 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 providing an online absentee ballot tracking system

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

1 Section 1. The election law is amended by adding a new section 8-414  
2 to read as follows:

3 § 8-414. Online absentee ballot tracking system. 1. The state board of  
4 elections shall establish and maintain an electronic absentee ballot  
5 tracking system. In accordance with technical specifications provided by  
6 the state board of elections, each local board of elections shall main-  
7 tain an absentee ballot tracking system integrated with the state  
8 board's system to allow a voter who has submitted an application for an  
9 absentee ballot to track the status of an absentee application and an  
10 absentee ballot on the state board or local board website.

11 2. Such website shall not require users to create an account but shall  
12 require verification that the user is accessing his or her own record  
13 through the inclusion of data identifying the voter and the board of  
14 elections at which the voter is registered, and any other information  
15 required by the state board of elections.

16 3. The ballot tracking system shall indicate to the voter if the  
17 board:

18 (a) received such voter's application for an absentee ballot;

19 (b) approved or rejected such application and, if rejected, an indi-  
20 cation of the reason for such rejection;

21 (c) mailed or delivered an absentee ballot to such voter, the date of  
22 such mailing or delivery, and the expected date of receipt;

23 (d) received the ballot back as undeliverable;

24 (e) received such voter's completed absentee ballot;

25 (f) determined the ballot envelope was subject to a cure; and

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

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1 (g) counted or rejected such voter's completed absentee ballot and, if  
2 rejected, a brief statement of the reason for rejection.

3 § 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022. Effective immediate-  
4 ly, the state board of elections shall be authorized to promulgate any  
5 rules or regulations required to carry out the provisions of this act  
6 prior to such effective date.