STATE OF NEW YORK

1195

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 8, 2025

Introduced by Sens. ADDABBO, GOUNARDES, PALUMBO -- 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 ballots that contain the name of a candidate who previously withdrew from an election

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

Section 1. Paragraph s and t of subdivision 1 of section 7-202 of the election law, as added by chapter 181 of the laws of 2005, are amended and a new paragraph u is added to read as follows:

s. permit alternative language accessibility pursuant to the requirements of section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1973aa-1a) such that it must have the capacity to display the full ballot in the alternative languages required by the federal Voting Rights Act if such voting machine or system is to be used where such alternative languages are required or where the local board deems such feature necessary; [~~and~~]

t. not include any device or functionality potentially capable of externally transmitting or receiving data via the internet or via radio waves or via other wireless means[~~.~~]*; and*

u. for elections held on or after January first, two thousand twenty-seven, reject any ballot cast by a voter which contains a vote for a candidate that withdrew such candidate's name as a candidate for election prior to such election and whose name appears on the ballot. Upon rejection of such ballot, the voting machine shall provide notice to the voter that the ballot has been rejected. Such notice shall also state the name of the person who is not longer a candidate and a statement that the voter must complete a new ballot. The state board of elections is authorized to promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this paragraph.

§ 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2027. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.

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

LBD03000-01-5