

1872--B

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 9, 2009

Introduced by Sens. KLEIN, BRESLIN, DIAZ, DILAN, ESPADA, HASSELL-THOMPSON, HUNTLEY, KRUEGER, MONTGOMERY, OPPENHEIMER, SAMPSON, STAVISKY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to voter registration and enrollment

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Section 5-211 of the election law is amended by adding a
2 new subdivision 18 to read as follows:
3 18. ALL COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS LOCATED IN
4 THIS STATE SHALL MAKE VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS AVAILABLE TO ANY ELIGIBLE
5 PERSONS USING OR VISITING THEIR PREMISES IN THE SAME MANNER AND SUBJECT
6 TO THE SAME PROVISIONS AND RULES AND REGULATIONS AS ALL OTHER DESIGNATED
7 AGENCIES.
8 S 2. The opening paragraph of section 5-211 of the election law, as
9 amended by chapter 200 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as
10 follows:
11 Each agency designated as a participating agency under the provisions
12 of this section OR COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, shall
13 implement and administer a program of distribution of voter registration
14 forms pursuant to the provisions of this section. The following offices
15 which provide public assistance and/or provide state funded programs
16 primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities are
17 hereby designated as voter registration agencies: designated as the
18 state agencies which provide public assistance are the department of
19 social services and the department of health. Also designated as public
20 assistance agencies are all agencies of local government that provide

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

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1 such assistance. Designated as state agencies that provide programs
2 primarily engaged in providing services to people with disabilities are
3 the department of labor, office for the aging, division of veterans'
4 affairs, office of mental health, office of vocational and educational
5 services for individuals with disabilities, commission on quality of
6 care for the mentally disabled, office of mental retardation and devel-
7 opmental disabilities, commission for the blind and visually hand-
8 icapped, office of alcoholism and substance abuse services, the office
9 of the advocate for the disabled and all offices which administer
10 programs established or funded by such agencies. Additional state agen-
11 cies designated as voter registration offices are the department of
12 state and the division of workers' compensation. Such agencies shall be
13 required to offer voter registration forms to persons upon initial
14 application for services, renewal or recertification for services and
15 change of address relating to such services. Such agencies shall also be
16 responsible for providing assistance to applicants in completing voter
17 registration forms, receiving and transmitting the completed application
18 form from all applicants who wish to have such form transmitted to the
19 appropriate board of elections. The state board of elections shall,
20 together with representatives of the department of defense, develop and
21 implement procedures for including recruitment offices of the armed
22 forces of the United States as voter registration offices when such
23 offices are so designated by federal law. The state board shall also
24 make request of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service
25 to include applications for registration by mail with any materials
26 which are given to new citizens. [All institutions of the state univer-
27 sity of New York and the city university of New York, shall, at the
28 beginning of the school year, and again in January of a year in which
29 the president of the United States is to be elected, provide an applica-
30 tion for registration to each student in each such institution.] The
31 state board of elections may, by regulation, grant a waiver from any or
32 all of the requirements of this section to any office or program of an
33 agency, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, if it determines
34 that it is not feasible for such office or program to administer such
35 requirement.

36 S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.