S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

609--A

2011-2012 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

(PREFILED)

January 5, 2011

Introduced by Sens. ADDABBO, AVELLA, ESPAILLAT, HASSELL-THOMPSON, KRUEGER, MONTGOMERY, PERKINS, SAMPSON, STAVISKY, STEWART-COUSINS -- 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

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the typeface to be used on paper ballots

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 7-106 of the election law is amended and a new subdivision 2-a is added to read as follows:

2. All paper ballots of the same kind for the same polling place shall be identical. A different, but in each case uniform style and size of SIMPLE AND EASY TO READ type, SUCH AS ARIAL OR UNIVERS, shall be used for printing the names of candidates, the titles of offices, political designations, and the reading form of all questions submitted. The names of candidates shall be printed in INITIAL capital FOLLOWED BY LOWER CASE letters [in black-faced] OF NOT LESS THAN TWELVE POINT BOLD (BLACK-FACED) type.

2-A. THE NEW YORK STATE, NEW YORK CITY, AND THE COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS FOR THE COUNTIES OF NASSAU, SUFFOLK, WESTCHESTER AND ERIE SHALL AT ALL TIMES HAVE ONE FULL TIME EMPLOYEE ON STAFF WHO IS FULLY TRAINED IN EFFECTIVE BALLOT DESIGN AND BALLOT USABILITY. SUCH EMPLOYEE OF THE STATE BOARD SHALL BE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO ADVISE ALL COUNTIES ON THE PROPOSED DESIGN AND USABILITY OF THEIR BALLOTS FOR ALL PRIMARY, GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTIONS.

S 2. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

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

LBD06239-03-1