

4817

2013-2014 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

February 11, 2013

Introduced by M. of A. PERRY, CASTRO, JACOBS, STEVENSON, WEINSTEIN,
SCARBOROUGH, MAISEL, GIBSON, WEPRIN -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A.
ARROYO, BRENNAN, ROBINSON -- read once and referred to the Committee
on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to providing voting mate-
rials and translators in French and Creole in the city of New York

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

1 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Haitian-
2 American Informed Voter Act".

3 S 2. The election law is amended by adding a new section 3-508 to read
4 as follows:

5 S 3-508. BOARDS OF ELECTIONS; VOTING MATERIALS IN FRENCH AND CREOLE. A
6 BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN A CITY OF OVER ONE MILLION SHALL PROVIDE THE SAME
7 INFORMATION IN FRENCH AND CREOLE THAT IT PROVIDES IN LANGUAGES OTHER
8 THAN ENGLISH ON ITS WEBSITE. IT SHALL ALSO PRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE CITY-
9 WIDE A BOOKLET THAT INCLUDES: (A) A VOTER REGISTRATION FORM IN ENGLISH
10 WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN FRENCH AND CREOLE; (B) INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE
11 CRITERIA AND APPLICATION PROCESS FOR OBTAINING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT; AND
12 (C) A SECTION WITH GENERAL INFORMATION INCLUDING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUES-
13 TIONS. SUCH BOARD MAY INCLUDE OTHER LANGUAGES ON ITS WEBSITE AND IN SUCH
14 BOOKLET.

15 S 3. Section 8-104 of the election law is amended by adding a new
16 subdivision 7 to read as follows:

17 7. IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DURING DAYS OF PRIMARY, GENERAL AND
18 SPECIAL ELECTIONS, AT EACH PREMISES WHEREIN A POLLING PLACE OR PLACES
19 ARE LOCATED IN A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE WHERE MORE THAN FIVE
20 PERCENT OF THE CITIZENS OF VOTING AGE OF SUCH POLITICAL SUBDIVISION
21 SPEAK THE LANGUAGE OF FRENCH AND/OR CREOLE AND ARE LIMITED-ENGLISH
22 PROFICIENT, AT LEAST ONE FRENCH-ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND/OR CREOLE-ENGLISH

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

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1 TRANSLATOR DESIGNATED BY SUCH CITY SHALL BE ASSIGNED FOR DUTY FROM THE
2 OPENING UNTIL THE CLOSING OF THE POLLS.

3 S 4. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall
4 have become a law; provided, that, effective immediately, the addition,
5 amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the
6 implementation of this act on its effective date is authorized and
7 directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.