

4607

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

February 4, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. QUART -- read once and referred to the Committee  
on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the text of proposed  
constitutional amendments and questions

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

1     Section 1. Section 4-108 of the election law, paragraph b of subdivi-  
2     sion 1 as amended by chapter 117 of the laws of 1985, paragraph d of  
3     subdivision 1 and subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 136 of the laws of  
4     1978, and subdivision 3 as added by chapter 234 of the laws of 1976, is  
5     amended to read as follows:

6     S 4-108. Certification of proposed constitutional amendments and ques-  
7     tions.     1. a. Whenever any proposed amendment to the constitution or  
8     other question provided by law to be submitted to a statewide vote shall  
9     be submitted to the people for their approval, the state board of  
10    elections at least three months prior to the general election at which  
11    such amendment, proposition or question is to be submitted, shall (I)  
12    transmit to each county board of elections a certified copy of the text  
13    of each amendment, proposition or question and a statement of the form  
14    in which it is to be submitted; AND (II) PUBLISH A COPY OF THE TEXT OF  
15    EACH AMENDMENT, PROPOSITION OR QUESTION AND A STATEMENT OF THE FORM IN  
16    WHICH IT IS TO BE SUBMITTED ON THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS WEBSITE.

17    b. Whenever any proposal, proposition or referendum as provided by law  
18    is to be submitted to a vote of the people of a county, city, town,  
19    village or special district, at an election conducted by the board of  
20    elections, the clerk of such political subdivision, at least thirty-six  
21    days prior to the election at which such proposal, proposition or refer-  
22    endum is to be submitted, shall transmit to each board of elections a  
23    certified copy of the text of such proposal, proposition or referendum  
24    and a statement of the form in which it is to be submitted. If a special

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

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1 election is to be held, such transmittal shall also give the date of  
2 such election.

3 c. Such certified copy shall set out all new matter in italics and  
4 enclose in brackets, [ ], all matter to be eliminated from existing  
5 law, and at the bottom of each page shall be appended the words:

6 Explanation: Matter in italics is new, to be added; matter in brackets  
7 [ ] is old law, to be omitted.

8 d. In addition to the text, AS REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH A OF THIS  
9 SUBDIVISION, such transmittal shall contain an abstract of such proposed  
10 amendment, proposition or question, [prepared by the state board of  
11 elections] concisely stating the purpose and effect thereof in a clear  
12 and coherent manner using words with common and everyday meanings.

13 2. The form in which the proposed amendment, proposition or question  
14 is to be submitted shall consist of only an abbreviated title indicating  
15 generally and briefly, and in a clear, UNBIASED and coherent manner  
16 using words with common and every-day meanings, the subject matter of  
17 the amendment, proposition or question. If more than one such amendment,  
18 proposition or question is to be voted upon at such election, each such  
19 amendment, proposition or question respectively shall be separately and  
20 consecutively numbered.

21 3. The attorney general shall [advise in the preparation of] PREPARE  
22 AND DELIVER such abstract and such form of submission, AS REQUIRED UNDER  
23 PARAGRAPHS A AND D OF SUBDIVISION ONE OF THIS SECTION, TO THE STATE  
24 BOARD OF ELECTIONS AT LEAST FOUR MONTHS PRIOR TO THE GENERAL ELECTION AT  
25 WHICH SUCH AMENDMENT, PROPOSITION OR QUESTION IS TO BE SUBMITTED.

26 S 2. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a  
27 law.