

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

January 7, 2015

Introduced by Sens. CARLUCCI, ADDABBO, AVELLA, BRESLIN, DILAN, ESPAILLAT, HASSELL-THOMPSON, HOYLMAN, KENNEDY, KRUEGER, PARKER, PERKINS, SAVINO, SERRANO -- 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 voter pre-registration

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

1 Section 1. Paragraph o of subdivision 4 of section 5-500 of the  
2 election law, as amended by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994, is amended  
3 and a new paragraph p is added to read as follows:

4 o. A space for "remarks" regarding other facts required by this chap-  
5 ter to be recorded or appropriate to identify the voter[.];

6 P. A SPACE FOR PRE-REGISTERING APPLICANTS TO RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING  
7 QUESTION: "ARE YOU AT LEAST 16 YEARS OF AGE AND UNDERSTAND THAT YOU MUST  
8 BE 18 YEARS OF AGE ON OR BEFORE ELECTION DAY TO VOTE, AND THAT UNTIL YOU  
9 REACH THE AGE OF 18 YOUR REGISTRATION WILL BE MARKED AS 'PENDING' AND  
10 YOU WILL BE UNABLE TO CAST A BALLOT IN ANY ELECTION?".

11 S 2. The election law is amended by adding a new section 5-507 to read  
12 as follows:

13 S 5-507. VOTER PRE-REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION ON VOTER PRE-REGISTRA-  
14 TION. 1. PRE-REGISTRATION. A PERSON WHO IS AT LEAST SIXTEEN YEARS OF  
15 AGE AND WHO IS OTHERWISE QUALIFIED TO REGISTER TO VOTE MAY PRE-REGISTER  
16 TO VOTE, AND SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY REGISTERED UPON REACHING THE AGE OF  
17 ELIGIBILITY, FOLLOWING VERIFICATION OF THE PERSON'S QUALIFICATIONS AND  
18 ADDRESS.

19 2. ENCOURAGEMENT OF STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION AND PRE-REGISTRATION.  
20 LOCAL BOARDS OF EDUCATION ARE REQUIRED TO ADOPT POLICIES TO PROMOTE  
21 STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION AND PRE-REGISTRATION. THESE POLICIES MAY  
22 INCLUDE COLLABORATION WITH COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS TO CONDUCT VOTER  
23 REGISTRATION AND PRE-REGISTRATION IN HIGH SCHOOLS. COMPLETION AND

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

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1 SUBMISSION OF VOTER REGISTRATION OR PRE-REGISTRATION FORMS SHALL NOT BE  
2 A COURSE REQUIREMENT OR GRADED ASSIGNMENT FOR STUDENTS.

3 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
4 ing the date on which it shall have become a law. Effective immediate-  
5 ly, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rules or regulations  
6 necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are  
7 authorized to be made on or before such date.