

6686

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N   A S S E M B L Y

March 30, 2015

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Introduced by M. of A. PERRY, WEINSTEIN, SCARBOROUGH, 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 materials and translators in French and Creole in the city of New York

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, 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  
23    TRANSLATOR DESIGNATED BY SUCH CITY SHALL BE ASSIGNED FOR DUTY FROM THE  
24    OPENING UNTIL THE CLOSING OF THE POLLS.

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

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