STATE OF NEW YORK

5526--A

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

April 6, 2017

Introduced by Sens. AVELLA, PERALTA -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -- recommitted to the Committee on Elections in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to authorizing early voting

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Article 8 of the election law is amended by adding a new title 6 to read as follows:

TITLE VI

EARLY VOTING

Section 8-600. Early voting procedures.

§ 8-600. Early voting procedures. 1. For fourteen consecutive days ending no later than the Friday preceding the date of every primary, general and special election, a person may vote for a candidate for public office in a primary, general or special election, and such early voting practice may take place at such person's designated polling place or as designated by and through a county board of elections under the powers granted pursuant to this section on or before the effective date of this section.

2. Each county board of elections shall establish permanent polling places for early voting and shall provide at least two polling places in each of the one hundred fifty assembly districts and such that no voter shall have to travel more than forty miles to reach such polling place. There shall be at least one polling place for every fifty thousand voters in a county. Early voting shall be made available each day during such period.

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

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3. Each polling place shall be open to the public for early voting from 7 A.M. until 8 P.M. on any business day and from 7 A.M. until 8 P.M. on any Saturday or Sunday during such early voting period.

§ 2. Section 4-117 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 1-a to read as follows:

1-a. The notice required by subdivision one of this section shall include the dates, hours and locations of early voting for the general, special and primary elections.

§ 3. Subdivision 1 of section 8-102 of the election law is amended by adding a new paragraph (k) to read as follows:

(k) Voting at each polling place for early voting shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the provisions of this article, with the exception of the tabulation and proclamation of election results.

§ 4. Section 8-104 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 7 to read as follows:

7. This section shall apply on all early voting days as provided for in section 8-600 of this article.

§ 5. Paragraph (b) of subdivision 2 of section 8-508 of the election law, as amended by chapter 200 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The second section of such report shall be reserved for the board of inspectors to enter the name, address and registration serial number of each person who is challenged on the day of election **or any day in which there is early voting pursuant to section 8-600 of this article**, together with the reason for the challenge. If no voters are challenged, the board of inspectors shall enter the words "No Challenges" across the space reserved for such names. In lieu of preparing section two of the challenge report, the board of elections may provide, next to the name of each voter on the computer generated registration list, a place for the inspectors of election to record the information required to be entered in such section two, or provide at the end of such computer generated registration list, a place for the inspectors of election to enter such information.

§ 6. The state board of elections shall promulgate all rules and regulations necessary to effectuate the provisions of this act.

§ 7. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law and shall begin with 2019 primary elections.