STATE OF NEW YORK

9921--A

IN ASSEMBLY

February 23, 2018

Introduced by M. of A. BUCHWALD, ORTIZ, SANTABARBARA, D'URSO, ZEBROWSKI, NIOU, VANEL, JEAN-PIERRE, GALEF, SEAWRIGHT, BLAKE, SIMON, GUNTHER, RIVERA, LAWRENCE, CAHILL, DAVILA, CARROLL, PELLEGRINO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, HIKIND, LUPARDO, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to testimony related to voter's signature on a petition

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

Section 1. Subdivision 5 of section 6-134 of the election law, as added by chapter 709 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

5. The use of titles, initials or customary abbreviations of given names by the signers of, or witnesses to, designating petitions or the use of customary abbreviations of addresses of such signers or witnesses, shall not invalidate such signatures or witness statement provided that the identity of the signer or witness as a registered voter can be established by reference to the signature on the petition and that of a person whose name appears in the registration poll ledgers**, provided, however, nothing in this section shall prevent a court from receiving sworn testimony or other admissible evidence as to the authenticity of a signature when such signature would otherwise be invalidated for not matching the signature on file with the board of elections**.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the fifteenth of December next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.

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

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