AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to voter registration form distribution and assistance

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

1. Section 1. The opening paragraph of section 5-211 of the election law, as amended by section 1 of part AA of chapter 56 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

   Each agency designated as a participating agency under the provisions of this section shall implement and administer a program of distribution of voter registration forms pursuant to the provisions of this section. The following offices which provide public assistance and/or provide state funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons with disabilities are hereby designated as voter registration agencies: designated as the state agencies which provide public assistance are the office of children and family services, the office of temporary and disability assistance and the department of health. Also designated as public assistance agencies are all agencies of local government that provide such assistance. Designated as state agencies that provide programs primarily engaged in providing services to people with disabilities are the department of labor, office for the aging, division of veterans' services, office of mental health, office of vocational and educational services for individuals with disabilities, commission on quality of care for the mentally disabled, office of mental retardation and for people with developmental disabilities, commission for the blind, office of alcoholism and substance abuse services, the office of the advocate for the disabled and all offices which administer programs for people with disabilities.

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

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established or funded by such agencies. Additional [state] participating
agencies designated as voter registration offices are the department of
state and the [division] district offices of the workers' compensation
board. Such agencies shall be required to offer voter registration forms
to persons upon initial application for services, renewal or recertifi-
cation for services and upon change of address relating to such
services. Such agencies shall also be responsible for providing assist-
ance to applicants in completing voter registration forms, receiving and
transmitting the completed application form from all applicants who wish
to have such form transmitted to the appropriate board of elections. The
state board of elections shall, together with representatives of the
United States department of defense, develop and implement procedures
for including recruitment offices of the armed forces of the United
States as voter registration offices when such offices are so designated
by federal law. The state board of elections shall also make request of
the United States [Immigration and Naturalization Service] Citizenship
and Immigration Services to include applications for registration by
mail with any materials which are given to new citizens. [All insti-
tutions of the state university of New York and the city university of
New York, shall, at the beginning of the school year, and again in Janu-
ary of a year in which the president of the United States is to be
elected, provide an application for registration to each student in each
such institution. The state board of elections may, by regulation, grant
a waiver from any or all of the requirements of this section to any
office or program of an agency, if it determines that it is not feasible
for such office or program to administer such requirement.]

§ 2. Section 5-211 of the election law is amended by adding a new
subdivision 18 to read as follows:

18. (a) On or before January first, two thousand twenty, all insti-
tutions of the state university of New York and the city university of
New York shall create and make available to all students a webpage for
voter education on each such institution's website, containing a link to
an application for voter registration, a link to an application for an
absentee ballot, contact information for the county board of elections,
and the name and contact information for the administrator responsible
for voter registration assistance on each campus. Each such institution
shall, at the beginning of the school year, and again in January of a
year in which the president of the United States is to be elected,
provide an application for voter registration to each student in each
such institution. Such institutions shall also offer each student an
application for an absentee ballot. Such institutions shall provide the
same degree of assistance as required of participating agencies. Each
institution shall be considered in compliance with these requirements
for each student to whom the institution electronically transmits a
message containing the link to the webpage for voter education and the
link to an application for voter registration, if such information is in
an electronic message devoted exclusively to voter registration.

(b) Each institution shall on or before January first, two thousand
twenty, and each subsequent year, submit a report to the state board of
elections that includes:

(i) the efforts of the institution to register voters in the preceding
calendar year:

(ii) a date-stamped screen shot of the webpage for voter education
that contains the required information under paragraph (a) of this
subdivision:
(iii) the number of students who were registered for course work in
the preceding twelve months at such institution and the number of
students who clicked on the links to online voter registration and
absentee ballot applications; and
(iv) any other efforts or recommendations the institution plans to
implement to improve access to voter registration and absentee ballot
voting for students at the institution.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.