STATE OF NEW YORK

1590

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 15, 2019

Introduced by Sens. SANDERS, BAILEY, BROOKS, KRUEGER, ORTT, SEPULVEDA -- 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 requiring the posting of sample ballots on a board of elections website

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

Section 1. Section 7-118 of the election law, as amended by chapter 157 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

§ 7-118. Ballots; facsimile and sample. The board of elections shall provide facsimile and sample ballots which shall be arranged in the form of a diagram showing such part of the face of the voting machine as shall be in use at that election. Such facsimile and sample ballots shall be either in full or reduced size and shall contain suitable illustrated directions for voting on the voting machine. Such facsimile ballots shall be mounted and displayed for public inspection at each polling place during election day. Sample ballots may be mailed by the board of elections to each eligible voter at least three days before the election, or in lieu thereof, a copy of such sample ballot may be published at least once within one week preceding the election in newspapers representing the major political parties. **Each county board of elections shall transmit electronically in a format to be determined by the state board of elections, as it is available, a copy of the candidate and contest information contained on each of its ballot styles to the state board of elections. The state board shall create a system to allow such information to be made publicly available via its website, as well as the website of any county board of elections, and in such a way as to be accessible with a computer screen-reading program.** One copy of such facsimile shall be sent to each school in the county, providing the ninth through the twelfth years of compulsory education, and in the city of New York to each such school in the city of New York, at least one

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

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week before each general election for posting at a convenient place in such school. The board of elections shall also send a facsimile ballot to any other school requesting such a ballot.

§ 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2021.