STATE OF NEW YORK

4378--A

Cal. No. 1

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 11, 2019

Introduced by Sens. PARKER, BRESLIN, GAUGHRAN, GIANARIS, LIU, MAY, MONTGOMERY, PERSAUD, STAVISKY -- 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 -- reported favorably from said committee and committed to the Committee on Rules -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to a third reading, passed by Senate and delivered to the Assembly, recalled, vote reconsidered, restored to third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the boundaries of election districts and the designation of polling places

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

Section 1. Section 4-104 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 5-a to read as follows:

5-a. Whenever a contiguous property of a college or university contains three hundred or more registrants (excluding registrants in inactive status) who are registered to vote at an address on such contiguous property, the polling place designated for such registrants shall be on such contiguous property or at a location approved by the college or university.

§ 2. Paragraph a of subdivision 3 of section 4-100 of the election law, as amended by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read as follows:

a. Each election district shall be in compact form and may not be partly within and partly without a ward, town, city, a village which has five thousand or more inhabitants and is wholly within one town, **the contiguous property of a college or university which contains three hundred or more registrants (excluding registrants in inactive status) who are registered to vote at an address on such contiguous property,** or a county legislative, assembly, senatorial or congressional district.

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

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Except as provided in paragraph b of this subdivision, election district boundaries, other than those boundaries which are coterminous with the boundaries of those political subdivisions **and college or university properties** mentioned in this paragraph, must be streets, rivers, railroad lines or other permanent characteristics of the landscape which are clearly visible to any person without the need to use any technical or mechanical device. An election district shall contain not more than nine hundred fifty registrants (excluding registrants in inactive status) or, with the approval of the county board of elections, not more than eleven hundred fifty registrants (excluding registrants in inactive status), but any election district may be divided for the convenience of the voters.

§ 3. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 8-600 of the election law, as added by chapter 6 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board of elections shall designate polling places for early voting, which may include the offices of the board of elections, for persons to vote early pursuant to this title. There shall be so designated at least one early voting polling place for every full increment of fifty thousand registered voters in each county; provided, however, the number of early voting polling places in a county shall not be required to be greater than seven, and a county with fewer than fifty thousand voters shall have at least one early voting polling place. **Whenever a contiguous property of a college or university contains three hundred or more registrants (excluding registrants in inactive status) who are registered to vote at an address on such contiguous property, such contiguous property or a location approved by the college or university shall be designated as an early voting polling place.**

§ 4. This act shall take effect January 1, 2022.