STATE OF NEW YORK

7194

IN SENATE

January 10, 2020

Introduced by Sen. BENJAMIN -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

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:

Section 1. Subdivision 18 of section 5-211 of the election law, as amended by a chapter of the laws of 2019, amending the election law relating to voter registration form distribution and assistance, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 1128-A and A. 2599-A, is amended to read as follows:

18. (a) **(i)** On or before January first, two thousand twenty, all institutions 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.

(ii) 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 **and an application for an absentee ballot** 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 [~~those~~] **the** requirements **of this subparagraph** 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 **and the link to an application for an absentee ballot**, if such information is in an electronic message devoted exclusively to voter registration.

(iii) Each such institution shall provide the same degree of assistance as required of participating agencies.

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

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(b) [~~Each institution~~] **The state university of New York and the city university of New York, on behalf of each institution within its system,** shall on or before [~~January~~] **June** first, two thousand twenty, and each subsequent year, submit a report **disaggregated according to each institution** 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~~] **clicks** 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.

(c) The state board of elections shall make the reports provided pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subdivision publicly available on its website.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the same date and in the same manner as a chapter of the laws of 2019, amending the election law relating to voter registration form distribution and assistance, as proposed in legislative bills numbers S. 1128-A and A. 2599-A, takes effect.