STATE OF NEW YORK

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1703

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 16, 2019

Introduced by M. of A. HAWLEY, BLANKENBUSH, DiPIETRO, D'URSO, FRIEND, GIGLIO, LAWRENCE, MORINELLO, NORRIS -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of CROUCH -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to designating every government entity which issues licenses to carry, possess, repair and dispose of firearms as participating agencies for 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. The opening paragraph of section 5-211 of the election law, 2 as amended by chapter 265 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

Each agency designated as a participating agency under the provisions 5 of this section shall implement and administer a program of distribution of voter registration forms pursuant to the provisions of this section. 7 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: 9 10 designated as the state agencies which provide public assistance are the 11 office of children and family services, the office of temporary and 12 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 14 programs primarily engaged in providing services to people with disabil-15 ities are the department of labor, office for the aging, division of 16 veterans' affairs, office of mental health, office of vocational and 17 18 educational services for individuals with disabilities, commission on 19 quality of care for the mentally disabled, office [of mental retardation and for people with developmental disabilities, commission for the 20 21 blind, office of alcoholism and substance abuse services, the office of 22 the advocate for the disabled and all offices which administer programs

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

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1 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' compen-3 sation board and every court and law enforcement agency when such entities are issuing licenses to carry, possess, repair or dispose of firearms. Such agencies shall be required to offer voter registration 7 forms to persons upon initial application for services, for participation in activities or for use of facilities, and upon renewal or 9 recertification for services and upon change of address relating to such 10 services, participation in activities or use of facilities of the 11 agency. Such agencies shall also be responsible for providing assistance to applicants in completing voter registration forms, receiving and 12 13 transmitting the completed application form from all applicants who wish 14 to have such form transmitted to the appropriate board of elections. The 15 state board of elections shall, together with representatives of the 16 United States department of defense, develop and implement procedures 17 for including recruitment offices of the armed forces of the United States as voter registration offices when such offices are so designated 18 by federal law. The state board of elections shall also make request of 19 20 the United States [Immigration and Naturalization Service] Citizenship 21 and Immigration Services to include applications for registration by 22 mail with any materials which are given to new citizens. All institutions of the state university of New York and the city university of 23 24 New York, shall, at the beginning of the school year, and again in Janu-25 ary of a year in which the president of the United States is to be 26 elected, provide an application for voter registration to each student 27 in each such institution. The state board of elections may, by regu-28 lation, grant a waiver from any or all of the requirements of this 29 section to any office or program of an agency, if it determines that it 30 is not feasible for such office or program to administer such require-31 ment.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day 33 after it shall have become a law, provided however, that effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rules or regu-34 lations necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective 36 date are authorized and directed to be made and completed on or before such effective date.