

# STATE OF NEW YORK

687

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 9, 2019

Introduced by Sen. ORTT -- 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 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:

1 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  
3 follows:  
4 Each agency designated as a participating agency under the provisions  
5 of this section shall implement and administer a program of distribution  
6 of voter registration forms pursuant to the provisions of this section.  
7 The following offices which provide public assistance and/or provide  
8 state funded programs primarily engaged in providing services to persons  
9 with disabilities are hereby designated as voter registration agencies:  
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  
13 public assistance agencies are all agencies of local government that  
14 provide such assistance. Designated as state agencies that provide  
15 programs primarily engaged in providing services to people with disabil-  
16 ities are the department of labor, office for the aging, division of  
17 veterans' affairs, office of mental health, office of vocational and  
18 educational services for individuals with disabilities, commission on  
19 quality of care for the mentally disabled, office [~~of mental retardation~~  
20 ~~and~~ for people with developmental disabilities, commission for the  
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  
2 agencies designated as voter registration offices are the department of  
3 state [~~and~~], the [~~division~~] district offices of the workers' compen-  
4 sation board and every court and law enforcement agency when such enti-  
5 ties are issuing licenses to carry, possess, repair or dispose of  
6 firearms. Such agencies shall be required to offer voter registration  
7 forms to persons upon initial application for services, for partic-  
8 ipation 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  
12 to applicants in completing voter registration forms, receiving and  
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  
18 States as voter registration offices when such offices are so designated  
19 by federal law. The state board of elections shall also make request of  
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 insti-  
23 tutions of the state university of New York and the city university of  
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.

32 § 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred twentieth day  
33 after it shall have become a law, provided however, that effective imme-  
34 diately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rules or regu-  
35 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  
37 such effective date.