STATE OF NEW YORK

5424

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 16, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. TAYLOR -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to enacting the "Make Voting Easy Act" to require that the board of elections designate at least one early voting polling place for every full increment of twenty-five thousand registered voters in each county

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

Section 1. Short title. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Make Voting Easy Act".

§ 2. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 2 of section 8-600 of the election law, as amended by chapter 344 of the laws of 2020, 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; provided, however, that the municipality with the highest population in each county based on the latest federal decennial census shall have at least one polling place designated for early voting, and to the extent practicable if such municipality has public transportation routes, such polling place shall be situated along such transportation routes. There shall be so designated at least one early voting polling place for every full increment of [~~fifty~~] **twenty-five** 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 ten unless required by any other provision of law, and~~] a county with fewer than [~~fifty~~] **twenty-five** thousand voters shall have at least one early voting polling place.

§ 3. Paragraph (c) of subdivision 4 of section 8-600 of the election law, as added by chapter 6 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

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

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(c) Polls shall be open for early voting for at least [~~five~~] **eight** hours between nine o'clock in the morning and [~~six~~] **eight** o'clock in the evening on each Saturday, Sunday and legal holiday during the early voting period.

§ 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to any general, primary, run-off primary, or special election held thereafter.