

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6901--A

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

May 20, 2021

Introduced by Sens. MYRIE, RAMOS, GIANARIS, HOYLMAN, JACKSON, MAY, RIVERA, SALAZAR -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to including individuals who do not identify exclusively as a binary gender in eligibility for party positions

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 4 of section 2-102 of the election law, as  
2 amended by chapter 373 of the laws of 1978, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 4. [~~The state committee may provide by rule for equal representation~~  
5 ~~of the sexes on said committee.~~] When any [~~such~~] rule of the state  
6 committee provides for [~~equal~~] representation [~~of the sexes~~] by gender,  
7 the designating petitions and primary ballots shall list candidates for  
8 such party positions separately by [~~sexes~~] gender marker. In providing  
9 for such representation, the state committee shall establish rules that  
10 provide for the ability of individuals who do not exclusively identify  
11 as a binary gender to run for those positions and which respect individ-  
12 uals' gender identity.

13 § 2. Subdivision 2 of section 2-104 of the election law, as amended by  
14 chapter 234 of the laws of 1976, is amended to read as follows:

15 2. If[~~, pursuant to section one of article thirteen of the constitu-~~  
16 ~~tion,~~] such committee or a state convention of the party shall provide  
17 by rule for [~~equal~~] representation [~~of the sexes~~] by gender on such  
18 committee, the rules of such committee relative to additional members,  
19 either from election districts or at large, shall be formulated and  
20 applied in such manner that the whole membership shall [~~consist of an~~  
21 ~~even number, equally~~] be divided [~~between the sexes~~] among genders as  
22 provided by the rules of such committee. When any such rule provides for  
23 [~~equal~~] such representation [~~of the sexes~~], the designating petitions  
24 and primary ballots shall list candidates for such party positions sepa-

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

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1 rately by [~~sexes~~] gender marker. In providing for such representation,  
2 such committee shall establish rules that provide for the ability of  
3 individuals who do not exclusively identify as a binary gender to serve  
4 as members and which respect individuals' gender identity.

5 § 3. Subdivision 2 of section 2-110 of the election law, as amended by  
6 chapter 373 of the laws of 1978, is amended to read as follows:

7 2. In the city of New York there shall be the party positions of  
8 assembly district leaders or, if the rules of the county committee shall  
9 so provide, one assembly district leader and one associate assembly  
10 district leader. Outside the city of New York there shall be such posi-  
11 tions when the rules of the county committee shall so provide. Such  
12 leaders shall be elected at primary elections as herein provided, within  
13 every county in such city for each assembly district, or for each part  
14 of an assembly district within such county as may be designated for the  
15 purpose in the rules of the county committee, and in every county of the  
16 state outside of such city where the rules so provide, for such assembly  
17 district or part thereof within such county as may be designated in such  
18 rules for the purpose. Such assembly district leaders or such assembly  
19 district leader and associate assembly district leader shall be of  
20 [~~opposite-sexes~~] different genders, if the rules of the county committee  
21 shall so provide, and shall be enrolled voters of the party residing  
22 within the assembly district and, if the rules of the county committee  
23 shall so provide, within the part of the assembly district for which  
24 they are to be elected, and shall be elected at the same primary  
25 election and for the same term as members of the county committee. When  
26 any such rule provides for [~~equal~~] representation [~~of-sexes~~] by gender,  
27 the designating petitions and primary ballots shall list candidates for  
28 such party positions separately by [~~sexes~~] gender marker. In providing  
29 for such representation, the county committee shall establish rules that  
30 provide for the ability of individuals who do not exclusively identify  
31 as a binary gender to serve as district leader and which respect indi-  
32 viduals' gender identity. Each shall perform such duties, powers and  
33 functions as the rules of the county committee may prescribe. Vacancies  
34 in such positions shall be filled by the members of the county committee  
35 within the assembly district or part thereof, as the case may be, until  
36 the first primary election following the creation of such vacancy or  
37 vacancies for which the period for circulating designating petitions  
38 ends at least seven days after the creation of such vacancy or vacan-  
39 cies, at which time the successor or successors shall be directly  
40 elected as herein provided. Assembly district leaders and associate  
41 assembly district leaders shall automatically be members and shall have  
42 the right to participate and vote in meetings of the county committee or  
43 any subcommittee thereof. The county committee may provide by its rules  
44 that the members of the state committee, elected in accordance with the  
45 provisions of this chapter, shall possess the duties, powers and func-  
46 tions of an assembly district leader or an associate assembly district  
47 leader. In such event the provisions of this section shall not apply to  
48 the members of the state committee but upon [~~his~~] their election as a  
49 member of the state committee, such person shall be deemed to have also  
50 been elected as an assembly district leader or an associate assembly  
51 district leader.

52 § 4. Section 2-122 of the election law, as amended by chapter 177 of  
53 the laws of 1978, is amended to read as follows:

54 § 2-122. National party conventions; delegates, election. Delegates  
55 and alternates to a national convention of a party shall be elected from  
56 congressional districts, or partly from the state at large and partly

1 from congressional districts, as the rules of the state committee may  
2 provide. Such delegates and alternates from the state at large shall be  
3 elected by the state committee or by a state convention of the party, as  
4 the rules of the state committee shall prescribe. If the rules of a  
5 national party provide for ~~[equal]~~ representation ~~[of the sexes]~~ by  
6 gender among delegates elected from districts, such district delegates  
7 shall be elected separately by ~~[sex]~~ gender. District delegates and  
8 alternates to national party conventions and delegates, and alternates,  
9 if any, to such a state convention shall be elected at a primary. All  
10 delegates and alternates to a national party convention shall be  
11 enrolled members of such party. When any such rule provides for ~~[equal]~~  
12 representation ~~[of the sexes]~~ by gender, the designating petitions and  
13 primary ballots shall list candidates for such party positions separate-  
14 ly by ~~[sex]~~ gender marker. In providing for such representation, the  
15 party shall establish rules that provide for the ability of individuals  
16 who do not exclusively identify as a binary gender to serve as delegates  
17 and which respect individuals' gender identity.

18 § 5. Paragraph c of subdivision 3 of section 5-504 of the election  
19 law, as amended by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994, is amended to read  
20 as follows:

21 c. The board of elections maintains, as a public record, at the appro-  
22 priate office of the board, a complete and current alphabetized list of  
23 all registered voters, including voters in inactive status, which  
24 contains next to each voter's name at least the following information:  
25 address, town or city, assembly district where appropriate, election  
26 district, registration serial number, party enrollment, date of regis-  
27 tration, ~~[sex]~~ gender, date of birth and, if the voter is in inactive  
28 status, an indication of that fact.

29 § 6. Subdivision 7 of section 7-116 of the election law, as added by  
30 chapter 173 of the laws of 2017, is amended to read as follows:

31 7. Whenever a county board of elections or the board of elections in  
32 the city of New York must conduct a primary election in the respective  
33 county or the city of New York in which separate contests for ~~[both male~~  
34 ~~and female]~~ candidates of different genders for the same party position  
35 are to be printed upon the ballots, and when rules require these posi-  
36 tions be listed separately on the ballot, the respective county board of  
37 elections or the board of elections in the city of New York shall deter-  
38 mine by lot ~~[whether to first print the contest for the male candidates~~  
39 ~~or the contest for the female candidates. After such determination, the~~  
40 ~~same order shall be used for all ballots printed by the board of~~  
41 ~~elections for the entire county or city of New York and for all contests~~  
42 ~~where there are elections separated by male and female candidates for~~  
43 ~~the same party position.]~~ the order of the various gendered contests.  
44 This lottery will be conducted separately for each election that is  
45 separated by gender.

46 § 7. Section 3-102 of the election law is amended by adding a new  
47 subdivision 18 to read as follows:

48 18. promulgate rules and regulations to provide for the ability of  
49 individuals who do not exclusively identify as a binary gender to run  
50 for positions elected in gendered contests which respect the individ-  
51 uals' gender identity. In no case shall the board of elections promul-  
52 gate rules that are inconsistent with a system that requires individuals  
53 filing for candidacy to self-indentify their gender marker as "M", "F",  
54 or "X", requires all candidates to run a single race, and maintains  
55 requirements for gender diversity.

56 § 8. This act shall take effect immediately.