STATE OF NEW YORK

1177

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 13, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to ballots submitted in envelopes that are sealed with tape, paste or any other binding agent or device and have no indication of tampering

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

Section 1. Paragraph (g) of subdivision 3 of section 9-209 of the election law, as added by chapter 763 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

(g) Ballot envelopes are not invalid and do not require a cure if: (i) a ballot envelope is undated or has the wrong date, provided it is postmarked on or prior to election day or is otherwise received timely by the board of elections; (ii) the voter signed or marked the ballot affirmation envelope at a place on the envelope other than the designated signature line; (iii) a voter used a combination of ink (of any color) or pencil to complete the ballot envelope; (iv) papers found in the ballot envelope with the ballot are materials from the board of elections, such as instructions or an application sent by the board of elections; (v) an extrinsic mark or tear on the ballot envelope appears to be there as a result of the ordinary course of mailing or transmittal; [~~or~~] (vi) **the ballot envelope is sealed using tape, paste or any other binding agent or device and there is no indication of tampering; or (vii)** the ballot envelope is partially unsealed but there is no ability to access the ballot.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to elections occurring on or after such effective date.

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

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