

# STATE OF NEW YORK

3046

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 2, 2023

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

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to poll watchers for  
special, town or village elections being held for the sole purpose of  
a ballot proposal

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 1 of section 8-500 of the election law, as  
2 amended by chapter 418 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 1. At any general, special, town or village election, any party  
5 committee, any independent body whose candidates are upon the ballot,  
6 and when a special, town or village election is being held for the sole  
7 purpose of a ballot proposal or proposals, the board of elections of the  
8 county in which the election is being held, and any political committee  
9 supporting or opposing a ballot proposal may have for each election  
10 district three watchers at any one time, not more than one of whom may  
11 be within the guard rail at any one time. Watchers shall be appointed by  
12 the chair or other officer of any such party committee, independent body  
13 [~~or~~], political committee or by the board of elections, upon request,  
14 for a special, town or village election that is being held for the sole  
15 purpose of a ballot proposal or proposals. In such elections, the board  
16 of elections shall appoint watchers in a manner that ensures equitable  
17 representation of organizations or individuals that are advocating the  
18 passage or defeat of the ballot proposal or proposals.

19 § 2. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall  
20 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or  
21 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of  
22 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed  
23 on or before such effective date.

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

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