STATE OF NEW YORK

11557

IN ASSEMBLY

June 1, 2026

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. Walker) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to the form of submission and abstract for proposed amendments to the constitution

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

Section 1. Section 4-108 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 8 to read as follows:

8. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter or other law to the contrary, the form in which a proposed amendment to the constitution shall be submitted, and the abstract thereof, may be determined as part of the concurrent resolution for the submission of such amendment, and abstract thereof, to the people, or the form of submission and abstract thereof may be determined in a separate concurrent resolution adopted by both houses of the legislature at least one hundred twenty days prior to the general election at which such amendment shall be submitted. The legislature, in determining the form of submission and abstract under this subdivision, shall use best efforts to comply with the plain language requirements of subdivisions two and five, and shall further use best efforts for such submission and abstract to score at an eighth grade reading level or below as determined by the Automated Readability Index score as calculated under subdivision six of this section, or other comparable tool to evaluate reading levels. Provided, however, no specific Automated Readability Index score shall be required. Such form of submission and abstract determined in the manner provided for by this subdivision shall be transmitted by the state board of elections as otherwise provided in this chapter without amendment or alteration, except that the state board of elections may assign to such proposed amendment the ballot order number applicable thereto.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all concurrent resolutions proposing amendments to the constitution that achieve first passage by both houses of the legislature during the 2025-2026 legislative session and any concurrent resolutions proposing amendments to the constitution agreed to by the legislature thereafter;

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

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provided, however, that this act shall not apply to any concurrent resolution proposing amendments to the constitution that achieved first passage by both houses of the legislature during the 2023-2024 legislative session.