STATE OF NEW YORK

5183--A

Cal. No. 443

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 19, 2025

Introduced by Sens. JACKSON, BAILEY, FERNANDEZ, SEPULVEDA, WEBB -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Elections -- recommitted to the Committee on Elections in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- reported favorably from said committee, ordered to first and second report, ordered to a third reading, amended and ordered reprinted, retaining its place in the order of third reading

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to including a statement on the envelopes of ballots for early mail voters, absentee voters and special presidential voters for signature affirmation

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

Section 1. Subdivision 6 of section 7-119 of the election law, as added by chapter 481 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as follows:

6. On the reverse side of such inner affirmation envelope shall be printed the following statement:

AFFIRMATION

I do declare that I am a citizen of the United States, that I am duly registered in the election district shown on the reverse side of this envelope and I am qualified to vote in such district; that I have not qualified nor do I intend to vote elsewhere, that I have not committed any act nor am I under any impediment which denies me the right to vote.

I hereby declare that the foregoing is a true statement to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that if I make any material false statement in the foregoing statement of early mail voter, I shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Date ..... 20 .....

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

LBD00491-04-6

.....
Signature or mark of voter

.....
Signature of Witness
(required only if voter
does not sign their own
name)

.....
Address of Witness

IMPORTANT TO EARLY MAIL VOTER: YOU MUST SIGN THE AFFIRMATION ON THIS ENVELOPE.

§ 2. Subdivision 6 of section 7-122 of the election law, as amended by chapter 411 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

6. On the reverse side of such inner affirmation envelope shall be printed the following statement:

AFFIRMATION

I do declare that I am a citizen of the United States, that I am duly registered in the election district shown on the reverse side of this envelope and I am qualified to vote in such district; that I will be unable to appear personally on the day of the election for which this ballot is voted at the polling place of the election district in which I am a qualified voter because of the reason given on my application heretofore submitted; that I have not qualified nor do I intend to vote elsewhere, that I have not committed any act nor am I under any impediment which denies me the right to vote.

I hereby declare that the foregoing is a true statement to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that if I make any material false statement in the foregoing statement of absentee voter, I shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Date.....20..... .....
Signature or mark of voter

.....
Signature of Witness (required only if voter does not sign [~~his or her~~] **their** own name)

.....
Address of Witness

IMPORTANT TO ABSENTEE VOTER: YOU MUST SIGN THE AFFIRMATION ON THIS ENVELOPE.

§ 3. Subdivision 3 of section 7-125 of the election law, as amended by chapter 411 of the laws of 2019, is amended to read as follows:

3. On the reverse side of such envelope shall be printed the following statement:

STATEMENT OF SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL VOTER

I do declare I am a qualified special presidential voter of said district; that I am not qualified and am not able to qualify to vote elsewhere than as set forth on the reverse side of this envelope; that I

am a citizen of the United States; that on the date of the election for which this ballot is voted, I will be at least eighteen years of age; and that I have not committed any act, nor am I under any impediment, which denies me the right to vote.

I hereby declare that the foregoing is a true statement to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that if I make any material false statement in the foregoing statement, I shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Date.....20..... .....
Signature or mark of voter

.....
Signature of Witness (required only if voter does not sign [~~his or her~~] **their** own name)

.....
Address of Witness

IMPORTANT TO SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL VOTER: YOU MUST SIGN THE AFFIRMATION ON THIS ENVELOPE.

§ 4. This act shall take effect one year after it shall have become a law.