STATE OF NEW YORK

8471

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

August 6, 2025

Introduced by Sen. LIU -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to requiring facsimile ballots and sample ballots to be provided in additional languages

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

Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 17-208 of the election law, as added by chapter 226 of the laws of 2022, is amended to read as follows:

2. Language assistance to be provided. A board of elections or political subdivision required to provide language assistance to a particular language-minority group pursuant to this section shall provide voting materials in the covered language of an equal quality of the corresponding English language materials, including registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots**, facsimile ballots, and sample ballots**. Any registration or voting notices, forms, instructions, assistance, or other materials or information relating to the electoral process, including ballots, **facsimile ballots, and sample ballots,** in a covered political subdivision, shall be provided in the language of the applicable language-minority group as well as in the English language, provided that where the language of the applicable language-minority group is historically oral or unwritten, the board of elections or political subdivision shall only be required to furnish oral instructions, assistance, or other information relating to registration and voting.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after it shall have become a law and shall apply to elections held on and after such effective date. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed 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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