

ASSEMBLY, No. 4665

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 17, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VERLINA REYNOLDS-JACKSON

District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Permits voter registration up to 14 days before election.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/21/2020)

1 **AN ACT** changing the voter registration deadline, and amending
2 various parts of the statutory law.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6

7 1. R.S.19:12-7 is amended to read as follows:

8 19:12-7. a. The county board in each county shall cause to be
9 published in a newspaper or newspapers which, singly or in
10 combination, are of general circulation throughout the county, a
11 notice containing the information specified in subsection b. hereof,
12 except for such of the contents as may be omitted pursuant to
13 subsection c. or d. hereof. Such notice shall be published once during
14 the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the closing of the
15 registration books for the primary election, once during the calendar
16 week next preceding the week in which the primary election for the
17 general election is held, once during the 30 days next preceding the
18 day fixed for the closing of the registration books for the general
19 election, and once during the calendar week next preceding the week
20 in which the general election is held.

21 b. Such notice shall set forth:

22 (1) For the primary election for the general election:

23 (a) That a primary election for making nominations for the
24 general election, for the selection of members of the county
25 committees of each political party, and in each presidential year for
26 the selection of delegates and alternates to national conventions of
27 political parties, will be held on the day and between the hours
28 provided for by or pursuant to this Title.

29 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a person
30 may register, the procedure for the transfer of registration, and the
31 date on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of
32 registration.

33 (c) The several State, county, municipal and party offices or
34 positions to be filled, or for which nominations are to be made, at
35 such primary election.

36 (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i)
37 the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of
38 registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii), if available, the
39 accessibility of voter information to the deaf by means of a
40 telecommunications device.

41 (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due
42 to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.

43 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
44 next preceding the week in which the primary election is held, that a
45 voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same
46 county without (i) filing, on or before the **【21st】** 14th day preceding

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **【thus】 in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner
2 of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the
3 municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election, (ii)
4 returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the
5 commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been
6 sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of
7 registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall
8 be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the
9 primary election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
10 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The
11 notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county
12 commissioner of registration or municipal clerk or may view polling
13 place location information on the Division of Elections website to
14 determine the proper polling place location for the voter.

15 (2) For the general election:

16 (a) That a general election will be held on the day and between
17 the hours provided for by or pursuant to this Title and, where
18 applicable, shall include annual school elections and annual fire
19 district elections held on that date.

20 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a person
21 may register, the procedure for transfer of registration, and the date
22 on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of
23 registration.

24 (c) The several State, county and municipal offices, and where
25 applicable, school board offices and fire district offices to be filled,
26 notice of any school district propositions to be submitted to the
27 people and, except as provided in R.S.19:14-33 of this Title as to
28 publication of notice of any Statewide proposition directed by the
29 Legislature to be submitted to the people, the State, county,
30 municipal and fire district public questions to be voted upon at such
31 general election.

32 (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i)
33 the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of
34 registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii) the accessibility
35 of voter information to the deaf by means of a telecommunications
36 device.

37 (e) The availability of assistance to a person unable to vote due
38 to blindness, disability or inability to read or write.

39 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
40 next preceding the week in which the general election is held, that a
41 voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved within the same
42 county without (i) filing, on or before the **21st** 14th day preceding
43 the election, a notice of change of residence with the commissioner
44 of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of the
45 municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election, (ii)
46 returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the

1 commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been
2 sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of
3 registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall
4 be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the
5 general election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
6 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. The
7 notice shall further provide that the voter may contact the county
8 commissioner of registration or municipal clerk or may view polling
9 place location information on the Division of Elections website to
10 determine the proper polling place location for the voter.

11 (3) For a school election:

12 (a) The day and time thereof,

13 (b) The offices, if any, to be filled at the election,

14 (c) The substance of any public question to be submitted to the
15 voters thereat,

16 (d) That a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved
17 within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the ~~【21st】~~ 14th
18 day preceding the election, a notice of change of residence with the
19 commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of
20 the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the election,
21 (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by the
22 commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been
23 sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner of
24 registration of the voter's change of address within the county shall
25 be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in the
26 school election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
27 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election,

28 (e) That if the voter has any questions as to where to vote on the
29 day of the election, the voter may contact the county commissioner
30 of registration or municipal clerk or may view polling place location
31 information on the Division of Elections website to determine the
32 proper polling place location for the voter; and

33 (f) Such other information as may be required by law.

34 c. If such publication is made in more than one newspaper, it
35 shall not be necessary to duplicate in the notice published in each
36 such newspaper all the information required under this section, so
37 long as:

38 (1) The municipal officers or party positions to be filled, or
39 nominations made, or municipal public questions to be voted upon
40 by the voters of any municipality, shall be set forth in at least one
41 newspaper having general circulation in such municipality;

42 (2) All offices to be filled, or nominations made therefor, or
43 public questions to be voted upon, by the voters of the entire State or
44 of the entire county shall be set forth in a newspaper or newspapers
45 which, singly or in combination, have general circulation throughout
46 the county;

1 (3) Information relating to nominations and elections in each
2 Legislative District comprised in whole or part in the county, shall
3 be published in at least a newspaper or newspapers which singly or
4 in combination, have general circulation in every municipality of the
5 county which is comprised in such legislative district.

6 d. Such part or parts of the original notices as published which
7 pertain to day of registration or primary election which has occurred
8 shall be eliminated from such notice in succeeding insertions.

9 e. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1999, c.232.)

10 f. The cost of publishing the notices required by this section
11 shall be paid by the respective counties, unless otherwise provided
12 for by law.

13 g. Notices required to be published or posted pursuant to this
14 section shall set forth a general description of the contents of the
15 voter information notice provided for in section 1 of P.L.2005, c.149
16 (C.19:12-7.1), how the notice may be viewed or obtained prior to the
17 day of an election, and that the notice will be posted in each polling
18 place on the day of an election.

19 (cf: P.L.2019, c.170, s.1)

20
21 2. Section 6 of P.L.1991, c.249 (C.19:15-18.3) is amended to
22 read as follows:

23 6. Any person whose name does not appear on a challenge list
24 prepared by the superintendent of elections of the county but who is
25 challenged and denied the right to vote on the day of a municipal,
26 primary, general, or special election by a duly authorized challenger
27 or by a member of a district board of elections, may apply to a
28 Superior Court judge sitting at the county seat for permission to vote.
29 No papers need be filed; the court shall entertain oral applications.
30 The challenged voter may appear pro se or with counsel. The
31 challenger or the member of the district board, as the case may be,
32 may appear or be represented by counsel. The challenged voter shall
33 be permitted to state by oath or affirmation the facts which the voter
34 believes establish eligibility to vote, shall furnish a copy of the
35 affidavit the voter signed when challenged, a copy of the affidavit
36 signed by the challenger and the identifying document found invalid
37 by the challenger and the district board. The rules of evidence shall
38 not apply to those proceedings. The judge shall grant the application
39 and provide the challenged voter with written authorization to vote
40 on that day if the judge finds the following facts to be established by
41 the testimony of the applicant or, in the case of a dispute of facts or
42 some questions as to the challenged voter's credibility, by a
43 preponderance of the following evidence:

44 a. The challenged voter is at least 18 years old and a citizen of
45 the United States and of this State, has resided in the county at least
46 30 days prior to the date of the election, and has not been convicted

1 of a crime which would disenfranchise a person under the laws of
2 this State, and either:

3 b. The challenged voter is properly registered at his location; or

4 c. The challenged voter was properly registered at his location
5 as of the last election at which the challenged voter voted but has
6 moved to another location within the county since then and in good
7 faith attempted to register at the new address within the time
8 prescribed by law.

9 For the purposes of this section, a good faith attempt to register
10 shall include: completing the prescribed registration form no later
11 than **[21]** 14 days before the election in the presence of a person who
12 appears to be over 18 years old and says that he or she can and will
13 witness the form and mail it to the register for the applicant;
14 completing a form received in the mail from the commissioner of
15 registration, superintendent of elections or the county board which
16 states that information has been received that the applicant has moved
17 and placing the completed form in a proper mailbox with proper
18 postage, if necessary, no later than **[21]** 14 days before the election;
19 completing a registration form in any government office; and
20 reasonably relying upon the oral statements of an official at a polling
21 place that they will insure proper reregistration.

22 The judge of the Superior Court having the application shall cause
23 a full record of the proceeding to be taken stenographically,
24 transcribed and filed in the office of the county clerk of the county,
25 which record shall be open and public record. All costs and expenses
26 of such proceedings shall be paid by the county.

27 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.5)

28

29 3. R.S.19:31-2 is amended to read as follows:

30 19:31-2. In all counties having a superintendent of elections, the
31 superintendent of elections is hereby constituted the commissioner of
32 registration and in all other counties the secretary of the county board
33 is hereby constituted the commissioner of registration.

34 The commissioner of registration shall have complete charge of
35 the registration of all eligible voters within their respective counties.
36 Pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-
37 32), the commissioner of registration shall be responsible for adding
38 to, deleting from, amending and maintaining the records of persons
39 registered to vote in the commissioner's county contained in the
40 Statewide voter registration system established pursuant to section 1
41 of that act.

42 The commissioner of registration shall have power to appoint
43 temporarily, and the commissioner of registration in counties of the
44 first class having more than 800,000 inhabitants shall have power to
45 appoint on a permanent, or temporary basis, such number of persons,
46 as in the commissioner's judgment may be necessary in order to carry

1 out the provisions of this Title. All persons appointed by the
2 commissioner of registration in counties of the first class having
3 more than 850,000 inhabitants according to the latest federal
4 decennial census to serve for terms of more than six months in any
5 one year shall be in the career service of the civil service and shall be
6 appointed, and hold their positions, in accordance with the provisions
7 of Title 11A, Civil Service. All persons appointed by the
8 commissioner of registration in counties of the first class having
9 more than 600,000 but less than 850,000 inhabitants according to the
10 latest federal decennial census to serve for terms of more than six
11 months in any one year, other than the chief deputy and chief clerk
12 and confidential secretary and chief custodian, shall be in the career
13 service of the civil service and shall be appointed and hold their
14 positions, in accordance with the provisions of Title 11A, Civil
15 Service. Persons appointed by the commissioner of registration in
16 such counties to serve for terms of six months or less in any one year
17 and persons appointed by the commissioner of registration shall not
18 be subject to any of the provisions of Title 11A, Civil Service, but
19 shall be in the unclassified service.

20 In each county the commissioner of registration shall submit to the
21 **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State on or before February 15 of
22 each year a plan providing for evening registration for the primary
23 election and on or before July 1 plans providing for evening
24 registration for the general election, which plans shall be subject to
25 approval by the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State. Evening
26 registration shall be made available in the office of each
27 commissioner of registration between the hours of 4 p.m. and 9 p.m.
28 on the **【21st】** 14th day preceding the primary and general elections
29 and, in any year in which municipal elections are to be held in any
30 municipality within the county, on the **【21st】** 14th day preceding
31 those municipal elections.

32 In each county, the commissioner of registration may also
33 establish a plan for out-of-office registration, including door-to-door
34 registration.

35 Nothing in this section shall preclude the commissioner from
36 providing pursuant to plan evening registration in excess of the
37 requirements of this section, or shall preclude or in any way limit out-
38 of-office registration conducted by persons or groups other than the
39 commissioner.

40 The commissioner of registration shall provide such printed
41 forms, blanks, supplies and office telephone and transportation
42 equipment as are necessary in the opinion of the commissioner to
43 carry out the provisions of this Title and any amendments or
44 supplements thereto.

45 Subject to the limitations set forth in chapter 32 of this Title, all
46 necessary expenses incurred, as and when certified and approved by

1 the commissioner of registration shall be paid by the county treasurer
2 of the county.

3 Nothing in the provisions of subtitle 2 of the Title, Municipalities
4 and Counties (R.S.40:16-1 et seq.), shall in anywise be construed to
5 affect, restrict or abridge the powers herein conferred on the
6 commissioners of registration of the several counties.

7 All powers granted to the commissioner in all counties not having
8 superintendents of elections by the provisions of this Title are hereby
9 conferred on the county board in such counties and any and all duties
10 conferred upon the commissioner in all counties not having a
11 superintendent of elections by the provisions of this Title shall only
12 be exercised and performed by such commissioner under the
13 instructions and directions of and subject to the approval of the
14 county board of such counties.

15 (cf: P.L. 2005, c.145, s.7)

16

17 4. Section 2 of P.L.1994, c.170 (C.19:31-3.3) is amended to read
18 as follows:

19 2. The commissioner may eliminate the use of the duplicate
20 permanent registration binders and may authorize and direct the use
21 at the polls in place of such a binder, as a signature copy register for
22 the purposes of this Title and Title 40 of the Revised Statutes, of a
23 polling record which identifies on each page the election at which the
24 record is used, which indicates for each registrant the name, address,
25 and date of birth of the registrant and identifies the municipality and
26 the particular election district therein from which the person is
27 registered, and which includes adjacent to the registrant's name and
28 address an imprint of the digitalized image of the registrant's
29 signature and sufficient space, immediately to the left or right of that
30 imprint, for the registrant to sign the record, which imprint and
31 signature shall be used as the signature comparison record as
32 prescribed by this Title. The polling record shall also include for
33 each registrant the registrant's date of birth, an indication of whether
34 the registrant has applied for a mail-in ballot in that election, and a
35 place to indicate whether the registrant has provided identification
36 pursuant to R.S.19:15-17, if such identification is required. The
37 polling record shall also include for each registrant sufficient space
38 for the notation of remarks as provided by R.S.19:15-23 and for the
39 recording of any challenge and the determination thereof by the
40 district board as provided by R.S.19:15-24, or by other elections
41 officials charged with the same duties as the district board in
42 connection with the conduct of an election. In the case of a primary
43 election, the polling record shall also indicate for each registrant the
44 political party, if any, of which the registrant is a member for the
45 purpose of voting at that primary election.

1 Polling records for each election shall be prepared by the
2 commissioner of registration not later than the **【10th】 8th** day
3 preceding the election. At each election, the delivery of the polling
4 records to the municipal clerk and to the district boards or other
5 elections officials charged with the same duties as the district board
6 in connection with the conduct of an election, and the return of those
7 records by the district boards or such other elections officials to the
8 commissioner of registration, shall be made in the manner prescribed
9 by the commissioner.

10 The commissioner of registration shall retain the polling records
11 for any election for a period of not less than six years following that
12 election.

13 (cf: P.L.2009, c.79, s.31)
14

15 5. R.S.19:31-6 is amended to read as follows:

16 19:31-6. Any person qualified to vote in an election shall be
17 entitled to vote in the election if the person shall have registered to
18 vote on or before the **【21st】 14th** day preceding the election by:

19 a. registering in person at any offices designated by the
20 commissioner of registration for providing and receiving registration
21 forms;

22 b. completing a voter registration form while applying for a
23 motor vehicle driver's license from an agent of the New Jersey Motor
24 Vehicle Commission, as provided for in section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182
25 (C.39:2-3.2);

26 c. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having
27 returned thereto a voter registration form received from a voter
28 registration agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 26 of
29 P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11), while applying for services or
30 assistance or seeking a recertification, renewal or change of address
31 at an office of that agency;

32 d. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a voter
33 registration form obtained from a public agency, as defined in
34 subsection a. of section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3);

35 e. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having
36 returned thereto a voter registration form received from a door-to-
37 door canvass or mobile registration drive, as provided for in section
38 19 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.7);

39 f. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a federal
40 mail voter registration form, as prescribed in subsection (b) of section
41 9 of the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993" (42 U.S.C.
42 s.1973gg et seq.);

43 g. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or the
44 appropriate county clerk an application for a federal postcard
45 application form to register to vote, as permitted pursuant to the
46 "Overseas Absentee Voting Act" (42 U.S.C. s.1973ff-1 et seq.) and

1 section 4 of P.L.1976, c.23 (C.19:59-4);

2 h. completing a provisional ballot affirmation statement and
3 voting the provisional ballot in the previous election, if the person
4 who submitted the provisional ballot in that election is determined
5 not to be a registered voter; or

6 i. completing and submitting an online voter registration form
7 available on the Secretary of State's Internet website, as provided
8 under section 1 of P.L.2019, c.382 (C.19:31-6.4c).

9 When the commissioner has designated a place or places other
10 than his office for receiving registrations, the commissioner shall
11 cause to be published a notice in a newspaper circulated in the
12 municipality wherein such place or places of registration shall be
13 located. Such notice shall be published pursuant to R.S.19:12-7.

14 Any office designated by the commissioner of registration for
15 receiving registration forms shall have displayed, in a conspicuous
16 location, registration and voting instructions. These instructions
17 shall be the same as those provided for polling places under R.S.19:9-
18 2 and shall be provided by the commissioner.

19 (cf: P.L.2017, c.39, s.10)

20

21 6. Section 1 of P.L.1966, c.177 (C.19:31-6.1) is amended to read
22 as follows:

23 1. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Title to which
24 this act is a supplement, any person authorized by law to accept
25 applications for voter registration shall accept, during the **【20-day】**
26 13-day period prior to any election, the application for registration of
27 all eligible voters who shall personally appear for registration before
28 such person, or the registration card mailed or delivered to such
29 person, but no eligible voter so registered shall be entitled to vote in
30 the election immediately following said **【20-day】** 13-day period.
31 Any person registered under the provisions of this act shall be
32 advised that he will not be eligible to vote in the election immediately
33 forthcoming but will be eligible to vote in elections held thereafter.

34 Applications for registration pursuant to the provisions of this act
35 shall be received at such place or places as may be designated by any
36 duly authorized election official.

37 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.9)

38

39 7. Section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3) is amended to read
40 as follows:

41 15. a. As used in this section, "public agency" shall mean:

42 The Division of Worker's Compensation, the Division of
43 Employment Services and the Division of Unemployment and
44 Temporary Disability Insurance, established initially by section 5 of
45 P.L.1948, c.446 (C.34:1A-5), in the Department of Labor and
46 Workforce Development;

1 The Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury,
2 continued under section 24 of P.L.1948, c.92 (C.52:18A-24);

3 The New Jersey Transit Corporation, established pursuant to
4 section 4 of P.L.1979, c.150 (C.27:25-4);

5 Any free county library established under the provisions of article
6 1 of chapter 33 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes;

7 Any regional library established under the provisions of P.L.1962,
8 c.134 (C.40:33-13.3 et seq.);

9 Any free public library established under the provisions of article
10 1 of chapter 54 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes;

11 Any joint free public library established under the provisions of
12 P.L.1959, c.155 (C.40:54-29.3 et seq.);

13 Any public institution of higher education as included under the
14 provisions of N.J.S.18A:62-1;

15 Any eligible institution, as defined by subsection a. of section 3 of
16 P.L.1979, c.132 (C.18A:72B-17), that receives financial assistance,
17 aid, or grants from State funds;

18 Any office or commercial establishment where State licenses or
19 permits, other than licenses or permits issued by a professional or
20 occupational board established under the laws of this State, are
21 available to individual members of the public; and

22 Any recruitment office of the New Jersey National Guard.

23 b. Any person entitled to register to vote may register as a voter
24 in the election district in which that person resides at any time prior
25 to the **【21st】 14th** day preceding any election by completing a
26 registration form described in section 16 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-
27 6.4) and submitting the form to the commissioner of registration of
28 the county wherein the person resides or alternatively, in the case of
29 a registration form provided by the employees or agents of a public
30 agency or a voter registration agency, as defined in subsection a. of
31 section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11), to those employees or
32 agents or to the **【Attorney General】 Secretary of State**. Any
33 registration form addressed to a commissioner of registration may be
34 mailed to or delivered to the office of that commissioner, and in the
35 case of a registration form available at a public agency, the form shall
36 be mailed to the **【Attorney General】 Secretary of State** or delivered
37 to the commissioner of registration in the county of the registrant. A
38 registration form postmarked, stamped or otherwise marked as
39 having been received from the registration applicant, on or before the
40 **【21st】 14th** day preceding any election shall be deemed timely.
41 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.10)

42

43 8. Section 16 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.4) is amended to read
44 as follows:

45 16. a. The Secretary of State shall cause to be prepared and shall
46 provide to each county commissioner of registration forms of size

1 and weight suitable for mailing, which shall require the information
2 required by R.S.19:31-3 in substantially the following form:

3
4 VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

5
6 Print clearly in ink. Use ballpoint pen or marker.

7
8 (1) This form is being used as:

9
10 ☐ New registration

11
12 ☐ Address change ☐ Name change

13
14 (2) Name:.....

15
16Last First Middle

17
18 (3) Are you a citizen of the United States of America? ☐ Yes ☐ No

19 (4) Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? ☐ Yes
20 ☐ No

21
22 If you checked 'No' in response to either of these questions, do not
23 complete this form.

24
25 (5) Street Address where you live:

26
27

28
29 Street Address Apt. No.

30
31

32
33 (6) City or Town County Zip Code

34
35 (7) Address Where You Receive Your Mail (if different from
36 above):

37
38

39
40 (8) Date of Birth:

41
42

43
44 Month Day Year

45
46 (9) (a) Telephone Number (optional).....

1 (b) E-Mail Address (optional).....
2
3 (10) Name and address of Your Last Voter Registration
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11 (11) If you are registering by mail to vote and will be voting for
12 the first time in your current county of residence, please provide one
13 of the following:
14 (a) your New Jersey driver's license number:.....
15 (b) the last four digits of your Social Security
16 Number.....
17 OR submit with this form a copy of any one of the following
18 documents: a current and valid photo identification card; a current
19 utility bill, bank statement, government check, pay check or any other
20 government or other identifying document that shows your name and
21 current address. If you do not provide either your New Jersey driver's
22 license number or the last four digits of your Social Security Number,
23 or enclose a copy of one of the documents listed above, you will be
24 asked for identification when voting for the first time, unless you are
25 exempt from doing so under federal or State law.
26 (12) Do you wish to declare a political party affiliation?
27 (Optional):
28
29 ☐ YES. Name of Party:
30 ☐ NO. I do not wish to declare a political party affiliation at
31 this time.
32 (13)☐ I wish to receive a Mail-in Ballot for all future elections,
33 until I request otherwise in writing.
34
35 (14)Declaration - I swear or affirm that:
36
37 I am a U.S. citizen.
38 I live at the above address.
39
40 I will be at least 18 years old on or before the day of the next
41 election.
42
43 I am not serving a sentence of incarceration due to a conviction
44 for an indictable offense under any federal or State laws.

1 I UNDERSTAND THAT ANY FALSE OR FRAUDULENT
2 REGISTRATION MAY SUBJECT ME TO A FINE OF UP TO
3 \$15,000, IMPRISONMENT UP TO FIVE YEARS, OR BOTH
4 PURSUANT TO R.S.19:34-1.

5
6
7
8 Signature or mark of the registrant Date

9
10 (15) If applicant is unable to complete this form, print the name
11 and address of individual who completed this form.

12
13
14
15 Name

16
17
18
19 Address

20
21 In addition, the form may include notice to the applicant of
22 information and options relating to the registration and voting
23 process, including but not limited to notice of qualifications required
24 of a registered voter; notice of the final day by which a person must
25 be registered to be eligible to vote in an election; notice of the effect
26 of a failure to provide required identification information; a place at
27 which the applicant may indicate availability for service as a member
28 of the district board of elections; a place at which the applicant may
29 indicate whether he or she requires a polling place which is accessible
30 to individuals with disabilities and the elderly or whether he or she is
31 legally blind; a place at which the applicant may indicate a desire to
32 receive additional information concerning voting by mail; and if the
33 application indicates a political party affiliation, the voter is
34 permitted to vote in the primary election of a political party other
35 than the political party in which the voter was affiliated previously
36 only if the voter registration form with the change of political party
37 affiliation is filed prior to the 50th day next preceding the primary
38 election. The form may also include a space for the voter registration
39 agency to record whether the applicant registered in person, by mail
40 or by other means.

41 b. The reverse side of the registration form shall bear the address
42 of the Secretary of State or the commissioner of registration to whom
43 such form is supplied, and a United States postal permit the charges
44 upon which shall be paid by the State.

45 c. The Secretary of State shall cause to be prepared registration
46 forms of the size, weight and form described in subsection a. of this

- 1 section in both the English and Spanish language and shall provide
2 such forms to each commissioner of registration of any county in
3 which there is at least one election district in which bilingual sample
4 ballots must be provided pursuant to R.S.19:14-21, R.S.19:49-4 or
5 section 2 of P.L.1965, c.29 (C.19:23-22.4).
- 6 d. The commissioner of registration shall furnish such
7 registration forms upon request in person to any person or
8 organization in such reasonable quantities as such person or
9 organization shall request. The commissioner shall furnish no fewer
10 than two such forms to any person upon request by mail or by
11 telephone.
- 12 e. Each such registration form shall have annexed thereto
13 instructions specifying the manner and method of registration, and
14 the vote by mail option specified on the form, and stating the
15 qualifications for an eligible voter.
- 16 f. The Secretary of State shall also furnish such registration
17 forms and such instructions to the Director of the Division of
18 Workers' Compensation, the Director of the Division of Employment
19 Services, and the Director of the Division of Unemployment and
20 Temporary Disability Insurance in the Department of Labor and
21 Workforce Development; to the Director of the Division of Taxation
22 in the Department of the Treasury; to the Executive Director of the
23 New Jersey Transit Corporation; to the appropriate administrative
24 officer of any other public agency, as defined by subsection a. of
25 section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3); to the Adjutant General
26 of the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs; and to the chief
27 administrative officer of any voter registration agency, as defined in
28 subsection a. of section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11).
- 29 g. All registration forms received by the Secretary of State in the
30 mail or forwarded to the Secretary of State shall be forwarded to the
31 commissioner of registration in the county of the registrant. Each
32 such form, and any registration form received otherwise by a
33 commissioner of registration, shall be forwarded to the county clerk
34 if the vote by mail option is selected on a form.
- 35 h. An application to register to vote received from the New
36 Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission or a voter registration agency, as
37 defined in subsection a. of section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-
38 6.11), shall be deemed to have been timely made for the purpose of
39 qualifying an eligible applicant as registered to vote in an election if
40 the date on which the commission or agency shall have received that
41 document in completed form, as indicated in the lower right hand
42 corner of the form, was not later than the **【21st】** 14th day preceding
43 that election.
- 44 i. Each commissioner of registration shall make note in the
45 permanent registration file of each voter who is required to provide
46 the personal identification information required pursuant to this

1 section, as amended, and R.S.19:15-17, R.S.19:31-5 and Pub.L.107-
2 252 (42 U.S.C.s. 15301 et seq.), to indicate the type of identification
3 provided by the voter and the date on which it is provided. **【**Prior to
4 the June 2004 primary election, when such a newly registered voter
5 seeks to vote for the first time following his or her registration, the
6 voter will be required to provide such personal identification
7 information.**】** Beginning with the June 2004 primary election, when
8 such a newly registered voter seeks to vote for the first time following
9 his or her registration, the voter will not be required to provide such
10 information if he or she had previously provided the personal
11 identification information required pursuant to this section. The
12 required information shall be collected and stored for the time and in
13 the manner required pursuant to regulations promulgated by the
14 Secretary of State.

15 j. The Secretary of State shall amend the voter registration
16 application form if necessary to conform to the requirements of
17 applicable federal or State law.

18 k. In the event that the name of any political party entered on the
19 voter registration form by a voter who wishes to declare a political
20 party affiliation is not legible, the commissioner of registration shall
21 mail the voter a political party declaration form and a letter
22 explaining that the voter's choice was not understood and that the
23 voter should complete and return the declaration form in order to be
24 affiliated with a party.

25 (cf: P.L.2019, c.270, s.3)

26

27 9. R.S.19:31-7 is amended to read as follows:

28 19:31-7. For the convenience of the voters the respective
29 municipal clerks or their duly authorized clerk or clerks in all
30 municipalities shall also be empowered to register applicants for
31 permanent registration up to and including the **【21st】** 14th day
32 preceding any election and after any such election in the manner
33 indicated above, subject to such rules and regulations as may be
34 prescribed by the commissioner, in counties having a superintendent
35 of elections, and the county board in all other counties. Duly
36 authorized clerk as used in this section shall mean a clerk who resides
37 within the municipality and has been approved by the commissioner
38 or the county board as the case may be. For this purpose the
39 commissioner shall forward to each municipal clerk a sufficient
40 supply of registration forms. The commissioners shall keep a record
41 of the serial numbers of these forms and shall periodically make such
42 checks as are necessary to accurately determine if all such forms are
43 satisfactorily accounted for. Each municipal clerk shall transmit
44 daily to the commissioner all of the filled out registration forms that
45 he may have in his office at the time.

46 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.12)

1 10. R.S.19:31-11 is amended to read as follows:

2 19:31-11. a. In all counties within the State, change of residence
3 notices shall be made by a written request, signed by the registrant,
4 forwarded to the commissioner by mail, and actually received by the
5 commissioner, or by calling in person at the office of the
6 commissioner or the municipal clerk. The commissioner shall
7 provide change of residence notices in card form for the use of any
8 registered voter moving to another address within the same election
9 district or to another election district within the same county. Copies
10 of these notices shall also be available at the office of the municipal
11 clerk in each municipality. Each municipal clerk shall transmit daily
12 to the commissioner all the filled out change of residence notices that
13 may be in the municipal clerk's office at the time. These notices shall
14 be printed upon cards, shall contain a blank form showing where the
15 applicant last resided and the address and exact location to which the
16 applicant has moved and shall have a line for the applicant's
17 signature, printed name and date of birth. Upon receipt of such
18 change of residence notice the commissioner shall cause the
19 signature to be compared with the registration forms of the applicant
20 and, if such signature appears to be of and by one and the same legal
21 voter, the commissioner shall cause the entry of the change of
22 residence to be made on those registration forms and the registrant
23 shall thereupon be qualified to vote in the election district to which
24 the registrant shall have so moved. If the commissioner is not
25 satisfied as to the signature on the request for a change of residence,
26 a confirmation notice as prescribed by subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15
27 shall be sent by mail with postage prepaid to the registrant at the new
28 address.

29 The application for change of residence shall be filed with the
30 commissioner or municipal clerk, as the case may be, on or before
31 the **【21st】** 14th day preceding any election.

32 b. In any county any voter who, prior to an election, shall move
33 within the same county after the time above prescribed for filing an
34 application for change of residence without having made application
35 for change of residence, or who has not returned a confirmation
36 notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the
37 county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or who has not
38 moved since the previous election but whose registration information
39 is missing or otherwise deficient, or has otherwise failed to notify the
40 commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within
41 the county, shall be permitted to vote in that election in the district to
42 which the voter has moved, upon making a written affirmation
43 regarding the change of address at the polling place of the district in
44 which the voter resides on the day of the election. No identifying
45 document shall be required from the voter for this affirmation. A
46 district board member shall provide the voter with a provisional

1 ballot, and an envelope with an affirmation statement that conforms
2 with the requirements for such documents contained in subsection b.
3 of section 7 of P.L.1999, c.232 (C.19:53C-1). The voter shall
4 complete the provisional ballot and affirmation statement, place the
5 ballot in the envelope, seal and return it to the district board member.
6 The board member shall review the information in the affirmation
7 statement for completeness before forwarding it for inspection,
8 tabulation and notation by the county board of elections, as provided
9 for by sections 7 through 26 of P.L.1999, c.232 (C.19:53C-1 through
10 C.19:53C-20). The affirmation statement shall constitute a transfer
11 to the registrant's new residence for any subsequent election.
12 However, if the voter has moved from one residence to another
13 within the same election district at any time, the voter shall be
14 permitted to vote in such election district at any election in the same
15 manner as other voters at the polling place upon written affirmation
16 by the registrant to the district board member of the registrant's
17 change of address.

18 c. A voter who moves from an election district in one county to
19 an election district in another county prior to the close of registration
20 preceding an election shall register in the new county of residence,
21 in accordance with the provisions of R.S.19:31-6, in
22 order to be permitted to vote.
23 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.13)
24

25 11. R.S.19:31-13 is amended to read as follows:

26 19:31-13. Whenever the registrant after his or her original
27 registration shall change his or her name due to marriage, divorce, or
28 by judgment of court, the registrant shall in person or by mail submit
29 to the commissioner of registration a written statement notifying the
30 commissioner of the change, which statement shall take such form,
31 and be printed on a postal card suitable for mailing of such design, as
32 the **【Attorney General】** Secretary of State shall prescribe and shall
33 be signed by the registrant. The commissioner, upon receipt of such
34 a notice of change of name, shall revise accordingly the name of the
35 registrant as it appears among the items of information concerning
36 the registrant included on the registrant's registration forms, shall
37 make a photographic copy of the notice of name change submitted by
38 the registrant, and shall affix the original notice so submitted to the
39 registrant's original registration form and the photographic copy of
40 that notice to the registrant's duplicate registration record.

41 When notice of such change in name has not been received by or
42 filed with the commissioner prior to the **【21st】** 14th day preceding
43 any election, such person may be permitted to vote under the name
44 under which the person was registered prior to that change at the first
45 election following such change in name at which the person shall
46 appear to vote, after signing the signature copy register with both the

1 registered name and his or her new name. The commissioner shall
2 then revise accordingly the name of the registrant as it appears on the
3 registrant's registration forms, make a photographic copy of the
4 notice, and affix the original and copy of the notice to the registrant's
5 permanent registration forms as hereinabove prescribed.

6 (cf: P.L.2005, c.139, s.14)

7
8 12. R.S.19:31-15 is amended to read as follows:

9 19:31-15. a. Upon receipt by the commissioner of registration
10 of a county from a registered voter of that county of a request that the
11 name of the registrant be removed from the Statewide voter
12 registration system, the commissioner shall so remove the registrant's
13 name. Notice by a registered voter to the commissioner of
14 registration of a county that the registrant has ceased to reside in the
15 State shall, for the purposes of this subsection, be deemed a request
16 for removal of the registrant's name from the Statewide voter
17 registration system.

18 b. The commissioner of registration of any county may agree
19 with the United States Postal Service or its licensee to receive
20 information provided by the Postal Service concerning the change by
21 any Postal Service customer of that customer's address within the
22 county. If it appears from information so received that a Postal
23 Service customer registered to vote in the county has moved to a
24 different address, then (1) if that address is within the county, the
25 commissioner shall cause the registration records of the registrant to
26 be corrected accordingly and shall transmit to the resident by
27 forwardable mail a notice of the change and a postage prepaid, pre-
28 addressed return form by which the registrant may verify or correct
29 the address information, or (2) if that address is not within the county,
30 the commissioner shall undertake the confirmation notice procedure
31 prescribed under subsection d. of this section to confirm the change
32 of address.

33 c. The commissioner of registration of a county shall cause the
34 name of a registrant to be removed from the Statewide voter
35 registration system if the registrant (1) confirms in writing, by return
36 of a confirmation notice as prescribed under subsection d. of this
37 section or by other means, that the registrant has changed residence
38 to a place outside the State, or (2) has either not notified the
39 commissioner or failed to respond to a confirmation notice as so
40 prescribed and has not, in any election during the period beginning
41 on the date on which the commissioner sends the confirmation notice
42 to the registrant and ending on the day after the second general
43 election for federal office following that date on which the notice is
44 sent, (a) voted, or (b) appeared to vote in any county and, if
45 necessary, correct the official record of the registrant's address.

1 Other than as provided under subsection a. of this section, the
2 name of a registrant shall not be removed from the Statewide voter
3 registration system on the ground that the registrant has changed
4 residence except as provided by this subsection.

5 d. A confirmation notice sent to ascertain whether a registrant
6 continues to reside at the address from which that registrant is
7 registered to vote shall be a postage prepaid and pre-addressed return
8 card, sent by forwardable mail, which shall include: (1) space on
9 which the registrant's current address may be entered; (2) the
10 statement "To any voter who continues to reside at the residence
11 address to which this notice is addressed or who no longer resides at
12 that residence address but continues to reside in..... (name of
13 county): please mail or personally deliver this postage prepaid card
14 to the commissioner of registration to whom it is addressed not later
15 than..... (calendar date of the **21st** 14th day preceding the
16 next election to be held in the county). If you do not return this card
17 by that date, then at any election held subsequent to that date and on
18 or before..... (calendar date of the day after the second general
19 election for federal office following that date), you may be required
20 at the polls to affirm or confirm your address before you are permitted
21 to vote, and if you do not vote in an election during that period, your
22 name will be removed from the registry of eligible voters."; and (3)
23 a statement, the text of which shall be prescribed by the **Attorney**
24 **General** Secretary of State, setting forth the means by which a
25 registrant who has changed residence to a county different from that
26 in which is located the residence to which the notice was originally
27 addressed may retain the right to vote.

28 e. The commissioner of registration shall correct the registry list
29 of eligible voters in accordance with change of residence information
30 obtained in conformity with the provisions of this section.

31 (cf: P.L.2005, c.145, s.12)

32
33 13. R.S.19:31-18 is amended to read as follows:

34 19:31-18. On or before the **eighth** fifth day preceding any
35 general election the commissioner shall certify and transmit to the
36 county clerk a complete list of all persons who are registered in each
37 election district in each municipality in the county together with a
38 statement as to the number of persons registered in each district. The
39 list of registered voters shall include only the following information
40 for each registered voter: name, address, date of birth, political party
41 affiliation, and voting history. Except when so ordered by a court,
42 the list of registered voters shall not include voter signatures. The
43 list shall be drawn from the Statewide voter registration system,
44 established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31). It
45 shall in figures state the total number of names of persons registered.
46 Such lists shall be arranged substantially in the following form:

1 Grand Street

2

3 Residence number Name of voter
4 or other designation

5 14 Jones, Charles M.

6 15 Smith, John M.

7 (cf: P.L.2005, c.145, s.13)

8

9 14. R.S.19:31-20 is amended to read as follows:

10 19:31-20. On or before the **【eighth】** fifth day preceding the
11 primary election for the general election and the general election,
12 respectively, the commissioner in counties not having a
13 superintendent of elections, shall deliver to the municipal clerk in
14 each municipality the signature copy registers for each election
15 district in such municipality and shall take a receipt for same. The
16 municipal clerk shall thereupon deliver at his office, or in any other
17 way he sees fit, such registers to a member or members of the proper
18 district boards at the same time and together with the primary for the
19 general election sample ballots or the general election sample ballots,
20 as the case may be. The registers shall be used by the district boards
21 on election days and for the purpose of mailing the sample ballots.
22 The commissioner in counties having a superintendent of elections
23 shall deliver such registers at his office, or in any other way he may
24 see fit, to the various district boards, taking a receipt for same.

25 Before delivering the registers the commissioner shall cause to be
26 printed upon a separate sheet or sheets of paper, to be inserted inside
27 of the front cover of such registers in conspicuous type, such
28 instructions to election officers regarding the use and disposition of
29 the binders and forms as he deems necessary.

30 (cf: P.L.2011, c.134, s.41)

31

32 15. This act shall take effect on January 1 next following
33 enactment, except that the Secretary of State and the county
34 commissioners of registration may take such anticipatory action as
35 may be needed to effectuate the purposes of this act.

36

37

38 STATEMENT

39

40 Currently, a person eligible to vote is required to register at least
41 21 days prior to an election in order to vote in that election. This bill
42 would provide that a person eligible to vote may register up to 14
43 days prior to an election and vote in that election.

44 The bill would not affect the constitutional requirement that a
45 person must reside in a county for 30 days prior to an election in order
46 to be eligible to vote in that election.