

SENATE, No. 2975

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator RONALD L. RICE

District 28 (Essex)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes minimum and maximum sentences and penalties for election officers and employees convicted of fraud.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 AN ACT establishing minimum and maximum sentences and
2 penalties for election officers and employees convicted of fraud,
3 and amending R.S.19:34-1.

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

7
8 1. R.S.19:34-1 is amended to read as follows:

9 19:34-1. If any member of the district board shall willfully
10 refuse to enter in the canvassing books or upon the registers the
11 name of any person legally entitled to vote, or shall register the
12 name of any person contrary to the provisions of this title, such
13 member shall be guilty of a crime of the third degree.

14 Any person who shall cause or procure his name to be registered
15 in more than one election district, or shall cause or procure his
16 name or that of any other person to be registered, knowing that he
17 or such other person is not entitled to vote in the election district
18 wherein such registry is made at the next election to be held therein,
19 shall be punished for each such offense and shall be guilty of a
20 crime of the third degree.

21 No district board shall execute or deliver to any voter any paper
22 in the nature of a transfer, purporting to authorize him to vote in
23 any other election district unless he is actually registered as now
24 provided by law.

25 Any officer or employee who shall willfully fail to perform or
26 enforce any of the provisions of this title or who shall unlawfully or
27 fraudulently remove any registration records, or who shall willfully
28 destroy any record directed by this title to be kept, or any person
29 who shall willfully or fraudulently register more than once, or
30 register under any but his true name, or attempt to vote by
31 impersonating another who is registered, or who willfully registers
32 in any election district where he is not a resident at the time of
33 registering, or who violates any of the provisions of this title, shall
34 be guilty of a crime of the third degree.

35 Any officer or employee convicted of fraud with respect to voter
36 registration, an election, or the administration of an election shall,
37 in addition to any other penalty provided by law, serve a mandatory
38 minimum term of one year but no more than a maximum term of
39 five years during which time the officer or employee shall not be
40 eligible for parole, and shall be liable to a mandatory minimum
41 penalty of \$15,000, but no more than a maximum penalty of
42 \$50,000.

43 (cf: P.L.2005, c.154, s.20)

44
45 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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 STATEMENT

2

3 This bill provides that any election officer or employee convicted
4 of fraud with respect to voter registration, an election, or the
5 administration of an election would, in addition to any other penalty
6 provided by law, serve a mandatory minimum term of one year but
7 no more than a maximum term of five years during which time the
8 officer or employee would not be eligible for parole, and would be
9 liable to a mandatory minimum penalty of \$15,000, but no more
10 than a maximum penalty of \$50,000.