

SENATE, No. 2713

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 3, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator CHRISTOPHER "KIP" BATEMAN

District 16 (Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset)

SYNOPSIS

Permits voter to take photograph of own voted ballot and share it on Internet-based social media.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

WITHDRAWN



1 AN ACT concerning the secrecy of the voted ballot and amending
2 R.S.19:34-7.

3

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

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

8 19:34-7. No person shall within the polling room mark his ballot
9 in a place other than in the polling booth or show his ballot, nor
10 shall anyone request such person to show his ballot during the
11 preparation thereof, nor shall any other person inspect such ballot
12 during the preparation thereof or after it is prepared for voting in
13 such a way as to reveal the contents, nor shall any person within the
14 polling place or within a hundred feet thereof, loiter, electioneer, or
15 solicit any voter.

16 No voter, at any election where official ballots are used, shall
17 knowingly vote or offer to vote any ballot except an official ballot
18 as by this Title required.

19 No person shall on any pretext carry any official ballot from the
20 polling room on any election day except such persons as may by
21 this Title be authorized to do so.

22 The provisions of this section shall not be interpreted to prohibit
23 a voter from voluntarily taking a photograph of the voter's own
24 voted ballot and sharing that photograph on Internet-based social
25 media.

26 Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall
27 be guilty of a crime of the fourth degree.

28 (cf: P.L.2005, c.154, s.27)

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30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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35 This bill allows voters to photograph their own voted ballots
36 while in the voting booth and to share those photographs on
37 Internet-based social media.

38 Under current law, a voter is prohibited from showing his or her
39 voted ballot. The law also prohibits other persons from requesting
40 that a voter show his or her voted ballot, or from inspecting such
41 ballot during or after voting as to reveal its contents. This bill does
42 not remove these prohibitions. This bill provides that these
43 provisions of current law would not be interpreted to prohibit a
44 voter from voluntarily taking a photograph of the voter's own voted
45 ballot and sharing it on Internet-based social media.

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.