

SENATE, No. 2936

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Sponsored by:

Senator KRISTIN M. CORRADO

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Cardinale, Oroho, Bateman, Testa and Holzapfel

SYNOPSIS

Requires commissioner of registration to move voters with undeliverable mail-in ballots to inactive file; removes such inactive voters from Statewide voter registration system following failure to vote in two consecutive federal general elections.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/14/2020)

S2936 CORRADO

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1 AN ACT concerning mail-in ballots returned as undeliverable and
2 supplementing Title 19 of the Revised Statutes.

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

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other law or regulation to the
8 contrary, any mail-in ballot that is sent to a qualified voter and that
9 is returned to the county clerk as undeliverable and forwarded to the
10 commissioner of registration shall be compiled by the commissioner
11 and noted in the Statewide voter registration system following any
12 election in the State. The commissioner of registration shall place
13 any voter whose mail-in ballot was returned as undeliverable into
14 the inactive file. If a voter placed in the inactive file, pursuant to
15 this subsection, fails to vote in two consecutive federal general
16 elections, the commissioner of registration shall take the necessary
17 steps to remove the voter from the Statewide voter registration
18 system and transfer the voter to the deleted file, pursuant to the
19 provisions of R.S.19:31-19.

20 The commissioner of registration shall retain, for two years, all
21 mail-in ballots returned as undeliverable.

22 b. The commissioner of registration shall send a notice to a
23 mail-in ballot voter, no more than five days following:

24 (1) the voter's placement in the inactive file;

25 (2) the commissioner's decision to take the necessary steps to
26 remove the voter from the Statewide voter registration system; and

27 (3) the voter's removal from the Statewide voter registration
28 system and transfer to the deleted file.

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30 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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35 This bill requires the commissioner of registration to move
36 voters with undeliverable mail-in ballots to the inactive file and
37 remove such inactive voters from the Statewide voter registration
38 system following failure to vote in two consecutive federal general
39 elections.

40 Under current law, any mail-in ballot returned for any reason is
41 forwarded to the commissioner of registration, who notes the return
42 in the voter record of that voter. This bill requires that a mail-in
43 ballot returned as undeliverable to the county be forwarded to the
44 commissioner of registration and noted in the Statewide voter
45 registration system. The commissioner will compile a list of the
46 voters and place those voters in the inactive file. If a voter in the
47 inactive file fails to vote in two consecutive federal general
48 elections, the commissioner will take the necessary steps to begin

S2936 CORRADO

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1 the process for the removal of the voter from the Statewide voter
2 registration system and transfer to the deleted file. The
3 commissioner would be required to send notice to a mail-in ballot
4 voter following the voter's placement in the inactive file due to a
5 mail-in ballot returned as undeliverable, the decision of the
6 commissioner to begin the process for removal from the Statewide
7 voter registration system, and the removal of the voter from the
8 Statewide voter registration system and transfer to the deleted file.