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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
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SYNOPSIS

Requires in person early voting period for certain elections; makes appropriation.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Appropriations Committee on February 24, 2021, with amendments.

(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/1/2021)

1 AN ACT requiring early voting to be available for certain elections,
2 amending various parts of the statutory law, supplementing Title
3 19 of the Revised Statutes, and making an appropriation.
4

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

7
8 1. (New section) a. In addition to all other forms of voting
9 provided for by this Title, a registered voter shall be permitted to
10 vote at a specially designated polling place before the day of certain
11 primary and general elections in this State. This procedure shall be
12 known as early voting. The early voting period shall:

13 (1) start on the 4th calendar day before a non-presidential
14 primary election for a non-presidential general election and end on
15 the second calendar day before that non-presidential primary
16 election;

17 (2) start on the 6th calendar day before a presidential primary
18 election for a presidential general election and end on the second
19 calendar day before that presidential primary election; or

20 (3) start on the 10th calendar day before a general election and
21 end on the second calendar day before that general election.

22 The voting process during the early voting period shall be
23 conducted using electronic poll books and optical-scan voting
24 machines that read hand-marked paper ballots or other voting
25 machines that produce a voter-verifiable paper ballot. Any
26 municipality conducting regular municipal elections in May
27 pursuant to the provisions of the “Uniform Nonpartisan Elections
28 Law,” P.L.1981, c.379 (C.40:45-5 et seq.), may, by an ordinance
29 adopted by its governing body, also conduct early voting for the
30 regular municipal election, in accordance with the provisions of this
31 act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). If
32 adopted by a municipal governing body, the early voting period for
33 a regular municipal election in May shall start on the 4th calendar
34 day before the regular municipal election and end on the second
35 calendar day before that regular municipal election. An early voting
36 period shall only be permitted for a non-presidential or presidential
37 primary election and a general election in this State and, if adopted
38 by a municipal governing body, a regular municipal election
39 conducted in May. Pursuant to the provisions of this act and Title
40 19 of the Revised Statutes and in accordance with procedures that
41 ²**[shall]** may² be established by the Secretary of State for verifying
42 eligible voters, each county board of elections shall verify that a
43 registered voter is qualified to vote in the election and shall

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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Senate floor amendments adopted February 19, 2021.

²Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted February 24, 2021.

1 prescribe the manner by which a registered voter may vote during
2 such period.

3 b. (1) For the primary and the general election, each county
4 board of elections shall designate at least three ², but not more than
5 five,² public locations within each county as the sites for early
6 voting to occur, except that the county board shall designate at least
7 five ², but not more than seven,² public locations for early voting if
8 the number of registered voters in the county is at least 150,000 but
9 less than 300,000, and shall designate at least seven ², but not more
10 than 10,² public locations for early voting if the number of
11 registered voters in the county is 300,000 or more. ²This provision
12 shall not be interpreted to prevent county boards of elections, at
13 their discretion, from establishing additional locations in excess of
14 the five, seven, or 10 location limits respectively set forth herein;
15 provided, however, that the State shall be required to provide
16 reimbursement for the costs of locations up to and including the
17 five, seven, or 10 respective limits established herein, and shall not
18 be required to provide reimbursement for additional locations
19 beyond those limits under section 6 of this act , P.L. , c. (C.)
20 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).² The number of
21 registered voters in each county shall be determined ahead of the
22 selection of early voting sites pursuant to a uniform standard which
23 shall be developed by the Secretary of State through the rulemaking
24 process pursuant to the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968,
25 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.). Whenever possible, early voting
26 locations shall be geographically located so as to ensure both access
27 in the part of the county that features the greatest concentration of
28 population, according to the most recent federal decennial census of
29 the United States, and access in various geographic areas of the
30 county. All early voting locations shall be public facilities, such as
31 county courthouses, public libraries and the offices of the municipal
32 clerk, county clerk, and county board of elections ², or places of
33 public accommodation as provided under Title 10 of the Revised
34 Statues². No public school building and no building used as a public
35 school ², as that term is defined under N.J.S.18A:1-1,² shall, however,
36 be designated as an early voting location. The locations shall be
37 designated at the same time as all other polling places are
38 designated by the board of elections. In the event of a tie vote
39 among members of the county board with respect to the selection of
40 sites for early voting, the county clerk shall cast the deciding vote.
41 Once early voting locations are designated in each county, county
42 boards of election shall ²**[**, as provided by the Secretary of State,**]**²
43 evaluate and, if deemed necessary, revise these locations in order to
44 accommodate significant changes in the number of registered voters
45 within each county, reflect the population distribution and density
46 within each county, or because of similar circumstances. The
47 Secretary of State ²**[shall]** may² develop the criteria to be used by

1 county boards of election to revise the location of early voting sites
2 and shall prescribe how often such revision shall take place.

3 A voter shall be permitted to vote at any early voting site in the
4 voter's county.

5 (2) Whenever a municipality that conducts regular municipal
6 elections in May chooses to participate in early voting for the
7 regular municipal election, the county board of elections shall
8 designate at least one public location ², but not more than three
9 public locations.² within the municipality as the site ²or sites² for
10 early voting to occur. ²This provision shall not be interpreted to
11 prevent a county board of elections, at its discretion, from
12 establishing additional locations in excess of the three location limit
13 set forth herein; provided, however, that the State shall be required
14 to provide reimbursement for the costs of locations up to and
15 including the three location limit established herein, and shall not
16 be required to provide reimbursement for additional locations
17 beyond that limit under section 6 of this act , P.L. , c. (C.)
18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).² Whenever possible,
19 each such location shall be geographically located in the part of the
20 municipality that features the greatest concentration of population,
21 according to the most recent federal decennial census of the United
22 States. All early voting locations shall be public facilities, such as
23 municipal courthouses and the offices of the municipal clerk ², or
24 places of public accommodation as provided under Title 10 of the
25 Revised Statues². No public school building and no building used as
26 a public school ², as that term is defined under N.J.S.18A:1-1,² shall
27 be designated as an early voting location. The locations shall be
28 designated at the same time as all other polling places are
29 designated by the board of elections. In the event of a tie vote
30 among members of the county board with respect to the selection of
31 sites for early voting, the municipal clerk shall cast the deciding
32 vote. Once early voting locations are designated in each
33 municipality, county boards of election shall ²**[**, as provided by the
34 Secretary of State,**]² evaluate and, if deemed necessary, revise these
35 locations in order to accommodate significant changes in the
36 number of registered voters within each municipality, reflect the
37 population distribution and density within each municipality, or
38 because of similar circumstances. The Secretary of State ²**[shall]**
39 may² develop the criteria to be used by county boards of election to
40 revise the location of early voting sites and shall prescribe how
41 often such revision shall take place.**

42 A voter shall be permitted to vote at any early voting site in the
43 voter's municipality.

44 c. Each early voting site in a county or municipality shall be
45 open for early voting on Monday through Saturday from at least 10
46 AM to 8 PM, and on Sunday from at least 10 AM to 6 PM. Any

1 voter who is on line at the time scheduled for the closing of an early
2 voting site shall be permitted to vote.

3 d. The election officers responsible for conducting early voting
4 shall be the same as those responsible for conducting a primary and
5 a general election, as appropriate, pursuant to this Title. The
6 number of such officers and their hours of service shall be as
7 determined by each county board of elections. The compensation
8 for such officers shall be the same as provided to district board of
9 election members serving at a school election pursuant to
10 R.S.19:45-6 ², or that required pursuant to Article I, paragraph 23 of
11 the New Jersey Constitution, whichever is greater².

12 e. The restrictions governing the conduct of voters at a polling
13 place on the days that early voting occurs, the procedures governing
14 who is permitted in a polling place on such occasions and the
15 prohibition on electioneering within 100 feet of a polling place
16 during an election, shall be as provided in chapters 15, 34, 50 and
17 52 of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes and every other applicable
18 section of this Title.

19 f. ²**[At least once]** In real time using the electronic poll books²
20 each day during the early voting period, and prior to the start of
21 each regularly scheduled primary and general election, and regular
22 municipal election in each non-partisan municipality choosing to
23 participate in early voting, each county board shall make such
24 changes as may be necessary to the voter's record in the Statewide
25 voter registration system ²**[and the signature copy register used at**
26 **each polling place]**² to indicate that a voter has voted in that
27 election using the early voting procedure.

28 g. (1) Each county board shall be responsible for forming and
29 executing a written plan to ensure, to the greatest extent possible,
30 the integrity of the voting process and the security of ballots used
31 during the early voting period, including the security of voting
32 machines, voted ballots, and election records. The plan shall be
33 based on guidelines established by the Secretary of State and shall
34 be submitted thereto no later than December 15 of each year. The
35 Secretary of State shall review and, if deemed necessary thereby,
36 require changes to a plan no later than February 1 of each year.
37 Each plan shall specify a chain of custody and security plan for the
38 voting machines, and a chain of custody for the voted ballots and
39 election records and materials, and shall require, among other
40 specifications deemed necessary by the Secretary of State and
41 county boards of election, that all voted ballots shall be transferred
42 at the end of each early voting day to county boards of election for
43 safekeeping. After the voted ballots are transferred to the county
44 board of elections at the end of each early voting day, a county
45 board may elect to impound those voted ballots on a secure server,
46 or by any other means deemed appropriate by the Secretary of State.
47 The voted ballots shall not be canvassed until the closing of the polls

1 on election day as required pursuant to section 4 of this act,
2 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

3 ²The results of the voted ballots cast during early voting shall remain
4 confidential and shall be disclosed only in accordance with the
5 provisions of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, regulations, and
6 guidelines concerning the disclosure of election results, and a violation
7 shall be subject to the penalties established by law.²

8 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, in the
9 year in which P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
10 as this bill) becomes law, each county board shall submit its plan to
11 the Secretary of State within ²~~15~~ ³⁰ days following the effective
12 date of this act and the Secretary of State shall review it and, if
13 deemed necessary thereby, require changes in the plan within 45
14 days following the effective date of this act.

15 h. Each county board shall make certain that each polling place
16 used for early voting shall be accessible to individuals with
17 disabilities and the elderly, in compliance with the “Americans with
18 Disabilities Act of 1990” (42 U.S.C. s.12101 et seq.), and that each
19 polling place provides such voters, including the blind and visually
20 impaired, the same opportunity for access and participation,
21 including privacy and independence, as other voters in compliance
22 with the “Help America Vote Act of 2002” (42 U.S.C. s.15481).

23 i. The Secretary of State shall establish a printing on demand
24 ballot and elections system. At a minimum, the system shall be
25 compatible with the Statewide voter registration system established
26 pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31) and any
27 electronic poll books provided by section 1 of P.L.2019, c.80
28 (C.19:31-35). Each polling place used for early voting shall have a
29 computer, tablet, or other electronic device to print provisional
30 ballots for voters required to vote by provisional ballot in
31 accordance to the provisions of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes or
32 due to an equipment malfunction ²~~],~~ a voter file, a polling record or
33 signature copy register,¹ as further provided under section 3 of
34 P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-37),² or any other election related material,
35 if needed. A computer, tablet, or other electronic device and the
36 printer used to print election materials at a polling place shall not be
37 used unless it has been certified by the Secretary of State. The
38 Secretary of State shall adopt and publish standards and regulations
39 governing the certification and use of computer, tablets, or other
40 electronic devices and printers to print election materials at each
41 polling place used for early voting. The Secretary of State shall not
42 certify a computer, tablet, or other electronic device or printer
43 unless it is in compliance with the secretary’s standards.

44 j. Each polling place used for early voting shall also have such
45 appropriate supplies, ballots and other materials deemed necessary
46 by the Secretary of State or as is required currently for a polling
47 place on the day of any election by Title 19 of the Revised Statutes.

1 2. (New section) a. The appointment of challengers for early
2 voting shall be in the ¹【manner provided in subsection b. of section 1
3 of P.L.1960, c.82 (C. 19:7-6.1) for all elections.】 following manner:

4 (1) The chairperson of the county committee of any political party
5 that has duly nominated any candidate for public office to be voted for
6 at an election by all the voters within the county or any political
7 division thereof greater than a single municipality, or where the
8 election is within and for a single municipality only, or any
9 subdivision thereof, then the chairperson of the municipal committee
10 of the political party making such nomination within and for such
11 single municipality, or subdivision thereof, may appoint two
12 challengers for each grouping of candidates choosing to be grouped
13 together on the ballot for each early voting site in the chairperson's
14 county or municipality, as the case may be. If two or more candidates
15 choosing to be grouped together on the ballot do not belong to an
16 organization represented by a county or municipal committee of any
17 political party, as the case may be, the candidate listed on the highest
18 position on the ballot for that grouping of candidates may appoint two
19 challengers for that grouping of candidates for each early voting site in
20 the county or municipality, as the case may be.

21 (2) A candidate who has filed a petition for an office to be voted
22 for at the primary election, and a candidate for an office whose name
23 may appear upon the ballot to be used in any election, may act as a
24 challenger. A candidate who is not grouped with any other candidate
25 on the ballot may appoint two challengers for each early voting site at
26 which the candidate is to appear on the ballot, but only two challengers
27 shall be allowed for each early voting site to represent all the
28 candidates choosing to be grouped together on the ballot.

29 (3) Whenever a public question shall appear on the ballot to be
30 voted upon by the voters of an election district and application has
31 been made by the proponents or opponents of such public question for
32 the appointment of challengers, the county board may in its discretion
33 appoint two challengers each to represent such proponents or
34 opponents at each early voting site.

35 b. Not more than the challengers authorized pursuant to
36 paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection a. of this section shall be
37 present at any one time in any early voting site while serving and
38 exercising the powers of a challenger and during the hours when the
39 polls are open for early voting.

40 c.¹ The name and address of each challenger, including a
41 candidate acting as a challenger or a challenger representing a
42 grouping of two or more candidates, together with the number or name
43 and location of the ¹【polling place】 early voting site¹ at which the
44 challenger is to serve, shall be filed with the county board of elections
45 not later than the fifth day preceding the start of the early voting
46 period.

1 **1**[b.] d.¹ Each challenger, including a candidate acting as a
2 challenger or a challenger representing a grouping of two or more
3 candidates, shall have all of the powers of challengers serving at other
4 elections, as provided for in R.S.19:7-5 and by R.S.19:15-1 et seq.

5 **1**[c.] e.¹ Any voter whose name does not appear on a challenge
6 list but who is challenged as not qualified or entitled to vote by a
7 challenger duly appointed pursuant to this section shall be entitled to
8 the rights and protections provided by R.S.19:15-18 et seq., and every
9 other applicable section of this Title.

10
11 3. (New section) During each early voting period, the county
12 board shall make available to the public a tally of the total number
13 of voters who have cast a ballot at each early voting location during
14 the previous day. The county boards shall prepare an electronic
15 data file listing the names of the individual voters who cast a ballot
16 during the early voting period. This information shall be made
17 available to the public in an electronic format pursuant to rules
18 adopted by the county board and subject to review each year by the
19 Secretary of State. The information shall be updated and made
20 available to the public no later than noon of each day during the
21 early voting period and shall at the same time be provided to the
22 clerk of the county in which early voting is occurring and to the
23 Secretary of State.

24
25 4. (New section) An early vote cast in an election, as provided
26 for in this act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature
27 as this bill), shall not be canvassed prior to the closing of the polls
28 on the day of an election.

29 Every provisional ballot voted in each such election and
30 determined by a county board to be valid shall be counted and shall
31 be part of the official tally of the results of the election.

32
33 5. (New section) In addition to any publications required under
34 Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, the Secretary of State and each
35 county board of elections shall cause to be published information
36 concerning the early voting procedure on the Department of State's
37 website and on each county's website. The early voting
38 information shall include, but may not be limited to, a notice to the
39 public concerning their eligibility to participate in early voting, the
40 duration of the early voting period, and the locations and hours of
41 operation of specially designated polling places for early voting in
42 each county.

43
44 6. (New section) In compliance with the provisions of Article
45 VIII, Section II, paragraph 5 of the New Jersey Constitution, upon
46 application for reimbursement by a county governing body or a
47 municipal governing body, as may be appropriate, to the Secretary
48 of State and approval of the application by the Director of the

1 Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the
2 Treasury, a county or municipality shall be reimbursed by the State
3 for any additional costs incurred by the county or municipality as a
4 result of the provisions of this act, P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before
5 the Legislature as this bill).

6
7 7. (New section) The Secretary of State is hereby authorized to
8 make such adjustments to regulations issued pursuant to Title 19 of
9 the Revised Statutes ²and to issue any new regulations² as may be
10 necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act, which regulations
11 shall be effective immediately upon filing with the Office of
12 Administrative Law for a period not to exceed 18 months, and may,
13 thereafter, be amended, adopted or readopted in accordance with the
14 provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410
15 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

16
17 8. R.S.19:12-7 is amended to read as follows:

18 19:12-7. a. The county board in each county shall cause to be
19 published in a newspaper or newspapers which, singly or in
20 combination, are of general circulation throughout the county, a
21 notice containing the information specified in subsection b. hereof,
22 except for such of the contents as may be omitted pursuant to
23 subsection c. or d. hereof. Such notice shall be published once
24 during the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the closing of
25 the registration books for the primary election, once during the
26 calendar week **[next]** preceding the week in which the early voting
27 period for the primary election for the general election **[is held]**
28 begins, once during the 30 days next preceding the day fixed for the
29 closing of the registration books for the general election, and once
30 during the calendar week **[next]** preceding the week in which the
31 early voting period for the general election **[is held]** begins.

32 b. Such notice shall set forth:

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

34 (a) That a primary election for making nominations for the
35 general election, for the selection of members of the county
36 committees of each political party, and in each presidential year for
37 the selection of delegates and alternates to national conventions of
38 political parties, will be held on the day and between the hours
39 provided for by or pursuant to this Title, and the days, hours, and
40 places at which early voting shall be available in the county.

41 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a
42 person may register, the procedure for the transfer of registration,
43 and the date on which the books are closed for registration or
44 transfer of registration.

45 (c) The several State, county, municipal and party offices or
46 positions to be filled, or for which nominations are to be made, at
47 such primary election

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

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

8 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
9 **[next]** preceding the week in which the early voting period for the
10 primary election **[is held]** begins, that a voter who, prior to the
11 election, shall have moved within the same county without (i)
12 filing, on or before the 21st day preceding the election, a notice of
13 change of residence with the commissioner of registration of the
14 county or the municipal clerk of the municipality in which the voter
15 resides on the day of the election, (ii) returning the confirmation
16 notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the
17 county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise
18 notifying the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of
19 address within the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's
20 registration and to vote in the primary election by provisional ballot
21 at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the
22 day of the election. The notice shall further provide that the voter
23 may contact the county commissioner of registration or municipal
24 clerk or may view polling place location information on the
25 Division of Elections website to determine the proper polling place
26 location for the voter.

27 (2) For the general election:

28 (a) That a general election will be held on the day and between
29 the hours provided for by or pursuant to this Title, and the days,
30 hours and places at which early voting shall be available in the
31 county, and, where applicable, shall include annual school elections
32 and annual fire district elections held on that date.

33 (b) The place or places at which and hours during which a
34 person may register, the procedure for transfer of registration, and
35 the date on which the books are closed for registration or transfer of
36 registration.

37 (c) The several State, county and municipal offices, and where
38 applicable, school board offices and fire district offices to be filled,
39 notice of any school district propositions to be submitted to the
40 people and, except as provided in R.S.19:14-33 of this Title as to
41 publication of notice of any Statewide proposition directed by the
42 Legislature to be submitted to the people, the State, county,
43 municipal and fire district public questions to be voted upon at such
44 general election.

45 (d) The existence of registration and voting aids, including: (i)
46 the availability of registration and voting instructions at places of
47 registration as provided under R.S.19:31-6; and (ii) the accessibility

1 of voter information to the deaf by means of a telecommunications
2 device.

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

5 (f) In the case of the notice published during the calendar week
6 **【next】** preceding the week in which the early voting period for the
7 general election **【is held】** begins, that a voter who, prior to the
8 election, shall have moved within the same county without (i)
9 filing, on or before the 21st day preceding the election, a notice of
10 change of residence with the commissioner of registration of the
11 county or the municipal clerk of the municipality in which the voter
12 resides on the day of the election, (ii) returning the confirmation
13 notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the
14 county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise
15 notifying the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of
16 address within the county shall be permitted to correct the voter's
17 registration and to vote in the general election by provisional ballot
18 at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the
19 day of the election. The notice shall further provide that the voter
20 may contact the county commissioner of registration or municipal
21 clerk or may view polling place location information on the
22 Division of Elections website to determine the proper polling place
23 location for the voter.(3) For a school election:

24 (a) The day and time thereof,

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

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

28 (d) That a voter who, prior to the election, shall have moved
29 within the same county without (i) filing, on or before the 21st day
30 preceding the election, a notice of change of residence with the
31 commissioner of registration of the county or the municipal clerk of
32 the municipality in which the voter resides on the day of the
33 election, (ii) returning the confirmation notice sent to the voter by
34 the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has
35 been sent to the voter, or (iii) otherwise notifying the commissioner
36 of registration of the voter's change of address within the county
37 shall be permitted to correct the voter's registration and to vote in
38 the school election by provisional ballot at the polling place of the
39 district in which the voter resides on the day of the election,

40 (e) That if the voter has any questions as to where to vote on
41 the day of the election, the voter may contact the county
42 commissioner of registration or municipal clerk or may view
43 polling place location information on the Division of Elections
44 website to determine the proper polling place location for the voter;
45 and

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

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

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

9 (2) All offices to be filled, or nominations made therefor, or
10 public questions to be voted upon, by the voters of the entire State
11 or of the entire county shall be set forth in a newspaper or
12 newspapers which, singly or in combination, have general
13 circulation throughout the county;

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

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

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

23 f. The cost of publishing the notices required by this section
24 shall be paid by the respective counties, unless otherwise provided
25 for by law.

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

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

33

34 9. Section 1 of P.L.2005, c.149 (C.19:12-7.1) is amended to
35 read as follows:

36 1. a. A county board of elections shall have posted a voter
37 information notice, which shall be referred to as a voter's bill of
38 rights, in a conspicuous location in each polling place **【before the**
39 **opening of the polls on the day of any election】** and each specially
40 designated polling place used for early voting before voting begins.

41 The notice shall contain:

42 the date of the election and the hours during which polling places
43 will be open;

44 a statement that sample ballots are available at the polling place
45 for review by the voter;

46 instruction for the use of the voting machine in that polling place
47 and an explanation of what instructions for voting are available at
48 the polling place for the voter;

- 1 instruction for a voter who is voting for the first time;
- 2 instruction for a voter who is required to provide identification
- 3 pursuant to the federal "Help America Vote Act of 2002" and
- 4 R.S.19:15-17 prior to casting a vote;
- 5 instruction on how to cast a vote if the voter cannot be present at
- 6 a polling place on the day of the election;
- 7 an explanation of the right of the voter to vote in **[privacy]**
- 8 private, regardless of the voter's physical abilities;
- 9 an explanation of the right of the voter to a provisional ballot,
- 10 including in the event that a mail-in ballot has been applied for and
- 11 not received or not transmitted to the county board of elections
- 12 before the day of any election, and the other circumstances under
- 13 which a voter has a right to a provisional ballot;
- 14 an explanation of the right of the voter to receive a replacement
- 15 ballot for a ballot that has been spoiled, destroyed, lost or never
- 16 received;
- 17 an explanation of the right of the voter to ask for and receive
- 18 assistance in voting;
- 19 an explanation of the right of the voter to take a reasonable
- 20 amount of time in casting a vote on a voting machine;
- 21 an explanation of the right of the voter to bring written material
- 22 into the polling place for the voter's personal use in casting a vote;
- 23 instruction on how to contact the appropriate officials if a voter's
- 24 right to vote or right to otherwise participate in the electoral process
- 25 has been challenged or violated;
- 26 general information on federal and State laws that prohibit acts
- 27 of fraud or misrepresentation and the penalties for those acts;
- 28 an explanation of the right of the voter to confidentially discover
- 29 the status of their ballot using the "Track My Ballot" user portal;
- 30 an explanation that "All ballots are counted and your vote
- 31 remains anonymous";
- 32 an explanation of the right of the voter that if their ballot was
- 33 rejected, a notice will be issued to the voter within 24 hours after a
- 34 decision is made to reject the ballot. The voter will have up to 48
- 35 hours prior to the date for the final certification of the results of the
- 36 election to provide a cure for their ballot;
- 37 an explanation giving the options for the voter to provide the
- 38 cure to their rejected ballot;
- 39 an explanation that no voters shall be intimidated or otherwise
- 40 unduly influenced by political insignia while voting. No person
- 41 shall wear, display, sell, give or provide any political or campaign
- 42 slogan, badge, button or other insignia associated with any political
- 43 party or candidate to be worn at or within one hundred feet of the
- 44 polls or within the polling place or room, on any primary, general or
- 45 special election day or on any commission government election day,
- 46 except the badge furnished by the county board as provided by law.
- 47 This includes any political gear representing the campaign slogans,
- 48 logos, or depictions or representations of any political party or

1 candidate such as merchandise sold directly from a political party,
2 campaign, candidate, or by third parties and vendors representing
3 any political party or campaign or candidate. A person violating
4 any of these provisions is guilty of a disorderly persons offense and
5 will not be permitted on the premises and can only return to vote
6 after the removal of prohibited political insignia; and

7 such other statement, instruction or explanation the Secretary of
8 State may deem appropriate to ensure the full and knowledgeable
9 participation of the voter in the process.

10 The requirement to post this notice in each polling place shall
11 not replace, supersede or void any other requirement set forth in law
12 for the posting of information in each polling place apart from the
13 voter information notice. The poster promoting the use of voting by
14 mail prepared and distributed by the Secretary of State pursuant to
15 R.S.19:8-6 shall be displayed next to or as close as may be possible
16 to the voter information notice.

17 b. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form and specific
18 content of the voter information notice, which may be comprised of
19 more than one page. If the notice is comprised of more than one
20 page, each page shall be posted separately. For an election district
21 in which the primary language of 10 percent or more of the
22 registered voters is a language other than English, the Secretary of
23 State shall prescribe an official version of the voter information
24 notice in that other language or languages for use in that election
25 district. The notice shall be posted in English and in the other
26 language or languages in the polling places in each such district.
27 The alternate language shall be determined based on information
28 from the latest federal decennial census.

29 c. A county board of elections may modify or supplement the
30 voter information notice used in a county or municipality to provide
31 additional information specific to that county or a municipality in
32 that county, provided, however, that any such modification or
33 supplementation shall be submitted to the Secretary of State for
34 prior approval.

35 d. The voter information notice shall be printed on each sample
36 ballot, to the extent practicable, or if not practicable, information on
37 how to view or obtain a copy of the voter information notice shall
38 be printed on each sample ballot.

39 e. The voter information notice, including one modified or
40 supplemented pursuant to subsection c. of this section, shall be
41 made accessible on the official Internet site of the State by the
42 Secretary of State and each county board of elections shall ensure
43 that the official Internet site of the county contains a link to that
44 notice.

45 f. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.2020, c.70)

46 g. The State shall be liable for the costs incurred by local
47 government entities for compliance with this section, and they shall

1 be reimbursed for those costs, upon application, by the State
2 Treasurer.

3 (cf: P.L.2020, c.71, s.2)

4

5 10. R.S.19:14-21 is amended to read as follows:

6 19:14-21. The county clerk shall cause samples of the official
7 general election ballot to be printed in English, but for each election
8 district within the county in which the primary language of 10% or
9 more of the registered voters is Spanish, shall cause samples of the
10 official general election ballot to be printed bilingually in English
11 and Spanish.

12 a. In counties not having a superintendent of elections where
13 the county board of elections does not have the equipment or
14 facilities to address and mail sample ballot envelopes, the county
15 clerk not later than noon of the eighth day prior to the start of the
16 early voting period for the general election shall furnish to the
17 municipal clerk of each municipality in his county one and one-
18 tenth times as many such sample ballots and stamped envelopes as
19 there are voters registered, less the number of voters who have been
20 sent a confirmation notice pursuant to subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15
21 and have not responded, to enable each **【**district board in each
22 municipality**】** municipal clerk to mail one of such sample ballots to
23 each voter who is registered in the municipality, except those voters
24 who have been sent a confirmation notice pursuant to subsection d.
25 of R.S.19:31-15 and have not responded, for such election and shall
26 take a receipt for the same from each of the municipal clerks, which
27 receipt shall indicate the number of such sample ballots and
28 stamped envelopes delivered by the county clerk and the date and
29 hour of their delivery.

30 b. In counties having a superintendent of elections, and in other
31 counties where the county board of elections may have the
32 equipment or facilities to prepare a properly stamped envelope
33 addressed to each registered voter in the county for mailing, the
34 county clerk, not later than the **【thirtieth】** eighth day preceding the
35 start of the early voting period for the general election, shall furnish
36 to the commissioner of registration located in his county one and
37 one-tenth times as many stamped envelopes as there are registered
38 voters in the county, less the number of voters who have been sent a
39 confirmation notice pursuant to subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15 and
40 have not responded, and not later than noon of the **【twelfth】**
41 seventh day preceding the start of the early voting period for the
42 general election shall furnish to the commissioner of registration
43 located in the county, one and one-tenth times as many sample
44 ballots as there are registered voters in the county to enable the
45 commissioner of registration of the county to mail one of such
46 sample ballots to each voter registered in the county, except those
47 voters who have been sent a confirmation notice pursuant to
48 subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15 and have not responded, for such

1 election and shall take a receipt for the same from the commissioner
2 of registration, which receipt shall indicate the number of such
3 sample ballots and stamped envelopes delivered by the county clerk
4 and the date and hour of their delivery. County boards of elections
5 which elect to operate under the provisions of this paragraph shall
6 notify their county clerk in sufficient time to enable him to make
7 the necessary arrangements the first year.

8 c. The county clerk in counties having a superintendent of
9 elections shall also deliver to the county board not later than the
10 **【twelfth】** seventh day preceding the start of the early voting period
11 for the general election 10 such sample ballots of each election
12 district of each municipality in the county.

13 d. During the early voting period for the general election, the
14 county clerk may provide for the electronic display of sample
15 ballots at each early voting location. If a county clerk elects to
16 provide for the electronic display of sample ballots at each early
17 voting location, at a minimum, the electronic display shall provide
18 the sample ballot in ²【at least the five most commonly spoken
19 languages in this State, based on the most recent federal decennial
20 census data, and any other language deemed necessary by the
21 county clerk】 the languages required by Title 19 of the Revised
22 Statutes or federal law as applicable to the county² .

23 (cf: P.L.2009, c.110, s.1)

24

25 11. R.S.19:14-22 is amended to read as follows:

26 19:14-22. The official general election sample ballots shall be
27 as nearly as possible facsimiles of the official general election
28 ballot to be voted at such election and shall have printed thereon,
29 after the words which indicate the number of the election district for
30 which such sample ballots are printed, the name of the school
31 district, when appropriate, the number or name and municipality or
32 municipalities of the fire district, when appropriate, the street
33 address or location of the polling place in the election district, and
34 the hours between which the polls shall be open. Such sample
35 ballots shall be printed on paper different in color from the official
36 general election ballot, and have the following words printed in
37 large type at the top: "This ballot cannot be voted. It is a sample
38 copy of the official general election ballot used on election day."
39 The sample ballot shall also state clearly the days, hours and places
40 at which early voting shall be available in the county.

41 (cf: P.L.2017, c.206, s.7)

42

43 12. R.S.19:14-24 is amended to read as follows:

44 19:14-24. The municipal clerk to whom the sample ballots and
45 stamped envelopes have been so delivered by the county clerk shall
46 deliver the same at his office, or in any other way he sees fit, on or
47 before noon of the Tuesday preceding the start of the early voting

1 period for the general election, to a member or members of each
2 district board, and shall take a receipt for the same from the
3 member or members of the district boards of such municipality,
4 which receipt shall indicate the number of sample ballots and
5 stamped envelopes delivered by the municipal clerk and the date
6 and hour of their delivery.

7 (cf: R.S.19:14-24)

8

9 13. R.S.19:14-25 is amended to read as follows:

10 19:14-25. In counties not having a superintendent of elections
11 where the county board of elections does not have the equipment or
12 facilities to address and mail sample ballot envelopes, **[all the**
13 **members of each of the district boards]** the municipal clerk shall
14 prepare and deposit in the post office, on or before 12 noon on
15 Wednesday preceding the start of the early voting period for the
16 general election **[day]**, a properly stamped envelope containing a
17 copy of the sample ballot printed in English, addressed to each
18 registered voter in the district of such board at the address shown on
19 the register, except that for districts in which the primary language
20 of 10% or more of the registered voters is Spanish, a properly
21 stamped envelope containing a copy of the bilingual sample ballot,
22 addressed to each registered voter in the district of such board at the
23 address shown on the register shall be prepared and deposited. The
24 board shall also post the appropriate sample ballots in the polling
25 place in its district.

26 The board shall return to the municipal clerk all ballots and
27 envelopes not mailed or posted by it, with a sworn statement in
28 writing signed by a majority of the board that all the remainder of
29 such ballots and envelopes had been mailed.

30 In counties having a superintendent of elections, and in other
31 counties where the county board of elections shall elect to operate
32 under the provisions of subsection b. of section 19:14-21 of this
33 Title, the commissioner of registration shall prepare and deposit in
34 the post office on or before 12:00 o'clock noon, on the Wednesday
35 preceding the start of the early voting period for the general election
36 **[day]**, a properly stamped envelope containing a copy of the
37 sample ballot printed in English addressed to each registered voter
38 in the county at the address shown on the registry, except that for
39 districts in which the primary language of 10% or more of the
40 registered voters is Spanish, a properly stamped envelope
41 containing a copy of the bilingual sample ballot, addressed to each
42 registered voter in the district of such board at the address shown on
43 the register shall be prepared and deposited. The commissioner of
44 registration shall return to the county clerk all ballots and envelopes
45 not mailed or posted by him, with a sworn statement in writing
46 signed by him that all the remainder of such ballots and envelopes
47 have been mailed.

1 The county board of elections, in all counties having a
2 superintendent of elections, and in other counties where the county
3 board of elections shall elect to operate under the provisions of
4 subsection b. of section 19:14-21 of this Title, shall, not later than
5 **【noon of the second Monday preceding】** the start of the early
6 voting period for the election, deliver **【or mail】** to the members of
7 the district board three appropriate sample ballots for their
8 respective election district. The board shall post the appropriate
9 sample ballots in the polling place in its district.
10 (cf: P.L.1974, c.30, s.3)

11

12 14. R.S.19:23-31 is amended to read as follows:

13 19:23-31. The official primary sample ballot shall be, as nearly
14 as possible, a facsimile of the official primary ballot to be voted at
15 the primary election and shall be printed on paper different in color
16 from the official primary ballot, so that the same may be readily
17 distinguished from the official primary ballot. It shall state clearly
18 the days, hours, and places at which early voting shall be available
19 in the county. The official primary sample ballot shall have printed
20 at the top in large type the words: "This official primary sample
21 ballot is an exact copy of the official primary ballot to be used on
22 primary election day. This ballot cannot be voted." The official
23 primary sample ballot shall also have printed thereon, following the
24 words which indicate the election district, the following words:
25 "The polling place for this election district is
26 (Stating the location of said polling place)."
27 (cf: R.S.19:23-31)

28

29 15. R.S.19:23-33 is amended to read as follows:

30 19:23-33. In counties not having a superintendent of elections
31 where the county board of elections does not have the equipment or
32 facilities to address and mail sample ballot envelopes, the municipal
33 clerk in each municipality shall furnish to a member of each district
34 board in his municipality, at his office, or in any other way that he
35 sees fit, on or before Tuesday preceding the start of the early voting
36 period for the primary election in each year, sufficient sample
37 ballots and sufficient stamped envelopes to enable the board to mail
38 sample ballots to the voters as hereinbefore provided. Each of the
39 boards shall give the municipal clerk a receipt for such sample
40 ballots and envelopes signed by one of its members.

41 In counties having a superintendent of elections, and in other
42 counties where the county board of elections shall elect to operate
43 under the provisions of subsection b. of section 19:23-30 of this
44 Title, the municipal clerk in each municipality shall furnish to the
45 commissioner of registration of his county not later than **【thirty**
46 **days】** the eighth day preceding the start of the early voting period
47 for the primary election of each year, sufficient stamped envelopes
48 to enable the commissioner of registration to mail sample ballots to

1 each voter who is registered in the county, less the number of voters
2 who have been sent a confirmation notice pursuant to subsection d.
3 of R.S.19:31-15 and have not responded, and shall, not later than
4 noon of the **【twelfth】** seventh day preceding the start of the early
5 voting period for the primary election furnish sufficient sample
6 ballots to the commissioner of registration of his county for that
7 purpose. The commissioner of registration shall give the municipal
8 clerk a receipt for such sample ballots and envelopes.

9 (cf: P.L.2009, c.110, s.3)

10

11 16. R.S.19:23-34 is amended to read as follows:

12 19:23-34. Each of such district boards, in counties not having a
13 superintendent of elections where the county board of elections
14 does not have the equipment or facilities to address and mail sample
15 ballot envelopes, and the commissioner of registration in all other
16 counties, shall prepare and deposit in the post office, on or before
17 twelve o'clock noon on Wednesday preceding the start of the early
18 voting period for the primary **【day】**, the stamped envelopes
19 containing a copy of the sample primary ballot of each political
20 party addressed to each voter whose name appears in the primary
21 election registry book.

22 (cf: P.L.1947, c.168, s.11)

23

24 17. R.S.19:23-35 is amended to read as follows:

25 19:23-35. In counties not having a superintendent of elections,
26 where the county board of elections does not have the equipment or
27 facilities to address and mail sample ballot envelopes, such district
28 board shall also post three sample ballots in the polling place in its
29 district.

30 The county board of elections in all counties of the first class,
31 and in other counties where the county board of elections shall elect
32 to operate under the provisions of subsection b of section 19:23-30
33 of this Title, shall, not later than **【noon of the second Monday**
34 **preceding】** the start of the early voting period for the primary
35 election, deliver **【or mail】** to the members of the district board three
36 sample ballots for their respective election district. The board shall
37 post the sample ballots in the polling place in its district.

38 (cf: P.L.1952, c.61, s.2)

39

40 18. R.S.19:49-3 is amended to read as follows:

41 19:49-3. At least one week prior to the start of the early voting
42 period for any primary, local, or general election two sets of official
43 ballots shall be provided for each voting machine, for each polling
44 place, for each election district, for use in and upon the voting
45 machine. One set thereof shall be inserted or placed in or upon the
46 voting machine and the other shall be retained in the custody and
47 possession of the county board of elections or the superintendent of

1 elections or the municipal clerk, as the case may be, having custody
2 of voting machines, unless it shall become necessary during the
3 course of the election to make use of the same upon or in the voting
4 machine. At the close of the election all official ballots, except
5 those actually in or upon the voting machine at the close of the
6 election, whether the same shall have been used in the machine or
7 not, shall be returned to the official providing the same in the
8 manner by this Title provided.

9 (cf: P.L.1945, c.56, s.4)

10

11 19. Section 1 of P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-35) is amended to read
12 as follows:

13 1. Each county commissioner of registration and county board
14 of elections **【may adopt】** shall require the use of electronic poll
15 books, as further provided by this act, P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-
16 35 et seq.), **【electronic poll books for use】** at each polling place
17 during the early voting period and on the day of any election, in
18 place of the paper polling record or signature copy register, to
19 access the registration record, eligibility, signature, and other
20 information of each registered voter in the election district. The
21 electronic poll books shall enable at least the same functionality
22 currently provided by the paper polling records or signature copy
23 register to be accomplished in the conduct of an election. An
24 electronic poll book shall not be used unless it has been certified by
25 the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall adopt and
26 publish electronic poll books standards and regulations governing
27 the certification and use of electronic poll books. The Secretary of
28 State shall not certify an electronic poll book unless it is in
29 compliance with at least the capabilities and standards specified
30 under section 2 of P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-36) and the Secretary of
31 State's standards and regulations. The Secretary of State shall
32 provide **【each county commissioner of registration and board of**
33 **elections that adopts the use of electronic poll books under this act**
34 **with】** the rules, regulations, and instructions regarding the
35 examination, testing, and use of electronic poll books, including
36 rules regarding the security and protection of the information stored
37 in such electronic poll books, to each county commissioner of
38 registration and board of elections.

39 (cf: P.L.2019, c.80, s.1)

40

41 20. Section 3 of P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-37) is amended to
42 read as follows:

43 3. A county commissioner of registration and county board of
44 elections **【opting to use electronic poll books】** shall submit to the
45 Secretary of State a request for approval in the form, content, and
46 timeframe specified by the Secretary of State. Within 10 days of
47 receiving the request, the Secretary of State shall review the request

1 for compliance with the Secretary of State's standards and
2 regulations and all of the capabilities and standards required under
3 this act, P.L.2019, c.80 (C.19:31-35 et seq.). A county
4 commissioner of registration and county board of elections
5 approved to use electronic poll books shall furnish at least two
6 electronic poll books for each polling place ²~~and a backup paper~~
7 ~~polling record or signature copy register for each election district in~~
8 ~~the polling place~~². Each voter shall be ¹~~offered the option~~
9 ~~required~~¹ to sign ¹~~either~~¹ the electronic poll book ¹~~or~~²,
10 ~~except that each voter shall be required to sign~~¹ the backup paper
11 ~~polling record or signature copy register~~. Notwithstanding any
12 ~~provision of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, or any other law, rule, or~~
13 ~~regulation to the contrary, a voter shall be permitted to vote by~~
14 ~~provisional ballot~~² ¹~~if the electronic poll book ceases to operate~~¹.
15 Electronic poll books for each election shall be prepared by the
16 commissioner of registration no later than the 10th day preceding
17 ~~the start of the early voting period for the election~~. At each
18 election, the delivery of the electronic poll books to the municipal
19 clerk and to the district boards or other officials charged with the
20 same duties as the district boards in connection with the conduct of
21 an election, and the return of those electronic poll books by the
22 district boards or such other election officials to the commissioner
23 of registration, shall be made in the manner prescribed by the
24 commissioner of registration and shall comply with Title 19 of the
25 Revised Statutes. The commissioner of registration shall retain the
26 electronic poll books records for any election for a period of not
27 less than six years following that election.

28 (cf: P.L.2019, c.80, s.3)

29

30 21. Section 3 of P.L.1981, c.379 (C.40:45-7) is amended to read
31 as follows:

32 3. Except as may otherwise be provided by law for initial
33 elections conducted in a municipality following its adoption of a
34 plan or form of government, or a charter or an amendment thereto,
35 regular municipal elections shall be held in each municipality
36 governed by this act on the second Tuesday in May, or the day of
37 the general election in November if chosen by the municipality
38 pursuant to subsection a. of section 1 of P.L.2009, c.196 (C.40:45-
39 7.1), in the years in which municipal officers are to be elected. The
40 municipal election shall be held at the same place or places and
41 conducted in the same manner, so far as possible, as the general
42 election. The election officers shall be those provided for
43 conducting the general election.

44 A municipality holding municipal elections on the second
45 Tuesday in May, in addition to those elections and by an ordinance
46 adopted by its governing body, may also conduct early voting for
47 those municipal elections, in accordance with the provisions of

1 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill). A
2 municipality holding municipal elections on the day of the general
3 election in November shall conduct early voting in accordance with
4 the provisions of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the
5 Legislature as this bill).

6 Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Secretary of
7 State may change in any year the date provided for a regular
8 municipal election if the date coincides with a period of religious
9 observance that limits significantly the usual activities of the
10 followers of a particular religion or that would result in significant
11 religious consequences for such followers. The secretary shall
12 inform the municipal clerks, county clerks and boards of election of
13 the adjustment no later than the first working day in January of the
14 year in which the adjustments are to occur.

15 As used in this section “a period of religious observance” means
16 any day or portion thereof on which a religious observance imposes
17 a substantial burden on an individual's ability to vote.
18 (cf: P.L.2009, c.196, s.4)

19

20 ²². (New Section) a. For the purpose of facilitating early
21 voting as quickly and efficiently as possible, the State may procure
22 qualified vendors to develop, implement, or produce any hardware,
23 software, or equipment, any change to its Internet website, or any
24 supporting systems ahead of the 2021 general election.

25 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule, or
26 regulation to the contrary, a contract to effectuate any provision of
27 subsection a. of this section may be procured in an expedited
28 process and in the manner provided by this section.

29 c. The Division of Purchase and Property in the Department of
30 the Treasury, the Secretary of State, or other appropriate State
31 entity may procure, without the need for formal advertisement, but
32 through the solicitation of proposals from professional services
33 vendors, a qualified vendor with relevant experience.

34 d. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule, or
35 regulation to the contrary, for the purpose of expediting the
36 procurement of any capable and experienced vendor, the following
37 provisions shall apply as modifications to any law or regulation that
38 may interfere with the expedited procurement:

39 (1) the timeframes for challenging the specifications shall be
40 modified as determined by the Division of Purchase and Property,
41 the Secretary of State, or other applicable entity;

42 (2) in lieu of advertising in accordance with section 7 of
43 P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-12), the division shall advertise the request
44 for proposals for the procurement under this section and any
45 addenda thereto on the applicable agency's website;

46 (3) the period of time that the State Comptroller, if applicable,
47 has to review the request for proposals for the procurement under
48 this section for compliance with applicable public contracting laws,

1 rules, and regulations, pursuant to section 10 of P.L.2007, c.52
2 (C.52:15C-10), shall be 10 business days or less, if practicable, as
3 determined by the State Comptroller;

4 (4) the timeframes for submission under section 4 of P.L.2012,
5 c.25 (C.52:32-58) and section 1 of P.L.1977, c.33 (C.52:25-24.2)
6 shall be extended to prior to the issuance of a Notice of Intent to
7 Award;

8 (5) the provisions of section 1 of P.L.2005, c.92 (C.52:34-13.2)
9 shall not apply to technical and support services under this section
10 provided by a vendor using a "24/7 follow-the-sun model" as long
11 as the contractor is able to provide such services in the United
12 States during the business day; and

13 (6) the term "bids" in subparagraph (f) of subsection a. of
14 section 7 of P.L.1954, c.48 (C.52:34-12) shall not include pricing
15 which will be revealed to all responsive bidders during the
16 negotiation process.

17 e. The applicable entity may, to the extent necessary, waive or
18 modify any requirement under any other law or regulation that may
19 interfere with the expeditious procurement required under this
20 section.²

21
22 ¹[22. Section 1 of P.L.1960, c.82 (C.19:7-6.1) is amended to
23 read as follows:

24 1. a. Unless express permission be given by the district board,
25 not more than one challenger appointed for a party, candidate, or on
26 a public question, shall be present at any one time in any polling
27 place while serving and exercising the powers of a challenger and
28 during the hours when the polls are open for voting. If the district
29 board shall in any case give permission for more than one
30 challenger so appointed to be present at any one time in any polling
31 place, it shall on the same grounds and on request permit a like
32 number to be present on behalf of any opposing party, or on behalf
33 of any other candidate for the same office, or on the other side of
34 any public question.

35 The provisions of this section shall not apply to any challengers
36 appointed by the **[chairman]** chairperson of a county committee,
37 pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection b. of R.S.19:7-1, except that
38 no more than one such challenger shall be present at any time in a
39 polling place while serving and exercising his or her power as a
40 challenger during the hours when the polling place is open for
41 voting.

42 b. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection a. of this
43 section, or any other law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, not
44 more than one challenger appointed for a party, candidate, or on a
45 public question, shall be present at any one time in any early voting
46 site while serving and exercising the powers of a challenger and
47 during the hours when the polls are open for early voting. No
48 challengers shall be appointed by the chairman of a county

1 committee, pursuant to paragraph 2 of subsection b. of R.S.19:7-1,
2 to be present at any time in an early voting site to serve and
3 exercise any powers as a challenger during the hours when the polls
4 are open for early voting.

5 (cf: P.L.1999, c.232, s.30)]¹

6
7 ²23. (New Section) For the purpose of facilitating early voting as
8 quickly and efficiently as possible, a contracting unit may procure
9 qualified vendors to develop, implement, or produce any hardware,
10 software, or equipment, any change to its Internet website, or any
11 supporting systems or services ahead of the 2021 general election
12 pursuant to paragraph (l) of subsection (1) of section 5 of P.L.1971,
13 c.198 (C.40A:11-5).²

14
15 ¹[^{23.}] ²[^{22.}¹] ^{24.}² (New section) The provisions of this act,
16 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill), shall
17 only apply to the 2021 general election and general elections
18 thereafter; the 2022 primary election and primary elections
19 thereafter; and, if adopted by a municipal governing body, a
20 municipal election conducted in May 2022 and municipal elections
21 conducted in May thereafter.

22
23 [¹24.] ²[^{23.}¹] ^{25.}² a. There is appropriated from the General
24 Fund to the Department of State the sum of \$2,000,000 for the
25 purposes described in subsection i. of section 1 of this act.

26 b. There is appropriated from the General Fund as State aid to
27 each county governing body and to each municipal governing body
28 that approves conducting early voting such sums as the State Treasurer
29 and the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the
30 Department of the Treasury deem necessary to effectuate the purpose
31 of section 6 of this act.

32
33 [¹25.] ²[^{24.}¹] ^{26.}² This act shall take effect immediately.