

General Assembly

Proposed Bill No. 6325

January Session, 2021



Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:

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REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80th Dist.

SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.

REP. FRANCE, 42nd Dist.

REP. FISHBEIN, 90th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE, ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND ELECTION AUDITS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That title 9 of the general statutes be amended to (1) require the

2 Secretary of the State to, not later than October 1, 2021, submit to the

3 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of

4 matters relating to elections a report on each election law modified by

5 executive order of the Governor or pursuant to the Secretary's authority

6 under section 9-3 of the general statutes for any election or primary held

7 in 2020 or 2021, (2) require any proposed declaratory ruling, instruction,

opinion or written order of the Secretary to be issued pursuant to said

9 section to be submitted to the standing legislative regulation review

10 committee for approval, (3) prohibit the unsolicited mailing of absentee

11 ballot applications by any state or municipal election official, (4) specify

12 that absentee ballots may only be counted on the day of an election, (5)

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13 provide consistency across all municipalities as to pre-election day 14 processing of absentee ballots, (6) allow the registrars of voters to 15 contact electors for the purpose of curing unsigned absentee ballot 16 envelopes, (7) establish a pilot program for verification of signatures on 17 absentee ballot envelopes, (8) require, with any absentee ballot 18 application, an accompanying statement of the penalties for any violation of election laws, including, but not limited to, a statement that 19 20 only the intended recipient of such application may complete and return 21 such application, (9) establish a task force to study the viability of using 22 a single envelope, instead of two, for the return of an absentee ballot, 23 (10) require the use of risk-limiting post-election audits, and (11) change 24 the deadline for a minor party to file its rules with the Secretary from 25 sixty days prior to the nomination of a candidate to one hundred eighty 26 days prior to such nomination.

Statement of Purpose:

To make several changes regarding the administration of elections.

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