

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1052 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY STEFANO, GORDNER, MENSCH, PILEGGI, EICHELBERGER, GREENLEAF, VOGEL, BAKER, WARD, HUTCHINSON, RAFFERTY, VULAKOVICH, BARTOLOTTA, COSTA, SCHWANK, DINNIMAN, YUDICHAK, FONTANA, TARTAGLIONE, FARNESE, TEPLITZ, SABATINA, KITCHEN, AUMENT AND BROWNE, NOVEMBER 10, 2015

SENATOR BROWNE, APPROPRIATIONS, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED, MAY 9, 2016

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
2 Statutes, in uniform military and overseas voters, further
3 providing for definitions, for duties and responsibilities of
4 secretary and for registering to vote.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. The definition of "military-overseas ballot" in
8 section 3502 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
9 Statutes is amended and the section is amended by adding a
10 definition to read:

11 § 3502. Definitions.

12 The following words and phrases when used in this chapter
13 shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
14 context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 * * *

16 ~~"Electronic ballot." A vote cast and transmitted through~~ <--
17 ~~electronic means which include, but are not limited to, e mail~~

1 ~~or facsimile.~~

2 "ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF A PAPER BALLOT." A VOTE CAST AND <--
3 SUBMITTED THROUGH ELECTRONIC MEANS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
4 TO, E-MAIL AND FACSIMILE.

5 * * *

6 "Military-overseas ballot." All of the following:

7 (1) A Federal write-in absentee ballot.

8 (2) A ballot specifically prepared or distributed for
9 use by a covered voter in accordance with this chapter.

10 (3) A ballot cast by a covered voter in accordance with
11 this chapter.

12 ~~(4) An electronic ballot.~~ <--

13 (4) AN ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF A PAPER BALLOT. <--

14 * * *

15 Section 2. Sections 3503(c) and 3505(c) of Title 25 are
16 amended to read:

17 § 3503. Duties and responsibilities of secretary.

18 * * *

19 (c) Other duties.--The secretary shall do all of the
20 following:

21 (1) Establish an electronic transmission system through
22 which a covered voter may apply for and receive voter
23 registration materials, military-overseas ballots and other
24 information under this chapter.

25 (2) Develop standardized absentee-voting materials and
26 their electronic equivalents, authentication materials and
27 voting instructions to be used with the military-overseas
28 ballot of a voter authorized to vote in any jurisdiction in
29 this Commonwealth.

30 (3) To the extent reasonably possible, coordinate with

1 other states to carry out the provisions of this subsection.

2 (4) Prescribe the form and content of a declaration for
3 use by a covered voter who does not use the Federal write-in
4 absentee ballot in accordance with the following:

5 (i) The declaration shall require the covered voter
6 to swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, specific
7 representations pertaining to the voter's:

8 (A) identity;

9 (B) eligibility to vote;

10 (C) status as a covered voter; and

11 (D) timely and proper completion of a military-
12 overseas ballot.

13 (ii) The declaration shall be based on the FWAB
14 declaration, as modified to be consistent with this
15 chapter.

16 (iii) The secretary shall ensure that a form for the
17 execution of the declaration, including an indication of
18 the date of execution of the declaration, is a prominent
19 part of all balloting materials for which the declaration
20 is required.

21 (5) Establish an electronic transmission system in which
22 a covered voter under this chapter may cast an electronic
23 ballot. The electronic transmission system shall be
24 operational by January 1, 2017.

25 § 3505. Registering to vote.

26 * * *

27 (c) Electronic transmission system.--The secretary shall
28 ensure that the electronic transmission system described in
29 section 3503(c) (relating to duties and responsibilities of
30 secretary) is capable of accepting a Federal postcard

1 application, military-overseas ballot and any other approved
2 electronic registration application sent to the appropriate
3 county election board. The voter may use the electronic
4 transmission system or any other approved method to register to
5 vote.

6 * * *

7 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.