

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 291 Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY DeLUCA, SCHWEYER, FRANKEL, FREEMAN, COHEN, MATZIE, MILLARD, BROWNLEE, FLYNN, DAVIDSON, SCHREIBER, SCHLOSSBERG, D. COSTA, PASHINSKI, THOMAS, YOUNGBLOOD, O'BRIEN, MULLERY, V. BROWN, CARROLL, DEASY, READSHAW, GOODMAN, BARBIN, KORTZ, MAHONEY AND DEAN, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 2, 2015

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled
 2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,
 3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,
 4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating
 5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;
 6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,
 7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;
 8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,
 9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and
 10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to
 11 elections," providing for early voting in primaries and
 12 elections.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
 14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. The act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known
 16 as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is amended by adding an
 17 article to read:

18 ARTICLE XII-A

19 CONDUCT OF EARLY VOTING

20 IN PRIMARIES AND ELECTIONS

21 Section 1201-A. Early voting period.

1 The county board of a county shall provide for early voting
2 to begin 15 days prior to the dates of elections and primaries
3 established in accordance with Article VI and to end 14 days
4 after the starting date.

5 Section 1202-A. Early voting sites.

6 The county board of a county shall designate early voting
7 sites where electors may cast their ballots during the early
8 voting period established in accordance with section 1201-A. The
9 sites shall include the main office of the county board and the
10 other sites designated by the county board. The county board
11 shall make available at the sites the same equipment used on
12 election day as provided for in Article XI.

13 Section 1203-A. Days and times for opening and closing polls at
14 early voting sites.

15 The county board of a county shall designate the days and
16 hours that early voting sites will be open, provided that the
17 sites throughout the county shall:

- 18 (1) have uniform days and hours;
19 (2) be open eight hours each weekday;
20 (3) be open a minimum of an aggregate eight hours each
21 weekend; and
22 (4) not open prior to 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time or
23 close prior to 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

24 Section 1204-A. Voter's certificates and elector
25 identification.

26 As provided under section 1203, the county board shall
27 prepare a suitable number of voter's certificates at an early
28 voting site. An elector who appears to vote at an early voting
29 site shall complete a voter certificate and shall present to an
30 election officer one of the forms of photo identification as

1 established in section 1210.

2 Section 1205-A. Voting check list.

3 The county board shall maintain a voting check list as
4 provided for in section 1212 in a way to ensure that electors
5 are prohibited from casting additional ballots at either an
6 early voting site or on election day in their precinct.

7 Section 1206-A. Disposition of returns.

8 The county board shall track votes by precinct but may not
9 tabulate votes prior to the close of the polls on election day.

10 Section 1207-A. Applicability of Article XII.

11 Except as provided in this article, the provisions of Article
12 XII shall apply to early voting in primaries and elections.

13 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.