THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2433 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY ROTHMAN, BERNSTINE, PICKETT, BROOKS, M. MACKENZIE, HAMM, GROVE, SAYLOR, STAMBAUGH, COOK, MOUL, MENTZER, LEWIS, RADER, DOWLING, SHUSTERMAN, JOZWIAK, R. MACKENZIE, FRITZ, E. NELSON AND PENNYCUICK, MARCH 17, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 22, 2022

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal, special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates, 3 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating and defining membership of county boards of elections; 5 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth, courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners; imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying, 8 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and 9 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to 10 elections," in voting by qualified absentee electors, further 11 providing for canvassing of official absentee ballots and 12 mail-in ballots. 13 14 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 15 hereby enacts as follows: 16 Section 1308(q)(2) of the act of June 3, 1937 17 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, amended March 27, 2020 (P.L.41, No.12), is amended to read: 18 19 Section 1308. Canvassing of Official Absentee Ballots and 20 Mail-in Ballots.--* * * (g) * * * 21 2.2 (2) The county board of elections shall meet [no earlier

- 1 than the close of polls on the day of the election and no later
- 2 than the third day following] immediately upon the close of the
- 3 polls on the day of the election to begin canvassing absentee
- 4 ballots and mail-in ballots [not included in the pre-canvass
- 5 meeting]. The meeting under this paragraph shall continue until
- 6 all absentee ballots and mail-in ballots received prior to the
- 7 close of the polls have been canvassed. The county board of
- 8 elections shall not record or publish any votes reflected on the
- 9 ballots prior to the close of the polls. The canvass process
- 10 shall continue through the eighth day following the election for
- 11 valid military-overseas ballots timely received under 25 Pa.C.S.
- 12 § 3511 (relating to receipt of voted ballot). A county board of
- 13 elections shall provide at least forty-eight hours' notice of a
- 14 canvass meeting by publicly posting a notice on its publicly
- 15 accessible Internet website. One authorized representative of
- 16 each candidate in an election and one representative from each
- 17 political party shall be permitted to remain in the room in
- 18 which the absentee ballots and mail-in ballots are canvassed.
- 19 * * *
- 20 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.