

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2718 Session of  
2022

INTRODUCED BY RABB, BULLOCK, DAWKINS, KRAJEWSKI, HOHENSTEIN,  
FIEDLER, DELLOSO, PARKER, SANCHEZ, SIMS AND CEPHAS,  
JUNE 30, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 30, 2022

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 25 (Elections) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated  
2 Statutes, in voter registration, further providing for  
3 qualifications to register; and, in voting procedures,  
4 further providing for application for absentee ballots.

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

7 Section 1. Section 1301(a) of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania  
8 Consolidated Statutes is amended to read:

9 § 1301. Qualifications to register.

10 (a) Eligibility.--An individual who will be at least 18  
11 years of age on the day of the next election, who has been a  
12 citizen of the United States for at least one month prior to the  
13 next election and who has resided in this Commonwealth and the  
14 election district where the individual offers to vote for at  
15 least 30 days prior to the next ensuing election [and has not  
16 been confined in a penal institution for a conviction of a  
17 felony within the last five years] shall be eligible to register  
18 as provided in this chapter.

\* \* \*

Section 2. Section 3302(a) of Title 25 is amended by adding a paragraph and the section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

§ 3302. Application for absentee ballots.

(a) General rule.--Notwithstanding the provisions of Part IV (relating to voter registration) or the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, the following persons may make application for an absentee ballot by sending a letter or other signed document to the county board of elections in the county in which the person's voting address is located:

\* \* \*

(5) An inmate who is confined in a correctional institution.

\* \* \*

(e) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Correctional institution." A penal institution, penitentiary, State farm, reformatory, prison, jail, house of correction or other institution for the incarceration or custody of persons under sentence for offenses or awaiting trial or sentence for offenses.

"Inmate." An offender who is committed to, under sentence to or confined in a correctional institution.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.