THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1687 Session of 1999

INTRODUCED BY CLYMER, ARGALL, FREEMAN, GODSHALL, HALUSKA, HARHAI, HERMAN, HERSHEY, MELIO, NICKOL, B. SMITH, STEIL, STERN, TANGRETTI, E. Z. TAYLOR, WILT AND SEYFERT, JUNE 16, 1999

AS AMENDED ON THIRD CONSIDERATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MAY 2, 2000

AN ACT

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, primary and election expenses and election contests; creating 4 5 and defining membership of county boards of elections; imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth, courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners; imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying, 7 8 9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and 10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to 11 elections, " providing for digitized signature list AND FOR 12 NONBINDING ADVISORY QUESTIONS; further providing for 13 reimbursement of costs, for qualification to vote, for 14 residence of electors, FOR PETITIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL BOARD AND for examination and approval of electronic 15 16 voting systems; PROVIDING FOR OPTIONAL ELECTRONIC REPORTING OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS, FOR DEFINITIONS AND FOR 17 ENFORCEMENT; FURTHER PROVIDING for voter's certificates, for 18 duties of court of common pleas and for manner of applying to 19 20 vote; providing for procedures for voting following a change 21 in address and for records; and further providing for voting checklists, for assistance in voting, for absentee ballots, 22 for independent audits and for unlawful assistance in voting; 23 24 AND MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

- 25 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 26 hereby enacts as follows:
- 27 Section 1. Section 102(e) of the act of June 3, 1937

- 1 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code,
- 2 amended August 1, 1941 (P.L.672, No.273), is amended and the
- 3 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:
- 4 Section 102. Definitions.--The following words, when used in
- 5 this act, shall have the following meanings, unless otherwise
- 6 clearly apparent from the context:
- 7 * * *
- 8 (e) The words "district register" shall mean the
- 9 <u>registration</u> cards <u>or digitized signature list</u> containing [all
- 10 or any part of] the [registry] list of qualified electors [of
- 11 the same election district] <u>arranged alphabetically by the last</u>
- 12 <u>name of the registrant</u>, as prepared by the registration
- 13 commissions.
- 14 * * *
- 15 (z-5) The words "digitized signature list" shall mean a
- 16 <u>computer-generated list or computer-generated card file used by</u>
- 17 a registration commission as a district register of electors
- 18 pursuant to section 702 of the act of June 30, 1995 (P.L.170,
- 19 No.25), known as the "Pennsylvania Voter Registration Act."
- 20 SECTION 2. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING A SECTION TO READ:
- 21 <u>SECTION 302.1. NONBINDING ADVISORY QUESTIONS.--A COUNTY</u>
- 22 BOARD OF ELECTIONS MAY CAUSE A NONBINDING ADVISORY QUESTION TO
- 23 BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT WHENEVER THE GOVERNING BODY OF A
- 24 MUNICIPALITY OR SCHOOL DISTRICT, WHICH PROPOSES TO MAKE AN
- 25 EXPENDITURE THE TOTAL COST OF WHICH IS EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN
- 26 AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO TEN (10) PER CENTUM OF THE MUNICIPALITY'S OR
- 27 SCHOOL DISTRICT'S OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
- 28 FISCAL YEAR, ADOPTS, BY MAJORITY VOTE, A RESOLUTION ASKING THE
- 29 COUNTY BOARD TO PLACE ON THE BALLOT A QUESTION TO DETERMINE THE
- 30 <u>WILL OF THE ELECTORATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OR SCHOOL DISTRICT</u>

- 1 WITH RESPECT TO SAID EXPENDITURE. THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
- 2 MUNICIPALITY OR SCHOOL DISTRICT SHALL FILE A COPY OF THE
- 3 RESOLUTION WITH THE COUNTY BOARD. ANY SUCH QUESTION PLACED ON
- 4 THE BALLOT SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE AT THE NEXT
- 5 GENERAL, MUNICIPAL OR PRIMARY ELECTION OCCURRING MORE THAN
- 6 THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FILING OF THE RESOLUTION.
- 7 Section $\frac{2}{3}$. Section $\frac{305}{a}$ of the act, amended May 5, 1982 <--
- 8 (P.L.374, No.108), is amended to read:
- 9 Section 305. Expenses of County Boards and of Primaries and
- 10 Elections to Be Paid by County; Expenses of Special Elections;
- 11 Boards to Be Provided with Offices.--
- 12 (a) The county commissioners or other appropriating
- 13 authorities of the county shall appropriate annually, and from
- 14 time to time, to the county board of elections of such county,
- 15 the funds that shall be necessary for the maintenance and
- 16 operation of the board and for the conduct of primaries and
- 17 elections in such county, including the payment of the
- 18 compensation of the employes of the board, custodians, election
- 19 officers, and other assistants and employes herein provided for,
- 20 and the fees of witnesses as herein provided; for the purchase
- 21 or printing, under contracts made by the board, of all ballots
- 22 and other primary and election supplies required by this act, or
- 23 which the board shall consider necessary to carry out the
- 24 provisions of this act; for the purchase, under contracts made
- 25 by the board, and maintenance, of voting machines, when adopted
- 26 as herein provided, and of all other primary and election
- 27 equipment required by this act, or which the board shall
- 28 consider necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; for
- 29 the publication of notices authorized by this act, under
- 30 contracts made by the board, and for all other necessary

- 1 expenses hereunder: Provided, however, That bonds or other
- 2 evidences of indebtedness, payable not later than thirty years
- 3 from their dates of issuance, may be issued by the county
- 4 commissioners or other appropriating authorities of the county
- 5 in accordance with the provisions of law relating to the
- 6 increase of indebtedness of such county, to meet all or any part
- 7 of the cost of voting machines.
- 8 1. The county shall be liable for the expenses of holding
- 9 special elections for any city, borough, township, school
- 10 district or other municipality or incorporated district
- 11 contained therein, which is held on the day of any general,
- 12 municipal or primary election, and on any special question which
- 13 is required by law to be, or which is, at the discretion of the
- 14 county board, as hereinafter provided, printed on the regular
- 15 ballot after the list of the candidates, or on the same voting
- 16 machine as the list of candidates.
- 2. Any city, borough, township, school district or other
- 18 municipality or incorporated district contained in any county,
- 19 holding a special election, as authorized by law, on the
- 20 question of increase of indebtedness or any other question to be
- 21 voted on by the electors of such subdivision, which special
- 22 election is held on the day of any general, municipal or primary
- 23 election and which is required by law to be conducted or at the
- 24 discretion of the county board, as hereinafter provided, is
- 25 conducted by special ballots for such question, shall be liable
- 26 to the county for the expenses necessarily incurred in the
- 27 printing of such special ballots.
- 28 3. If any other day than the day of any general, municipal
- 29 or primary election be fixed by the corporate authorities of any
- 30 municipality, school district or incorporated district for the

- 1 holding of a special election on the question of increase of
- 2 indebtedness or any other question, as authorized by law, such
- 3 municipality, school district or incorporated district shall be
- 4 liable for and pay the entire expense of holding such election,
- 5 including the cost of printing ballots and supplies, pay of
- 6 election officers, the rental of polling places, and the cost of
- 7 canvassing and computing the votes cast.
- 8 4. The Department of State shall reimburse county boards of
- 9 election for those additional costs incurred by the county for
- 10 any special election held to fill a vacancy in the Pennsylvania
- 11 General Assembly. The county board of elections shall submit a
- 12 request for reimbursement to the Department of State on a form
- 13 prescribed by the Department of State no later than sixty days
- 14 <u>after the special election.</u> Only those costs which are
- 15 attributable solely to the special election shall be reimbursed.
- 16 Reimbursement shall not be denied because the special election
- 17 is held on the same day as a general, municipal or primary
- 18 election if the county can show that additional costs were
- 19 incurred attributable solely to the special election. The
- 20 Governor may, from time to time, allocate to the Department of
- 21 State as much money from the General Fund as he deems necessary
- 22 to permit the department to reimburse the counties for costs
- 23 incurred in the special elections.
- 24 * * *
- 25 Section 3 4. Section 701 of the act, amended July 3, 1974
- 26 (P.L.443, No.153), is amended to read:
- 27 Section 701. Qualifications [of Electors] to Vote at
- 28 General, Municipal or Special Elections. -- Every citizen [of this
- 29 Commonwealth] eighteen years of age, possessing the following
- 30 qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all general,

- 1 <u>municipal or special</u> elections, provided [he or she] <u>the citizen</u>
- 2 has complied with the [provisions of the] acts requiring and
- 3 regulating the registration of electors:
- 4 (1) [He or she] The citizen shall have been a citizen of the
- 5 United States at least one month.
- 6 (2) [He or she] The citizen shall have resided in the State
- 7 [ninety] thirty days immediately preceding the election.
- 8 (3) [He or she] The citizen shall have resided in the
- 9 election district where he or she shall offer to vote at least
- 10 thirty days immediately preceding the election, except that if
- 11 qualified to vote in an election district prior to removal of
- 12 residence, he or she may, if a [resident] citizen of
- 13 Pennsylvania, vote in the election district from which he or she
- 14 removed his or her residence within thirty days preceding the
- 15 election.
- 16 Section 4 5. Section 702 of the act is amended to read:
- 17 Section 702. Qualifications [of Electors] to Vote at
- 18 Primaries. -- The qualifications of [electors] an elector entitled

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- 19 to vote at primaries shall be the same as the qualifications of
- 20 [electors] an elector entitled to vote at general or municipal
- 21 elections within the election district where the primary is
- 22 held, provided that [no elector who is not registered and
- 23 enrolled as a member of a political party, in accordance with
- 24 the provisions of this act, shall be permitted to vote the
- 25 ballot of such party or any other party ballot at any primary.]
- 26 <u>an elector must be a registered and enrolled member of such</u>
- 27 party upon the records of the registration commission, which
- 28 enrollment shall be conclusive as to such elector's party
- 29 membership and shall not be subject to challenge on the day of
- 30 the primary.

- 1 Section 5 6. Section 703 of the act, amended September 9,
- 2 1959 (P.L.851, No.339), is amended to read:
- 3 Section 703. Residence of Electors. -- [For the purpose of
- 4 registration and voting, no person shall be deemed to have
- 5 gained a residence by reason of his presence, or lost it by
- 6 reason of his absence, while employed in the service, either
- 7 civil or military, of this State or of the United States, nor
- 8 while engaged in the navigation of the waters of the State or of
- 9 the United States, or on the high seas, nor while a student of
- 10 any institution of learning, nor while kept in any poorhouse or
- 11 other asylum at public expense, nor while confined in public
- 12 prison, except that any veteran who resides in a home for
- 13 disabled and indigent soldiers and sailors, operated and
- 14 maintained by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and who
- 15 possesses all the qualifications for voting, may gain a
- 16 residence for registration and voting at the home for disabled
- 17 and indigent soldiers and sailors. The provisions of this
- 18 amendment shall not be construed to affect the voting rights of
- 19 bedridden or hospitalized veterans who choose to vote as
- 20 absentee electors by the use of veteran's official ballots.] The
- 21 <u>residence of an elector for the purpose of voting and the rules</u>
- 22 for determining such residence shall be the same as prescribed
- 23 for voter registration by sections 501 and 502 of the act of
- 24 June 30, 1995 (P.L.170, No.25), known as the "Pennsylvania Voter

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- 25 Registration Act."
- 26 Section 6 7. Section 704 of the act is amended to read:
- 27 [Section 704. Rules for Determining Residence.--In
- 28 determining the residence of a person desiring to register or
- 29 vote, the following rules shall be followed so far as they may
- 30 be applicable:

- 1 (a) That place shall be considered the residence of a person
- 2 in which his habitation is fixed, and to which, whenever he is
- 3 absent, he has the intention of returning.
- 4 (b) A person shall not be considered to have lost his
- 5 residence who leaves his home and goes into another state or
- 6 another election district of this State for temporary purposes
- 7 only, with the intention of returning.
- 8 (c) A person shall not be considered to have gained a
- 9 residence in any election district of this State into which he
- 10 comes for temporary purposes only, without the intention of
- 11 making such election district his permanent place of abode.
- 12 (d) The place where the family of a married man or woman
- 13 resides shall be considered and held to be his or her place of
- 14 residence, except where the husband and wife have actually
- 15 separated and live apart, in which case the place where he or
- 16 she has resided for two months or more shall be considered and
- 17 held to be his or her place of residence.
- 18 (e) If a person removes to another state with the intention
- 19 of making such state his permanent residence, he shall be
- 20 considered to have lost his residence in this State.
- 21 (f) If a person removes to another state with the intention
- 22 of remaining there an indefinite time and making such state his
- 23 place of residence, he shall be considered to have lost his
- 24 residence in this State, notwithstanding he may entertain an
- 25 intention to return at some indefinite future period.
- 26 (g) If a person removes to the District of Columbia or other
- 27 Federal territory or foreign country to engage in the government
- 28 service, he shall not be considered to have lost his residence
- 29 in this State during the period of such service, and the place
- 30 where the person resided at the time of his removal shall be

- 1 considered and held to be his place of residence.
- 2 (h) If a person goes into another state and while there
- 3 exercises the right of a citizen by voting, he shall be
- 4 considered to have lost his residence in this State.]
- 5 SECTION 8. SECTION 909 OF THE ACT, AMENDED FEBRUARY 19, 1986 <---
- 6 (P.L.29, NO.11), IS AMENDED TO READ:
- 7 SECTION 909. PETITION MAY CONSIST OF SEVERAL SHEETS;
- 8 AFFIDAVIT OF CIRCULATOR. -- SAID NOMINATION PETITION MAY BE ON ONE
- 9 OR MORE SHEETS, AND DIFFERENT SHEETS MUST BE USED FOR SIGNERS
- 10 RESIDENT IN DIFFERENT COUNTIES. IF MORE THAN ONE SHEET IS USED,
- 11 THEY SHALL BE BOUND TOGETHER WHEN OFFERED FOR FILING IF THEY ARE
- 12 INTENDED TO CONSTITUTE ONE PETITION, AND EACH SHEET SHALL BE
- 13 NUMBERED CONSECUTIVELY BEGINNING WITH NUMBER ONE, AT THE FOOT OF
- 14 EACH PAGE. IN CASES OF PETITIONS FOR DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE
- 15 DELEGATE TO NATIONAL CONVENTIONS, EACH SHEET SHALL CONTAIN A
- 16 NOTATION INDICATING THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TO WHOM HE IS
- 17 COMMITTED OR THE TERM "UNCOMMITTED." EACH SHEET SHALL HAVE
- 18 APPENDED THERETO THE AFFIDAVIT OF THE CIRCULATOR OF EACH SHEET,
- 19 SETTING FORTH--(A) THAT HE OR SHE IS A QUALIFIED ELECTOR DULY
- 20 REGISTERED AND ENROLLED AS A MEMBER OF THE DESIGNATED PARTY OF
- 21 THE STATE, OR OF THE POLITICAL DISTRICT, AS THE CASE MAY BE,
- 22 REFERRED TO IN SAID PETITION, UNLESS SAID PETITION RELATES TO
- 23 THE NOMINATION OF A CANDIDATE FOR A COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, FOR
- 24 THE PHILADELPHIA MUNICIPAL COURT OR FOR THE TRAFFIC COURT OF
- 25 PHILADELPHIA OR [FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE,] THE OFFICE OF SCHOOL
- 26 DIRECTOR IN DISTRICTS WHERE THAT OFFICE IS ELECTIVE OR THE
- 27 OFFICE OF DISTRICT JUSTICE IN WHICH EVENT THE CIRCULATOR NEED
- 28 NOT BE A DULY REGISTERED AND ENROLLED MEMBER OF THE DESIGNATED
- 29 PARTY; (B) HIS RESIDENCE, GIVING CITY, BOROUGH OR TOWNSHIP, WITH
- 30 STREET AND NUMBER, IF ANY; (C) THAT THE SIGNERS THERETO SIGNED

- 1 WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONTENTS OF THE PETITION; (D) THAT
- 2 THEIR RESPECTIVE RESIDENCES ARE CORRECTLY STATED THEREIN; (E)
- 3 THAT THEY ALL RESIDE IN THE COUNTY NAMED IN THE AFFIDAVIT; (F)
- 4 THAT EACH SIGNED ON THE DATE SET OPPOSITE HIS NAME; AND (G)
- 5 THAT, TO THE BEST OF AFFIANT'S KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE SIGNERS
- 6 ARE QUALIFIED ELECTORS AND DULY REGISTERED AND ENROLLED MEMBERS
- 7 OF THE DESIGNATED PARTY OF THE STATE, OR OF THE POLITICAL
- 8 DISTRICT, AS THE CASE MAY BE.
- 9 Section 7 9. Section 1105-A(a) and (f) of the act, added

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- 10 July 11, 1980 (P.L.600, No.128), are amended to read:
- 11 Section 1105-A. Examination and Approval of Electronic
- 12 Voting Systems by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.--(a) Any
- 13 person or corporation owning, manufacturing or selling, or being
- 14 interested in the manufacture or sale of, any electronic voting
- 15 system, may request the Secretary of the Commonwealth to examine
- 16 or reexamine such system. Any [ten] one hundred or more persons,
- 17 being [qualified] registered <u>qualified</u> electors of [this
- 18 Commonwealth] the county, may, at any time, [request] file a
- 19 petition requesting the Secretary of the Commonwealth to
- 20 reexamine any electronic voting system theretofore examined and
- 21 approved by [him.] the secretary and used in the county in which
- 22 <u>such electors are registered</u>. The Secretary of the Commonwealth
- 23 <u>shall prescribe a form and content of the petition</u>. Before any
- 24 such examination or reexamination, the person, persons, or
- 25 corporation, requesting such examination or reexamination, shall
- 26 pay to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth an examination [fee]
- 27 <u>deposit</u> of [four hundred fifty dollars (\$450).] <u>four thousand</u>
- 28 dollars (\$4,000): Provided, however, That such examination
- 29 deposit may be changed by the secretary through the promulgation
- 30 <u>of regulations at any time after December 31, 2002. The person, </u>

- 1 persons or corporation shall assume all costs and expenses
- 2 <u>associated with such examination or reexamination and shall make</u>
- 3 final payment to the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, covering all
- 4 additional costs and expenses in excess of the original deposit,
- 5 before the results of such examination or reexamination shall be
- 6 revealed by the Secretary of the Commonwealth. If the costs and
- 7 expenses associated with such examination or reexamination do
- 8 not exceed the examination deposit, then the Secretary of the
- 9 <u>Commonwealth shall cause the State Treasurer to refund the</u>
- 10 remainder of the deposit to said person, persons or corporation.
- 11 The Secretary of the Commonwealth may, at any time, in [his] the
- 12 <u>secretary's</u> discretion, reexamine any such system [therefore]
- 13 previously examined and approved by [him] the secretary. The
- 14 Secretary of the Commonwealth may issue directives or
- 15 instructions for implementation of electronic voting procedures
- 16 and for the operation of electronic voting systems.
- 17 * * *
- 18 (f) Each examiner appointed hereunder shall receive [a]
- 19 compensation [of one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) for each
- 20 type of electronic voting system examined by him.] at a rate to
- 21 <u>be negotiated with the examiner by the Secretary of the</u>
- 22 Commonwealth. The Secretary of the Commonwealth's selection and
- 23 compensation of an examiner shall be in accordance with
- 24 applicable Commonwealth guidelines for contracting for services.
- 25 SECTION 10. THE ACT IS AMENDED BY ADDING AN ARTICLE TO READ:
- 26 <u>ARTICLE XI-B</u>
- 27 ELECTRONIC REPORTING
- 28 <u>SECTION 1101-B. DEFINITIONS.--AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE:</u>
- 29 <u>"DEPARTMENT" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OF THE</u>
- 30 COMMONWEALTH.

- 1 "ELECTRONIC FORMAT" OR "FORMAT" MEANS THE CONFIGURATION BY
- 2 WHICH THE FILING PROGRAM ORGANIZES DATA. THE TERM INCLUDES, BUT
- 3 IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE TYPE OF COMPUTER OPERATING SYSTEM, ALSO
- 4 KNOWN AS "PLATFORM."
- 5 <u>"ELECTRONIC REPORTING" MEANS THE ELECTRONIC PROCESS BY WHICH</u>
- 6 A CANDIDATE, COMMITTEE, LOBBYIST OR LOBBYING FIRM OR ANY OTHER
- 7 ENTITY REQUIRED TO SUBMIT REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
- 8 COMPILES AND TRANSMITS THESE REPORTS EITHER VIA DISKETTE OR ON-
- 9 LINE TO THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE ELECTRONIC PROCESS BY WHICH THE
- 10 COMMONWEALTH RETRIEVES, STORES, ANALYZES AND DISCLOSES THE
- 11 FINANCIAL REPORTS.
- 12 "ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM" INCLUDES BOTH FILER-SIDE
- 13 <u>SOFTWARE AND GOVERNMENT-SIDE SOFTWARE.</u>
- 14 "FILER" MEANS ANY CANDIDATE, COMMITTEE, LOBBYIST OR LOBBYING
- 15 FIRM AND ANY OTHER PERSON OR GROUP REQUIRED TO SUBMIT REPORTS OF
- 16 RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES TO THE COMMONWEALTH.
- 17 "FILER-SIDE SOFTWARE" MEANS SOFTWARE PROVIDED TO OR USED BY
- 18 THE FILER THAT ENABLES TRANSMITTAL OF REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND
- 19 EXPENDITURES TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
- 20 <u>"GOVERNMENT-SIDE SOFTWARE" MEANS SOFTWARE USED BY THE</u>
- 21 COMMONWEALTH IN ORDER TO RECEIVE, STORE, ANALYZE AND DISCLOSE TO
- 22 THE PUBLIC INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THE REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND
- 23 <u>EXPENDITURES SUBMITTED BY FILERS.</u>
- 24 "HOME PAGE" MEANS THE PRIMARY WORLD WIDE WEB SITE FROM WHICH
- 25 OTHER SECONDARY WEB SITES MAY BE DIRECTLY ACCESSED. THE HOME
- 26 PAGE FOR STATE GOVERNMENTS IS TYPICALLY REFERRED TO AS "THE
- 27 GOVERNMENT LOCATOR PAGE."
- 28 "STATE CANDIDATE" MEANS A CANDIDATE FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA
- 29 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, A COURT OF COMMON PLEAS AND THE PHILADELPHIA
- 30 MUNICIPAL COURT.

- 1 <u>"STATEWIDE CANDIDATES" MEANS CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE OF</u>
- 2 GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, ATTORNEY GENERAL, AUDITOR
- 3 GENERAL, TREASURER, SUPREME COURT, SUPERIOR COURT AND
- 4 COMMONWEALTH COURT.
- 5 SECTION 1102-B. DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC REPORTING
- 6 SYSTEM. -- (A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN AN
- 7 ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM FOR THE SUBMISSION, RETRIEVAL,
- 8 STORAGE AND PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND
- 9 EXPENDITURES REQUIRED UNDER ARTICLE XVI OF THIS ACT.
- 10 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DETERMINE THE ELECTRONIC FORMAT IN
- 11 WHICH REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED.
- 12 (C) IF THE DEPARTMENT CONTRACTS WITH A PRIVATE VENDOR TO
- 13 <u>DEVELOP THE FILER-SIDE SOFTWARE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT, UNDER</u>
- 14 ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, REQUIRE FILERS TO USE THAT SOFTWARE. THE
- 15 ELECTRONIC FORMAT OF THE ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM SHALL BE
- 16 PUBLIC INFORMATION IN ORDER THAT ADDITIONAL PRIVATE VENDORS HAVE
- 17 THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP AND TO MARKET COMPETITIVE FILER-SIDE
- 18 SOFTWARE PRODUCTS THAT ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE COMMONWEALTH'S
- 19 ELECTRONIC REPORTING SYSTEM.
- 20 (D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FURTHER PROVIDE THE PUBLIC WITH
- 21 ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO ALL REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES
- 22 SUBMITTED TO THE AGENCY, ELECTRONICALLY OR OTHERWISE, NO LATER
- 23 THAN SEVENTY-TWO HOURS AFTER THE FILING IS RECEIVED. THE
- 24 DEPARTMENT SHALL NOT CHARGE ANY FEE FOR ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO
- 25 FILE REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES. THE AGENCY HAS THE
- 26 <u>DISCRETION TO DETERMINE THE MOST EFFICIENT MEANS OF PROVIDING</u>
- 27 ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO THE REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.
- 28 THE ACCESS SHALL INCLUDE ACCESS THROUGH THE INTERNET. ACCESS TO
- 29 REPORTS OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT
- 30 SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE VIA THE HOME PAGE OR GOVERNMENT LOCATOR

- 1 PAGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH.
- 2 (E) DATA REQUIRED TO BE POSTED SHALL REMAIN ELECTRONICALLY
- 3 ACCESSIBLE VIA THE INTERNET FOR A MINIMUM OF FIVE YEARS FROM THE
- 4 DATE OF POSTING.
- 5 (F) CAMPAIGN FINANCE DATA POSTED SHALL BE SEARCHABLE BY
- 6 CATEGORY OF INFORMATION ENTERED. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A
- 7 SEARCH ENGINE CAPABLE OF ACCESSING DETAILED, CATEGORIZED
- 8 INFORMATION RELATING TO CAMPAIGN FINANCE DATA MAINTAINED FOR
- 9 REVIEW.
- 10 (G) THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH SHALL ISSUE RULES AND
- 11 REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE.
- 12 SECTION 1103-B. IMPLEMENTATION OF ELECTRONIC REPORTING
- 13 SYSTEM.--(A) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2000, ALL STATEWIDE
- 14 CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES CREATED ON BEHALF OF
- 15 STATEWIDE CANDIDATES REQUIRED TO FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS
- 16 <u>IN ANY CALENDAR YEAR MAY FILE ELECTRONICALLY.</u>
- 17 (B) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2000, ALL STATE CANDIDATES AND
- 18 POLITICAL COMMITTEES CREATED ON BEHALF OF STATE CANDIDATES
- 19 REQUIRED TO FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS IN ANY CALENDAR YEAR
- 20 MAY FILE ELECTRONICALLY.
- 21 (C) BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2001, ALL OTHER POLITICAL ACTION
- 22 COMMITTEES REQUIRED TO REGISTER AND FILE CAMPAIGN FINANCE
- 23 REPORTS WITH THE COMMONWEALTH MAY FILE ELECTRONIC REPORTS ON A
- 24 <u>VOLUNTARY BASIS.</u>
- 25 (D) FILERS SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (A), (B) AND (C) WHO DO
- 26 NOT FILE ELECTRONICALLY SHALL FILE PAPER-GENERATED REPORTS AND
- 27 STATEMENTS. ALL REPORTS FILED UNDER SUBSECTIONS (A), (B) AND (C)
- 28 AND THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE POSTED ELECTRONICALLY BY THE
- 29 <u>DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SPECIFIED IN SECTION 1102-</u>
- B(D).

- 1 (E) LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MAY ENACT THEIR OWN ELECTRONIC
- 2 FILING REQUIREMENTS, PROVIDED THE DATA ENTRY FORMAT IS
- 3 <u>COMPATIBLE WITH THAT DEVELOPED BY THE COMMONWEALTH.</u>
- 4 SECTION 1104-B. ENFORCEMENT.--(A) ANY ATTEMPT TO SUBMIT THE
- 5 REPORTS SUBJECT TO THIS ARTICLE UNDER A FALSE IDENTITY, OR TO
- 6 ALTER DATA IN TRANSMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OR RECEIVED BY THE
- 7 DEPARTMENT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES PRESCRIBED BY THE
- 8 PROVISIONS OF 18 PA.C.S. § 4903 (RELATING TO FALSE SWEARING) FOR
- 9 THE FALSIFICATION OR TAMPERING WITH FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE
- 10 RECORDS.
- 11 (B) THE REMEDIES PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (A) SHALL ALSO APPLY
- 12 TO ANY PERSON WHO PURPOSELY CAUSES ANY OTHER PERSON TO VIOLATE
- 13 ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE OR WHO AIDS AND ABETS ANY OTHER
- 14 PERSON IN A VIOLATION.
- 15 (C) ANY PERSON RESIDING IN THIS COMMONWEALTH MAY SUE FOR
- 16 INJUNCTIVE RELIEF TO ENJOIN VIOLATIONS OR TO COMPEL COMPLIANCE
- 17 <u>WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ARTICLE. IF A JUDGMENT IS ENTERED</u>
- 18 AGAINST THE DEFENDANT OR DEFENDANTS IN AN ACTION BROUGHT UNDER
- 19 THIS SECTION, THE PLAINTIFF SHALL RECEIVE FIFTY (50) PER CENTUM
- 20 OF THE AMOUNT RECOVERED. THE REMAINING FIFTY (50) PER CENTUM
- 21 SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND OF THE COMMONWEALTH. IN
- 22 AN ACTION BROUGHT BY A LOCAL CIVIL PROSECUTOR, FIFTY (50) PER
- 23 CENTUM SHALL BE DEPOSITED IN THE ACCOUNT OF THE AGENCY BRINGING
- 24 THE ACTION AND FIFTY (50) PER CENTUM SHALL BE PAID TO THE
- 25 GENERAL FUND OF THE COMMONWEALTH.
- 26 Section 8 11. Section 1203 of the act is amended to read:
- 27 Section 1203. Voter's Certificates. -- At each primary and
- 28 election each county board shall prepare a suitable number of
- 29 voter's certificates which shall be in form approved by the
- 30 Secretary of the Commonwealth substantially as follows:

1	Voter's Certificate
2	(Primary) (Election)19
3	I hereby certify that I am qualified to vote at this
4	(primary) (election)
5	Signature
6	Address
7	Pa.
8	Approved
9	Number of stub of ballot issued or number of admission to
L O	voting machines (and party, at primary)
L1	The voter's certificate shall be [so prepared as to be] in a
L2	form capable of being inserted by the election officers in a
L3	suitable file or binder [to be furnished by the county board.
L4	One such] or shall be printed on a computer-generated list. In
L5	the case of counties utilizing digitized signature lists as
L6	district registers, voter's certificates may be printed on the
L7	same such lists. Except in counties utilizing digitized
L8	signature lists with voter's certificates thereon or computer-
L9	generated lists, a file or binder shall be furnished by the
20	county board for each election district for each primary and
21	election, and shall have printed or written thereon the words
22	"Voting Check List," together with the number of the district
23	and ward, if any, and the date of the primary or election.
24	Section 9 12. Section 1206 of the act, amended July 13, 1961 <
25	(P.L.603, No.303), is amended to read:
26	Section 1206. Duties of Common Pleas Court on Days of
27	Primaries and Elections The court of common pleas of each
28	county of the Commonwealth or a judge or judges thereof, shall
29	be in continuous session at the courthouse of said county, or,
30	in judicial districts composed of more than one county, at the

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- 1 courthouse of the county in which such judge or judges reside,
- 2 on the day of each primary and election from 7 o'clock A. M.
- 3 until 10 o'clock P. M. and so long thereafter as it may appear
- 4 that the process of said court will be necessary to secure a
- 5 free, fair and correct computation and canvass of the votes cast
- 6 at said election. In judicial districts having but one judge of
- 7 the court of common pleas, such judge shall not be required to
- 8 be in session, as aforesaid, between the hours of 12 o'clock
- 9 noon and 2 o'clock P. M., nor between the hours of 5:30 o'clock
- 10 P. M. and 7 o'clock P. M. During such period said court shall
- 11 act as a committing magistrate for any violation of the election
- 12 laws; shall settle summarily controversies that may arise with
- 13 respect to the conduct of the election; shall issue process, if
- 14 necessary, to enforce and secure compliance with the election
- 15 laws; and shall decide such other matters pertaining to the
- 16 election as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this act
- 17 and the act of June 30, 1995 (P.L.170, No.25), known as the
- 18 "Pennsylvania Voter Registration Act"; and [in counties of the
- 19 third class] shall have power to appoint additional clerks at
- 20 the polling places where needed and requested by the election
- 21 board: Provided, That for each clerk appointed from the majority
- 22 political party, a clerk from the minority political party must
- 23 also be appointed. <u>In addition, said court shall hear and</u>
- 24 <u>determine the petition of any qualified elector who has</u>
- 25 <u>heretofore been duly registered as an elector of said county but</u>
- 26 who, due to circumstances beyond his control, has failed to file
- 27 a removal notice or reinstatement card in order to insure the
- 28 <u>inclusion of the elector's registration card in the district</u>
- 29 register of the election district of the elector's residence;
- 30 the petition of any qualified registered elector who has

- 1 suffered a physical disability which renders the elector unable
- 2 to see or mark the ballot or operate the voting machine or to
- 3 <u>enter the voting machine compartment or voting booth without</u>
- 4 assistance and, due to circumstances beyond the elector's
- 5 control, was unable to make application personally at the office
- 6 of the registration commission within the time prescribed by law
- 7 <u>in order to have such fact entered on the elector's registration</u>
- 8 card; the petition of any qualified elector who is a duly
- 9 <u>discharged veteran and who, by reason of the elector's service</u>
- 10 <u>in the armed forces</u>, was unable to register within the time
- 11 fixed by law; and the petition of any commissioner, chief clerk,
- 12 registrar or clerk, setting forth that an elector's right to
- 13 vote has been denied by reason of an error by the registration
- 14 commission.
- Section 10 13. Section 1210(a) and (d), amended June 10,
- 16 1982 (P.L.458, No.135), are amended and the section is amended

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- 17 by adding subsections to read:
- 18 Section 1210. Manner of Applying to Vote; Persons Entitled
- 19 to Vote; Voter's Certificates; Entries to Be Made in District
- 20 Register; Numbered Lists of Voters; Challenges. -- (a) At every
- 21 primary and election each elector who desires to vote shall
- 22 first sign a voter's certificate, and, unless [he] the elector
- 23 is a State or Federal employe who has registered under any
- 24 registration act without declaring [his] a residence by street
- 25 and number, [he] the elector shall insert his address therein,
- 26 unless the commission shall have it printed on the voter's
- 27 certificate, and hand the same to the election officer in charge
- 28 of the district register. Such election officer shall thereupon
- 29 announce the elector's name so that it may be heard by all
- 30 members of the election board and by all watchers present in the

- 1 polling place and shall compare the elector's signature on [his]
- 2 the elector's voter's certificate with [his] the elector's
- 3 signature in the district register. If, upon such comparison,
- 4 the signature upon the voter's certificate appears to be
- 5 genuine, the elector who has signed the certificate shall, if
- 6 otherwise qualified, be permitted to vote: Provided, That if the
- 7 signature on the voter's certificate, as compared with the
- 8 signature as recorded in the district register, shall not be
- 9 deemed authentic by any of the election officers, such elector
- 10 shall not be denied the right to vote for that reason, but shall
- 11 be considered challenged as to identity and required to make the
- 12 affidavit and produce the evidence as provided in subsection (d)
- 13 of this section. When an elector has been found entitled to
- 14 vote, the election officer who examined [his] the voter's
- 15 certificate and compared [his] the elector's signature shall
- 16 sign [his] the officer's name or initials on the voter's
- 17 certificate, and shall, if the elector's signature is not
- 18 readily legible, print such elector's name over [his] the
- 19 <u>elector's</u> signature, and the number of the stub of the ballot
- 20 issued to [him or his] the elector's number in the order of
- 21 admission to the voting machines, and at primaries a letter or
- 22 abbreviation designating the party in whose primary [he] the
- 23 <u>elector</u> votes shall also be entered by one of the election
- 24 officers or clerks. As each [voter] elector is found to be
- 25 qualified and votes, the election officer in charge of the
- 26 district register shall write or stamp the date of the election
- 27 or primary, the number of the stub of the ballot issued to [him]
- 28 the elector or [his] the elector's number in the order of
- 29 admission to the voting machines, and at primaries a letter or
- 30 abbreviation designating the party in whose primary [he] the

- 1 <u>elector</u> votes, and shall sign [his] <u>the election officer's</u> name
- 2 or initials in the proper space on the registration card of such
- 3 [voter] <u>elector</u> contained in the district register <u>or next to</u>
- 4 the elector's signature on a computer-generated list or
- 5 digitized signature list with voter's certificates thereon, if
- 6 either is utilized by the county.
- 7 As each [voter] <u>elector</u> votes, [his] <u>the elector's</u> name in
- 8 the order of voting shall be recorded in two (2) numbered lists
- 9 of [voters] <u>electors</u> provided for that purpose, with the
- 10 addition of a note of each [voter's] elector's party enrollment
- 11 after [his] the elector's name at primaries.
- 12 * * *
- 13 (d) No person, except a qualified elector who is in actual
- 14 military or naval service under a requisition of the President
- 15 of the United States or by the authority of this Commonwealth,
- 16 and who votes under the provisions of Article XIII of this act,
- 17 shall be entitled or permitted to vote at any primary or
- 18 election at any polling place outside the election district in
- 19 which [he] the person resides, nor shall [he] the person be
- 20 permitted to vote in the election district in which [he] the
- 21 <u>person</u> resides, unless [he] <u>the person</u> has been personally
- 22 registered as an elector and [his] the elector's registration
- 23 card appears in the district register of such election district,
- 24 except by order of the court of common pleas as provided in this
- 25 act, and any person, although personally registered as an
- 26 elector, may be challenged by any qualified elector, election
- 27 officer, overseer, or watcher at any primary or election as to
- 28 [his] the person's identity, [as to his] continued residence in
- 29 the election district or [as to] any alleged violation of the
- 30 provisions of section 1210 of this act, and if challenged as to

- 1 identity or residence, [he] the person shall produce at least
- 2 one qualified elector of the election district as a witness, who
- 3 shall make affidavit of [his] the challenged elector's identity
- 4 or continued residence in the election district[: Provided,
- 5 however, That no person shall be entitled to vote as a member of
- 6 a party at any primary, unless he is registered and enrolled as
- 7 a member of such party upon the district register, which
- 8 enrollment shall be conclusive as to his party membership and
- 9 shall not be subject to challenge on the day of the primary].
- 10 (e) An elector who is registered and enrolled as a member of
- 11 a political party, and who, upon applying to vote, shall have
- 12 <u>established his identity by signing his name and address, or</u>
- 13 otherwise, as herein required at elections, and is otherwise
- 14 qualified, may vote as a member of such party at any primary
- 15 <u>succeeding the elector's registration without being subject to</u>
- 16 any challenge regarding the elector's party membership. No
- 17 <u>elector registered and enrolled as a member of a political party</u>
- 18 shall be allowed to receive or vote the ballot of any other
- 19 political party at any primary election.
- 20 (f) A registered qualified elector, although not enrolled as
- 21 <u>a member of a political party, shall be permitted to vote at a</u>
- 22 primary on questions and other matters not involving the
- 23 <u>nomination of political party candidates or the election of</u>
- 24 political party officers or delegates.
- 25 (g) If an elector's registration record indicates that the
- 26 elector is in an inactive status, the elector shall be entitled
- 27 to vote as provided by section 1902 of the act of June 30, 1995
- 28 (P.L.170, No.25), known as the "Pennsylvania Voter Registration
- 29 <u>Act."</u>
- 30 Section $\frac{11}{1}$ 14. The act is amended by adding sections to

- 1 read:
- 2 <u>Section 1210.1. Procedure for Voting Following Failure to</u>
- 3 Return Notification Card. -- (a) A registered elector who has
- 4 moved to an address within the same election district where the
- 5 <u>elector</u> is registered shall, notwithstanding failure to notify
- 6 the commission prior to the date of an election, be permitted to
- 7 vote in that election district upon written affirmation by the
- 8 <u>elector of the change of address before an election official at</u>
- 9 the election district polling place.
- 10 (b) A registered elector who has moved to an address within
- 11 <u>a different election district of the county where the elector is</u>
- 12 registered and who has failed to notify the commission of the
- 13 change of address prior to the date of an election shall be
- 14 permitted to notify the registration commission of the address
- 15 change and vote at the elector's former polling place upon
- 16 written affirmation by the elector of the new address before an
- 17 election official at the former polling place.
- 18 (c) A registered elector who has moved to another county and
- 19 who has failed to notify any commission of the change of address
- 20 prior to the date of the election shall be permitted to notify
- 21 the registration commission of the address change and vote at
- 22 the elector's former polling place upon written affirmation by
- 23 the elector of the new address before an election official at
- 24 the former polling place.
- 25 Section 1210.2. Incorrect Records.--If voter registration
- 26 records incorrectly indicate that an elector has moved from an
- 27 address in the election district where the elector is
- 28 registered, the elector shall, upon written affirmation of the
- 29 <u>error before an election official at the polling place within</u>
- 30 said election district, be permitted to vote at that polling

- 1 place.
- 2 Section 12 15. Section 1212 of the act is amended to read:

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- 3 Section 1212. Voting Check List.--[After each elector has
- 4 been admitted to vote, his voter's certificate shall be inserted
- 5 in the file or binder provided therefor by the county board, and
- 6 known as the "Voting Check List," and the said voter's
- 7 certificate so bound] The "Voting Check List" shall consist of
- 8 the collection of the voter's certificates of those electors
- 9 whose admission to vote is evidenced on said certificates by the
- 10 signature or initials of a district election official. The
- 11 <u>Voting Check List</u> shall constitute the official list of electors
- 12 voting at [such] each primary or election. [All] If the county
- 13 <u>uses digitized signature lists containing voter's certificates</u>
- 14 thereon as a district register or computer-generated lists, said
- 15 <u>lists shall constitute the Voting Check List for said county. If</u>
- 16 the voter's certificates do not appear on digitized signature
- 17 <u>lists used as district registers or on computer-generated lists</u>,
- 18 the electors' voter's certificates shall be inserted in the file
- 19 or binder provided therefor by the county board after each
- 20 <u>elector has been admitted to vote. The</u> voter's certificates
- 21 [prepared by persons applying to vote] of electors whose
- 22 applications to vote are refused by the election officer shall
- 23 be carefully preserved and returned by the election officer to
- 24 the county board with the other papers.
- 25 Section 13 16. Section 1218 of the act, amended February 13,
- 26 1989 (P.L.1, No.1), is amended to read:
- 27 Section 1218. Assistance in Voting.--
- 28 (a) No [voter] <u>elector</u> shall be permitted to receive any
- 29 assistance in voting at any primary or election, unless there is
- 30 recorded upon [his] such elector's registration card [his

1	declaration] a declaration, or unless the elector declares in
2	writing at the polling place, that, by reason of blindness,
3	disability, or inability to read or write, [he] the elector is
4	unable to read the names on the ballot or on the voting machine
5	labels, or that [he] the elector has a physical disability which
6	renders [him] <u>such elector</u> unable to see or mark the ballot or
7	operate the voting machine, or to enter the voting compartment
8	or voting machine booth without assistance, the exact nature of
9	such condition being recorded on such registration card or
L O	declaration, and unless the election officers are satisfied that
L1	[he] the elector still suffers from the same condition. The
L2	declaration completed in the polling place shall be in a form
L3	approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth substantially as
L4	<u>follows:</u>
L5	<u>I,</u>
L6	(Name and address of elector requiring assistance)
L7	by reason of
L8	(Reason for need of assistance)
L9	am unable to vote without the assistance of
20	<u></u>
21	(Name and address of person rendering assistance)
22	(Date)
23	Witnessed by
24	(Signature of Judge of Election)
25	(b) Any elector who is entitled to receive assistance in
26	voting under the provisions of this section shall be permitted
27	by the judge of election to select a person of the elector's
28	choice to enter the voting compartment or voting machine booth
29	with [him] the elector to assist [him] the elector in voting,
30	such assistance to be rendered inside the voting compartment or

- 1 voting machine booth except that the elector's employer or an
- 2 agent of the employer or an officer or agent of the elector's
- 3 union shall not be eligible to assist the elector.
- 4 (c) In every case of assistance under the provisions of this
- 5 section, the judge of election shall forthwith enter in writing
- 6 in a book to be furnished by the county board of elections, to
- 7 be known as the record of assisted voters--(1) the [voter's]
- 8 <u>elector's</u> name; (2) a statement of the facts which entitle [him]
- 9 the elector to receive assistance; and (3) the name of the
- 10 person furnishing the assistance. The record of assisted voters
- 11 shall be returned by the judge of election to the county board
- 12 of elections with the other papers, as hereinafter provided, and
- 13 said county board shall permit the same to be examined only upon
- 14 the written order of a judge of the court of common pleas:
- 15 Provided, however, That such record shall be subject to subpoena
- 16 to the same extent to which other election records may be
- 17 subpoenaed: And provided further, That the county election board
- 18 shall permit any registration commission to examine any records
- 19 of assisted voters without a court order, in order that the
- 20 registration commission may ascertain whether electors, who have
- 21 declared, at the time of registration, their need for
- 22 assistance, actually did receive assistance when voting at any
- 23 election or primary.
- 24 (d) Subsequent to the election or primary, the county board
- 25 of elections shall record or cause to be recorded the facts of
- 26 the declaration completed in the polling place as prescribed by
- 27 subsection (a) onto the elector's registration card including
- 28 the reason the elector requires assistance.
- 29 Section 14 17. Section 1302.1 of the act, amended February
- 30 13, 1998 (P.L.72, No.18), is amended to read:

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- 1 Section 1302.1. Date of Application for Absentee Ballot.--
- 2 (a) Applications for absentee ballots unless otherwise
- 3 specified shall be received in the office of the county board of
- 4 elections not earlier than fifty (50) days before the primary or
- 5 election and not later than [five o'clock P.M. of] THE CLOSE OF

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- 6 BUSINESS ON the first Tuesday prior to the day of any primary or
- 7 election: Provided, however, THAT IN THE EVENT ANY ELECTOR
- 8 OTHERWISE QUALIFIED TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT DELIVERS AN
- 9 APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS
- 10 IN PERSON BETWEEN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE FIRST TUESDAY
- 11 PRIOR TO THE DAY OF ANY PRIMARY OR ELECTION AND THE CLOSE OF
- 12 BUSINESS ON THE FIRST FRIDAY PRECEDING ANY PRIMARY OR ELECTION
- 13 THE ELECTOR SHALL BE ENTITLED TO AN ABSENTEE BALLOT AT THE TIME
- 14 THE ELECTOR DELIVERS THE APPLICATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF
- 15 <u>ELECTIONS: AND FURTHER PROVIDED, HOWEVER</u>, That in the event any
- 16 elector otherwise qualified who is so physically disabled or ill
- 17 on or before the first Tuesday prior to any primary or election
- 18 that [he] the elector is unable to file [his] an application or
- 19 who becomes physically disabled or ill after the first Tuesday
- 20 prior to any primary or election and is unable to appear at
- 21 [his] the elector's polling place or any elector otherwise
- 22 qualified who because of the conduct of [his] the elector's
- 23 business, duties or occupation will necessarily be absent from
- 24 the municipality of [his] the elector's residence on the day of
- 25 the primary or election, which fact was not and could not
- 26 reasonably be known to said elector on or before the first
- 27 Tuesday prior to any primary or election, shall be entitled to
- 28 an absentee ballot at any time prior to [five o'clock P.M. on
- 29 the first Friday] the close of business on the first Monday
- 30 <u>immediately</u> preceding any primary or election upon execution of

- 1 an Emergency Application in such form prescribed by the
- 2 Secretary of the Commonwealth.
- 3 (b) In the case of an elector who is physically disabled or
- 4 ill on or before the first Tuesday prior to a primary or
- 5 election or becomes physically disabled or ill after the first
- 6 Tuesday prior to a primary or election, such Emergency
- 7 Application shall contain a supporting affidavit from [his] the
- 8 <u>elector's</u> attending physician stating that due to physical
- 9 disability or illness said elector was unable to apply for an
- 10 absentee ballot on or before the first Tuesday prior to the
- 11 primary or election or became physically disabled or ill after
- 12 that period.
- 13 (c) In the case of an elector who is necessarily absent
- 14 because of the conduct of his business, duties or occupation
- 15 under the unforeseen circumstances specified in this subsection,
- 16 such Emergency Application shall contain a supporting affidavit
- 17 from such elector stating that because of the conduct of [his]
- 18 the elector's business, duties or occupation said elector will
- 19 necessarily be absent from the municipality of [his] the
- 20 <u>elector's</u> residence on the day of the primary or election which
- 21 fact was not and could not reasonably be known to said elector
- 22 on or before the first Tuesday prior to the primary or election.
- 23 Section 15 18. Sections 1302.2(c) and (e) and 1302.3 of the

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- 24 act, amended December 11, 1968 (P.L.1183, No.375), are amended
- 25 to read:
- 26 Section 1302.2. Approval of Application for Absentee
- 27 Ballot.--
- 28 * * *
- 29 (c) The county board of elections, upon receipt of any
- 30 application of a qualified elector required to be registered

- 1 under the provisions of preceding section 1301, shall determine
- 2 the qualifications of such applicant by comparing the
- 3 information set forth on such application with the information
- 4 contained on the applicant's permanent registration card. If the
- 5 board is satisfied that the applicant is qualified to receive an
- 6 official absentee ballot, the application shall be marked
- 7 "approved." Such approval decision shall be final and binding,
- 8 except that challenges may be made only on the ground that the
- 9 applicant did not possess the qualifications of an absentee
- 10 elector. Such challenges must be made to the county board of
- 11 elections within twenty-four hours of the deadline for filing
- 12 <u>said applications</u> prior to [5:00 o'clock P. M. on the first
- 13 Friday prior to] the election. When so approved, the
- 14 registration commission shall cause an absentee [voter's]
- 15 <u>elector's</u> temporary registration card to be inserted in the
- 16 district register on top of and along with the permanent
- 17 registration card. The absentee [voter's] <u>elector's</u> temporary
- 18 registration card shall be in the color and form prescribed in
- 19 subsection (e) of this section:
- 20 Provided, however, That the duties of the county boards of
- 21 elections and the registration commissions with respect to the
- 22 insertion of the absentee [voter's] elector's temporary
- 23 registration card of any elector from the district register as
- 24 set forth in section 1302.2 shall include only such applications
- 25 and emergency applications as are received on or before the
- 26 first Tuesday prior to the primary or election. In all cases
- 27 where applications are received after the first Tuesday prior to
- 28 the primary or election and before [five o'clock P. M. on the
- 29 first Friday] the close of business on the first Monday
- 30 <u>immediately</u> prior to the primary or election, the county board

- 1 of elections shall determine the qualifications of such
- 2 applicant by comparing the information set forth on such
- 3 application with the information contained on the applicant's
- 4 [duplicate] registration card on file in the General Register
- 5 (also referred to as the Master File) in the office of the
- 6 Registration Commission and shall cause the name and residence
- 7 (and at primaries, the party enrollment) to be inserted in the
- 8 Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian Absentee Voters File
- 9 as provided in section 1302.3, subsection (b). In addition, the
- 10 local district boards of elections shall, upon canvassing the
- 11 official absentee ballots under section 1308, examine the voting
- 12 check list of the election district of said elector's residence
- 13 and satisfy itself that such elector did not cast any ballot
- 14 other than the one properly issued to [him] the elector under
- 15 [his] the elector's absentee ballot application. In all cases
- 16 where the examination of the local district board of elections
- 17 discloses that an elector did vote a ballot other than the one
- 18 properly issued to [him] the elector under the absentee ballot
- 19 application, the local district board of elections shall
- 20 thereupon cancel said absentee ballot and said elector shall be
- 21 subject to the penalties as hereinafter set forth.
- 22 * * *
- 23 (e) The absentee [voter's] <u>elector's</u> temporary registration
- 24 card shall be in duplicate and the same size as the permanent
- 25 registration card, in a different and contrasting color to the
- 26 permanent registration card and shall contain the absentee
- 27 [voter's] elector's name and address and shall conspicuously
- 28 contain the words "Absentee [Voter] <u>Elector</u>." Such card shall
- 29 also contain the affidavit required by subsection (b) of section
- 30 1306[.]: Provided, however, That counties utilizing digitized

- 1 signature lists as district registers shall utilize such lists
- 2 <u>or computer-generated forms as temporary registration cards.</u>
- 3 Such lists or printouts shall contain the same information and
- 4 <u>affidavit as required by this section. The elector's signature</u>
- 5 <u>in the district register shall void an absentee ballot</u>
- 6 previously filed by the elector in that election.
- 7 Section 1302.3. Absentee Electors Files and Lists.--(a) The
- 8 county board of elections shall maintain at its office a file
- 9 containing the duplicate absentee voter's temporary registration
- 10 cards of every registered elector to whom an absentee ballot has
- 11 been sent. Such duplicate absentee voter's temporary
- 12 registration cards shall be filed by election districts and
- 13 within each election district in exact alphabetical order and
- 14 indexed. The registration cards so filed shall constitute the
- 15 Registered Absentee Voters File for the Primary or Election of
- 16 (date of primary or election) and shall be kept on file for a
- 17 period commencing the Tuesday prior to the day of the primary or
- 18 election until the day following the primary or election or the
- 19 day the county board of elections certifies the returns of the
- 20 primary or election, whichever date is later. Such file shall be
- 21 open to public inspection, upon written request and at all times
- 22 subject to reasonable safeguards, rules and regulations.
- 23 (b) The county board of elections shall [post in a
- 24 conspicuous public place at its office] make available upon
- 25 <u>written request</u> a master list arranged in alphabetical order by
- 26 election districts setting forth the name and residence, and at
- 27 primaries, the party enrollment, of (1) every military elector
- 28 to whom an absentee ballot is being sent, each such name to be
- 29 prefixed with an "M"; (2) every bedridden or hospitalized
- 30 veteran outside the county of his residence who is not

- 1 registered and to whom an absentee ballot is being sent, each
- 2 such name to be prefixed with a "V"; and (3) every registered
- 3 elector who has filed his application for an absentee ballot too
- 4 late for the extraction of his original registration card and to
- 5 whom a ballot is being sent and every qualified elector who has
- 6 filed his application for an absentee ballot and is entitled,
- 7 under provisions of the Permanent Registration Law as now or
- 8 hereinafter enacted by the General Assembly, to absentee
- 9 registration prior to or concurrently with the time of voting,
- 10 each such name to be prefixed with a "C." This list shall be
- 11 known as the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilians Absentee
- 12 Voters File for the Primary or Election of (date of primary or
- 13 election) and shall be [posted] <u>made available upon written</u>
- 14 request for a period commencing the Tuesday prior to the day of
- 15 the primary or election until the day following the primary or
- 16 election or the day on which the county board of elections
- 17 certifies the returns of the primary or election, whichever date
- 18 is later. Such file shall be open to public inspection upon
- 19 written request and at all times subject to reasonable
- 20 safeguards, rules and regulations. This [posted] list shall not
- 21 contain any military address or references to any military
- 22 organization. Upon written request, the county board shall
- 23 furnish a copy of such list to any candidate or party county
- 24 chairman.
- 25 (c) Not less than five days preceding the election, the chief
- 26 clerk shall prepare a list for each election district showing
- 27 the names and post office addresses of all voting residents
- 28 thereof to whom official absentee ballots shall have been
- 29 issued. Each such list shall be prepared in duplicate, shall be
- 30 headed "Persons in (give identity of election district) to whom

- 1 absentee ballots have been issued for the election of (date of
- 2 election), " and shall be signed by him not less than four days
- 3 preceding the election. He shall [post] make available upon
- 4 <u>written request</u> the original of each such list [in a conspicuous
- 5 place in the office of the county election board and see that it
- 6 is kept so posted] until the close of the polls on election day.
- 7 He shall cause the duplicate of each such list to be delivered
- 8 to the judge of election in the election district in the same
- 9 manner and at the same time as are provided in this act for the
- 10 delivery of other election supplies, and it shall be the duty of
- 11 such judge of election to post such duplicate list in a
- 12 conspicuous place within the polling place of his district and
- 13 see that it is kept so posted throughout the time that the polls
- 14 are open. Upon written request, he shall furnish a copy of such
- 15 list to any candidate or party county chairman.
- 16 SECTION 19. SECTION 1305 OF THE ACT, AMENDED AUGUST 13, 1963 <
- 17 (P.L.707, NO.379) AND DECEMBER 7, 1990 (P.L.681, NO.169), IS
- 18 AMENDED TO READ:
- 19 SECTION 1305. DELIVERING OR MAILING BALLOTS.--
- 20 (A) THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS UPON RECEIPT AND APPROVAL
- 21 OF AN APPLICATION FILED BY ANY ELECTOR QUALIFIED IN ACCORDANCE
- 22 WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1301, SUBSECTIONS (A) TO (H),
- 23 INCLUSIVE, SHALL NOT LATER THAN FIFTY DAYS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF
- 24 THE PRIMARY OR NOT LATER THAN SEVENTY DAYS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF
- 25 THE ELECTION COMMENCE TO DELIVER OR MAIL TO SUCH ELECTOR WHO HAS
- 26 INCLUDED WITH SAID APPLICATION A STATEMENT THAT HE OR SHE IS
- 27 UNABLE TO VOTE DURING THE REGULAR ABSENTEE BALLOTING PERIOD BY
- 28 REASON OF LIVING OR PERFORMING MILITARY SERVICE IN AN EXTREMELY
- 29 REMOTE OR ISOLATED AREA OF THE WORLD, AND NOT LATER THAN FORTY-
- 30 FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION COMMENCE

- 1 TO DELIVER OR MAIL TO ALL OTHER SUCH ELECTORS AS PROVIDED FOR IN
- 2 SECTION 1301, SUBSECTIONS (A) TO (H), INCLUSIVE, OFFICIAL
- 3 ABSENTEE BALLOTS OR SPECIAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS AS
- 4 PRESCRIBED BY SUBSECTION (D) OF SECTION 1303 WHEN OFFICIAL
- 5 ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE NOT YET PRINTED; AS ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS
- 6 OF SUCH ELECTORS ARE RECEIVED, THE BOARD SHALL DELIVER OR MAIL
- 7 OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTS OR SPECIAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS
- 8 WHEN OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE NOT YET PRINTED TO SUCH
- 9 ADDITIONAL ELECTORS WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER APPROVAL OF
- 10 THEIR APPLICATION. IF THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL ELECTION WOULD
- 11 MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLY WITH THE FORTY-FIVE DAY DELIVERY OR
- 12 MAILING REQUIREMENT OF THIS SECTION, THEN THE COUNTY BOARD OF
- 13 ELECTIONS SHALL MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOTS OR SPECIAL WRITE-IN
- 14 ABSENTEE BALLOTS WITHIN FIVE DAYS OF THE COUNTY BOARD'S RECEIPT
- 15 OF THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO PREPARE SAID BALLOTS.
- 16 (B) THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS UPON RECEIPT AND APPROVAL
- 17 OF AN APPLICATION FILED BY ANY ELECTOR QUALIFIED IN ACCORDANCE
- 18 WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1301, SUBSECTIONS (I) TO (L),
- 19 INCLUSIVE, SHALL COMMENCE TO DELIVER OR MAIL OFFICIAL ABSENTEE
- 20 BALLOTS ON THE SECOND TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION.
- 21 AS ADDITIONAL APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED AND APPROVED, THE BOARD
- 22 SHALL DELIVER OR MAIL OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTS TO SUCH
- 23 ADDITIONAL ELECTORS WITHIN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS; PROVIDED, HOWEVER,
- 24 THAT IN THE EVENT ANY ELECTOR DELIVERS AN APPLICATION FOR AN
- 25 ABSENTEE BALLOT TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS IN PERSON
- 26 BETWEEN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE FIRST TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE
- 27 DAY OF ANY PRIMARY OR ELECTION AND THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE
- 28 FIRST FRIDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION, THE
- 29 <u>ELECTOR SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH AN ABSENTEE BALLOT AT THE TIME</u>
- 30 THE ELECTOR DELIVERS THE APPLICATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD OF

- 1 <u>ELECTIONS</u>.
- 2 SECTION 20. SECTION 1306 OF THE ACT, AMENDED FEBRUARY 13,
- 3 1998 (P.L.72, NO.18), IS AMENDED TO READ:
- 4 SECTION 1306. VOTING BY ABSENTEE ELECTORS.--(A) AT ANY TIME
- 5 AFTER RECEIVING AN OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT, BUT ON OR BEFORE
- 6 [FIVE O'CLOCK P. M.] THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE FRIDAY PRIOR
- 7 TO THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION, THE ELECTOR SHALL, IN SECRET,
- 8 PROCEED TO MARK THE BALLOT ONLY IN BLACK LEAD PENCIL, INDELIBLE
- 9 PENCIL OR BLUE, BLACK OR BLUE-BLACK INK, IN FOUNTAIN PEN OR BALL
- 10 POINT PEN, AND THEN FOLD THE BALLOT, ENCLOSE AND SECURELY SEAL
- 11 THE SAME IN THE ENVELOPE ON WHICH IS PRINTED, STAMPED OR
- 12 ENDORSED "OFFICIAL ABSENTEE [BALLOT."] BALLOT": PROVIDED,
- 13 HOWEVER, THAT ANY ELECTOR WHO SUBMITS AN EMERGENCY APPLICATION
- 14 AND RECEIVES AN ABSENTEE BALLOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION
- 15 1302.1(A) SHALL MARK THE BALLOT ON OR BEFORE THE CLOSE OF
- 16 BUSINESS ON THE FIRST MONDAY PRECEDING THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION.
- 17 THIS ENVELOPE SHALL THEN BE PLACED IN THE SECOND ONE, ON WHICH
- 18 IS PRINTED THE FORM OF DECLARATION OF THE ELECTOR, AND THE
- 19 ADDRESS OF THE ELECTOR'S COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION AND THE LOCAL
- 20 ELECTION DISTRICT OF THE ELECTOR. THE ELECTOR SHALL THEN FILL
- 21 OUT, DATE AND SIGN THE DECLARATION PRINTED ON SUCH ENVELOPE.
- 22 SUCH ENVELOPE SHALL THEN BE SECURELY SEALED AND THE ELECTOR
- 23 SHALL SEND SAME BY MAIL, POSTAGE PREPAID, EXCEPT WHERE FRANKED,
- 24 OR DELIVER IT IN PERSON TO SAID COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION:
- 25 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ANY ELECTOR, SPOUSE OF THE ELECTOR OR
- 26 DEPENDENT OF THE ELECTOR, QUALIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
- 27 PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1301, SUBSECTIONS (E), (F), (G) AND (H) TO
- 28 VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT AS HEREIN PROVIDED, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO
- 29 INCLUDE ON THE FORM OF DECLARATION A SUPPORTING DECLARATION IN
- 30 FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH, TO BE

SIGNED BY THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OR CHIEF OF DIVISION OR 2 BUREAU IN WHICH THE ELECTOR IS EMPLOYED, SETTING FORTH THE 3 IDENTITY OF THE ELECTOR, SPOUSE OF THE ELECTOR OR DEPENDENT OF 4 THE ELECTOR: 5 PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT ANY ELECTOR WHO HAS FILED HIS APPLICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 1302 SUBSECTION (E) (2), 6 7 AND IS UNABLE TO SIGN HIS DECLARATION BECAUSE OF ILLNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY, SHALL BE EXCUSED FROM SIGNING UPON MAKING A 8 9 DECLARATION WHICH SHALL BE WITNESSED BY ONE ADULT PERSON IN 10 SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM: I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I AM 11 UNABLE TO SIGN MY DECLARATION FOR VOTING MY ABSENTEE BALLOT WITHOUT ASSISTANCE BECAUSE I AM UNABLE TO WRITE BY REASON OF MY 12 13 ILLNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY. I HAVE MADE OR RECEIVED 14 ASSISTANCE IN MAKING MY MARK IN LIEU OF MY SIGNATURE. 15(MARK) 16 17 (DATE) 18 19 (SIGNATURE OF WITNESS) 20 21 (COMPLETE ADDRESS OF WITNESS) 22 (B) IN THE EVENT THAT ANY SUCH ELECTOR, EXCEPTING AN ELECTOR 23 IN MILITARY SERVICE OR ANY ELECTOR UNABLE TO GO TO HIS POLLING 24 PLACE BECAUSE OF ILLNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ENTITLED TO 25 VOTE AN OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT SHALL BE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF 26 HIS RESIDENCE ON THE DAY FOR HOLDING THE PRIMARY OR ELECTION FOR 27 WHICH THE BALLOT WAS ISSUED, OR IN THE EVENT ANY SUCH ELECTOR 28 SHALL HAVE RECOVERED FROM HIS ILLNESS OR PHYSICAL DISABILITY 29 SUFFICIENTLY TO PERMIT HIM TO PRESENT HIMSELF AT THE PROPER 30 POLLING PLACE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CASTING HIS BALLOT, SUCH

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- 1 ABSENTEE BALLOT CAST BY SUCH ELECTOR SHALL, BE DECLARED VOID.
- 2 ANY SUCH ELECTOR REFERRED TO IN THIS SUBSECTION, WHO IS
- 3 WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HIS RESIDENCE, MUST PRESENT HIMSELF
- 4 AT HIS POLLING PLACE AND SHALL BE PERMITTED TO VOTE UPON
- 5 PRESENTING HIMSELF AT HIS REGULAR POLLING PLACE IN THE SAME
- 6 MANNER AS HE COULD HAVE VOTED HAD HE NOT RECEIVED AN ABSENTEE
- 7 BALLOT: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH ELECTOR HAS FIRST PRESENTED HIMSELF
- 8 TO THE JUDGE OF ELECTIONS IN HIS LOCAL ELECTION DISTRICT AND
- 9 SHALL HAVE SIGNED THE AFFIDAVIT ON THE ABSENTEE VOTER'S
- 10 TEMPORARY REGISTRATION CARD, WHICH AFFIDAVIT SHALL BE IN
- 11 SUBSTANTIALLY THE FOLLOWING FORM:
- 12 I HEREBY SWEAR THAT I AM A QUALIFIED REGISTERED ELECTOR WHO
- 13 HAS OBTAINED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, HOWEVER, I AM PRESENT IN THE
- 14 MUNICIPALITY OF MY RESIDENCE AND PHYSICALLY ABLE TO PRESENT
- 15 MYSELF AT MY POLLING PLACE AND THEREFORE REQUEST THAT MY
- 16 ABSENTEE BALLOT BE VOIDED.
- 17
- 18 (DATE) (SIGNATURE OF ELECTOR)
- 19
- 20 (LOCAL JUDGE OF ELECTIONS)
- 21 AN ELECTOR WHO HAS RECEIVED AN ABSENTEE BALLOT UNDER THE
- 22 EMERGENCY APPLICATION PROVISIONS OF SECTION 1302.1, AND FOR
- 23 WHOM, THEREFORE, NO TEMPORARY ABSENTEE VOTER'S REGISTRATION CARD
- 24 IS IN THE DISTRICT REGISTER, SHALL SIGN THE AFOREMENTIONED
- 25 AFFIDAVIT IN ANY CASE, WHICH THE LOCAL JUDGE OF ELECTIONS SHALL
- 26 THEN CAUSE TO BE INSERTED IN THE DISTRICT REGISTER WITH THE
- 27 ELECTOR'S PERMANENT REGISTRATION CARD.
- 28 Section 146 21. Section 1306.1 of the act, added August 13, <--
- 29 1963 (P.L.707, No.379), is amended to read:
- 30 Section 1306.1. Assistance in Voting by Certain Absentee

```
Any elector qualified to vote an official absentee ballot in
 2
 3
   accordance with the provisions of section 1301, subsection (k),
 4
   may receive assistance in voting (1) if there is recorded on
 5
   [his] the elector's registration card [his] a declaration that
   [he] the elector has a physical disability which renders [him]
 6
   the elector unable to see or mark the official absentee ballot,
 7
   the exact nature of such disability being recorded on such
 8
   registration card; (2) if such elector requiring assistance
10
   submits with [his] the elector's application for an official
11
   absentee ballot, a [statement] declaration setting forth the
   precise nature of the disability which renders [him] the elector
12
13
   unable to see or mark the official absentee ballot and that to
14
   the best of [his] the elector's knowledge and belief [he] the
15
   elector will still suffer from the said physical disability at
16
   the time of voting [his] the elector's official absentee ballot.
17
   [He] The elector shall acknowledge the same before an officer
18
   qualified to take acknowledgement of deeds. Such statement shall
   be in substantially the following form:
19
20
      Statement of Absentee Elector Requiring Assistance
21
   I, ...., hereby state
22
           (Name of voter requiring assistance)
   that I require assistance in marking the official absentee
23
24
   ballot for the primary or election held .....,
25
                                             (Date)
26
   19..., that will be issued to me for the following reason:
27
   28
                 (Insert nature of disability)
29
                        30
                     (Signature or mark of elector)
```

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1

Electors.--

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```
1
      (Date of signature or mark)
 2
 3
   Commonwealth of Pennsylvania:
 4
                                      SS
 5
   County of ....:
 6
      On this...., day of...., 19..., before me,
    ...., the undersigned officer personally
 7
   appeared....., known to me (or satisfactorily
 8
   proven) to be the person whose signature or mark appears on the
10
   within instrument and acknowledged the same for the purposes
11
    therein contained.
12
      In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and official
13
   seal
14
15
                                          (Title of Officer)
16
      Upon receipt of the official absentee ballot, such elector
17
   requiring assistance may select [an adult] a person to assist
18
   him in voting, such assistance to be rendered in secret[.]:
   Provided, however, That the person rendering assistance may not
19
20
   be the elector's employer or an agent of the employer or an
   officer or agent of the elector's union. The [adult] person
21
22
   rendering the assistance in voting [should be required to fill
23
   out, ] shall complete, date and sign the declaration in such form
24
   approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth, or substantially
    in the form as set forth below, [as he] that the person has
25
   caused the elector's ballot to be marked in accordance with such
26
   elector's desires and instruction. Such declaration form shall
27
28
   be returned to the county board of elections in the mailing
29
    envelope addressed to the county board of elections within which
   the small "official absentee ballot" is returned.
30
```

1	Declaration of Person Rendering Assistance	
2	I,, [an adult person]	
3	(Name of Person rendering assistance)	
4	hereby declare that I have witnessed the aforesaid elector's	
5	signature or mark and that I have caused the aforesaid	
6	elector's ballot to be marked in accordance with the desires	
7	and instructions of the aforesaid elector.	
8		
9	(Signature of Person Rendering Assistance)	
10		
11	(Address)	
12	SECTION 22. SECTION 1632(A) OF THE ACT, AMENDED JULY 11,	<-
13	1980 (P.L.591, NO.127), IS AMENDED TO READ:	
14	SECTION 1632. LATE FILING FEE; CERTIFICATE OF FILING	
15	(A) A LATE FILING FEE FOR EACH REPORT OR STATEMENT OF	
16	EXPENDITURES AND CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH IS NOT FILED WITHIN THE	
17	PRESCRIBED PERIOD SHALL BE IMPOSED AS FOLLOWS. SUCH FEE SHALL BE	
18	[TEN DOLLARS (\$10)] TWENTY DOLLARS (\$20) FOR EACH [DAY] OF THE	
19	FIRST TWO DAYS OR PART OF A DAY EXCLUDING SATURDAYS, SUNDAYS AND	
20	HOLIDAYS THAT A REPORT IS OVERDUE. AN ADDITIONAL FEE OF [TEN	
21	DOLLARS (\$10)] FIFTY DOLLARS (\$50) IS DUE FOR EACH [OF THE FIRST	
22	SIX (6) DAYS] ADDITIONAL DAY THAT A REPORT IS OVERDUE. THE	
23	MAXIMUM FEE PAYABLE WITH RESPECT TO A SINGLE REPORT [IS TWO	
24	HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250)] SHALL NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF	
25	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED DURING THE PRESCRIBED REPORTING PERIOD. A	
26	SUPERVISOR SHALL RECEIVE AN OVERDUE REPORT OR STATEMENT EVEN IF	
27	ANY LATE FILING FEE DUE HAS NOT BEEN PAID BUT THE REPORT OR	
28	STATEMENT SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED FILED UNTIL ALL FEES HAVE BEEN	
29	PAID UPON THE RECEIPT BY THE SUPERVISOR OF AN OVERDUE REPORT. NO	
30	FURTHER LATE FILING FEES SHALL BE INCURRED ONCE THE REPORT OR	

- 1 STATEMENT IS FILED NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT THE REPORT OR
- 2 STATEMENT IS NOT CONSIDERED FILED. THE LATE FILING FEE IS THE
- 3 [PERSONAL] LIABILITY OF THE CANDIDATE OR TREASURER OF A
- 4 POLITICAL COMMITTEE [AND CANNOT BE PAID FROM CONTRIBUTIONS TO
- 5 THE CANDIDATE OR COMMITTEE, NOR MAY SUCH FEE BE CONSIDERED AN
- 6 EXPENDITURE]. A REPORT OR STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES AND
- 7 CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE BEEN FILED WITHIN THE
- 8 PRESCRIBED TIME IF THE LETTER TRANSMITTING THE REPORT OR
- 9 STATEMENT WHICH IS RECEIVED BY THE SUPERVISOR IS TRANSMITTED BY
- 10 FIRST CLASS MAIL AND IS POSTMARKED BY THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
- 11 SERVICE ON THE DAY PRIOR TO THE FINAL DAY ON WHICH THE REPORT OR
- 12 STATEMENT IS TO BE RECEIVED: PROVIDED, THAT THIS SENTENCE SHALL
- 13 NOT BE APPLICABLE TO THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN
- 14 SECTION 1628.
- 15 * * *
- 16 Section 17 23. Section 1635(a) of the act, added October 4, <-
- 17 1978 (P.L.893, No.171), is amended to read:
- 18 Section 1635. Independent Audit.--
- 19 (a) Every [two (2)] four (4) years, the Secretary of the
- 20 Commonwealth shall contract for the services of a certified
- 21 public accountant or certified public accounting firm. Such
- 22 contract shall be awarded on a bid basis and no certified public
- 23 accountant or certified public accounting firm shall be eligible
- 24 to obtain such a contract for two (2) successive contract
- 25 periods.
- 26 * * *
- 27 Section 18 24. Sections 1830 and 1831 of the act are amended <---
- 28 to read:
- 29 Section 1830. Unlawful Assistance in Voting.--Any elector at
- 30 any primary or election who shall allow [his] the elector's

- 1 ballot or the face of the voting machine voted by [him] the
- 2 <u>elector</u> to be seen by any person with the apparent intention of
- 3 letting it be known how [he] the elector is about to vote; or in
- 4 districts in which ballots are used, shall cast or attempt to
- 5 cast any other than the official ballot which has been given to
- 6 [him] the elector by the proper election officer; or who,
- 7 without having made the declaration [under oath or affirmation]
- 8 required by section 1218 of this act, or when the disability
- 9 which [he] the elector declared [before any registration
- 10 commission] no longer exists, shall permit another to accompany
- 11 [him] the elector into the voting compartment or voting machine
- 12 booth, or to mark [his] the elector's ballot or prepare the
- 13 voting machine for voting by [him] the elector; or who shall
- 14 mark [his] the ballot or prepare the voting machine for voting
- 15 while another is unlawfully present in the voting machine
- 16 compartment or voting machine booth with [him] the elector; or
- 17 who shall state falsely to any election officer that because of
- 18 illiteracy [he] the elector is unable to read the names on the
- 19 ballot or ballot labels or that by reason of physical disability
- 20 [he] the elector cannot see or mark the ballot or enter the
- 21 voting compartment without assistance or that [he] the elector
- 22 cannot see or operate the voting machine or enter the voting
- 23 machine booth without assistance; or who shall state, as [his]
- 24 the reason for requiring assistance, a disability from which
- 25 [he] the elector does not suffer; or any person who shall go
- 26 into the voting compartment or voting machine booth with another
- 27 while voting or be present therein while another is voting, or
- 28 mark the ballot of another or prepare the voting machine for
- 29 voting with another, except in strict accordance with the
- 30 provisions of this act; or any person who shall interfere with

- 1 any elector when inside the enclosed space or when marking [his]
- 2 <u>the elector's</u> ballot, or preparing the voting machine for
- 3 voting, or who shall endeavor to induce any elector before
- 4 depositing [his] the elector's ballot to show how [he] the
- 5 <u>elector</u> marks or has marked [his] the ballot; or any person
- 6 giving assistance who shall attempt to influence the vote of the
- 7 elector whom [he] the person is assisting or who shall mark a
- 8 ballot or prepare a voting machine for voting in any other way
- 9 than that requested by the [voter] <u>elector</u> whom [he] <u>the person</u>
- 10 is assisting, or who shall disclose to anyone the contents of
- 11 any ballot which has been marked or any voting machine which has
- 12 been prepared for voting with [his] the person's assistance,
- 13 except when required to do so in any legal proceeding, shall be
- 14 guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be
- 15 sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding one thousand (\$1,000)
- 16 dollars, or to undergo an imprisonment of not more than one (1)
- 17 year, or both, in the discretion of the court.
- 18 Section 1831. Election Officers Permitting Unlawful
- 19 Assistance. -- Any election officer who shall permit [a voter] an
- 20 <u>elector</u> to be accompanied by another into the voting compartment
- 21 or voting machine booth when the registration card of such
- 22 person contains no declaration that such person requires
- 23 assistance, or [when such person has not made, under oath or
- 24 affirmation, the statement] without a signed and witnessed
- 25 <u>declaration as</u> required by section 1218 of this act, or when
- 26 such election officer knows that the disability which the
- 27 elector declared before any registration commission no longer
- 28 exists, or who shall permit any person to accompany an elector
- 29 into the voting compartment or voting machine booth, except as
- 30 provided by this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and,

- upon conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to pay a fine not 1
- 2 exceeding one thousand (\$1,000) dollars, or to undergo an
- 3 imprisonment of not more than one (1) year, or both, in the
- 4 discretion of the court.
- Section 19. This act shall take effect in 60 days. 5
- 6 SECTION 25. THIS ACT SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY.