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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 900 Session of  
2013

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INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, TEPLITZ, WASHINGTON, BREWSTER, FARNESE,  
TARTAGLIONE, SMITH, WILLIAMS, HUGHES, FERLO, SOLOBAY,  
YUDICHAK, COSTA, BOSCOLA, WOZNIAK AND BROWNE, MAY 3, 2013

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, MAY 3, 2013

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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.

22 The county board of each county shall provide for early

1 voting to begin 15 days prior to the dates of elections and  
2 primaries established in accordance with Article VI and to end  
3 14 days after the starting date.

4 Section 1202-A. Early voting sites.

5 The county board of each county shall designate early voting  
6 sites where electors may cast their ballots during the early  
7 voting period established in accordance with section 1201-A.  
8 These sites shall include the main office of the county board  
9 and any other sites designated by the county board. The county  
10 board shall make available at these sites the same equipment  
11 used on election day as provided for in Article XI. The early  
12 voting sites shall be geographically located to provide electors  
13 in the election district an equal opportunity to cast a ballot.

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

16 The county board of each county shall designate the days and  
17 hours that early voting sites will be open, provided that all  
18 sites throughout the county shall have uniform days and hours,  
19 shall be open eight hours each weekday, shall be open a minimum  
20 of an aggregate eight hours each weekend, and shall not open  
21 prior to 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time or close before 7 p.m.  
22 Eastern Standard Time.

23 Section 1204-A. Voting check list.

24 The county board shall maintain a voting check list as  
25 provided for in section 1212 in such a way to ensure that  
26 electors are prohibited from casting additional ballots at  
27 either an early voting site or on election day in their  
28 precinct.

29 Section 1205-A. Disposition of returns.

30 The county board shall track votes by precinct but shall not

1 tabulate votes prior to the close of the polls on election day.

2 Section 1206-A. Notice of early voting.

3 The county board of each county shall, not earlier than 15

4 days nor later than nine days before each November election,

5 give notice of early voting by newspaper publication in the

6 county in accordance with the provisions of section 106, the

7 notice to be published twice in counties of the first class and

8 once in all other counties. The county board shall also post the

9 notice on its publicly accessible Internet website.

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