

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2819 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY HILL-EVANS, MILLARD, SANCHEZ, KINSEY, DALEY,
WILLIAMS, HANBIDGE, HOWARD, KRUEGER, COMMITTA, WEBSTER AND
ROZZI, AUGUST 28, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 28, 2020

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," in county boards of elections, further providing
12 for powers and duties of county boards.

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

15 Section 1. Section 302 of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333,
16 No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is amended by
17 adding a subsection to read:

18 Section 302. Powers and Duties of County Boards.--The county
19 boards of elections, within their respective counties, shall
20 exercise, in the manner provided by this act, all powers granted
21 to them by this act, and shall perform all the duties imposed
22 upon them by this act, which shall include the following:

1 * * *

2 (g) To conduct the following prior to the election held in
3 this Commonwealth on November 3, 2020, or any primary or
4 election held during a declaration of disaster emergency under
5 35 Pa.C.S. § 7301(c) (relating to general authority of
6 Governor):

7 (1) Select and designate, not less than twenty days prior to
8 an election, any public or private building situated in another
9 election district within a county as the polling place for an
10 election district, notwithstanding the location of the building
11 in the election district. A polling place may be selected and
12 designated under this subsection without the approval of a
13 court.

14 (2) Consolidate two or more polling places, except that the
15 consolidation of a polling place may not result in more than a
16 sixty percent reduction of polling place locations in the
17 county, except for necessitous circumstances and as approved by
18 the Department of State. Two or more polling places may be
19 located in the same building. A polling place selected and
20 designated under this paragraph or paragraph (1) must be
21 directly accessible to a voter by a public street or
22 thoroughfare.

23 (3) Post, not less than fifteen days prior to a primary or
24 election in this Commonwealth, in a conspicuous place at the
25 office of the county board of elections, a list of each place at
26 which the election is to be held in each election district of
27 the county. The list shall be available for public inspection at
28 the office of the county board of elections and posted on the
29 county's publicly accessible Internet website. Notice of
30 availability of the list shall be transmitted to the Legislative

1 Reference Bureau for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

2 Section 2. All regulations and parts of regulations are
3 abrogated to the extent of any inconsistency with the provisions
4 of this act.

5 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.