
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 294 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, FARNESE, BLAKE, HUGHES, BREWSTER, COSTA,
STREET, COLLETT, HAYWOOD, BOSCOLA, YUDICHAK AND BROWNE,
FEBRUARY 14, 2019

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

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 conduct of early voting in
12 primaries and 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 A county board shall provide for early voting which shall

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

4 Section 1202-A. Early voting sites.

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

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

16 A county board shall designate the days and times that early
17 voting sites will be open. All early voting sites throughout the
18 county shall:

- 19 (1) have uniform days and times of operation;
20 (2) be open eight hours each weekday;
21 (3) be open a minimum of an aggregate eight hours each
22 weekend; and
23 (4) not open prior to 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time or
24 close before 7 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

25 Section 1204-A. Voting check list.

26 A county board shall maintain a voting check list as provided
27 for in section 1212 in order to ensure that electors are
28 prohibited from casting additional ballots at either an early
29 voting site or on election day in the elector's precinct.

30 Section 1205-A. Disposition of returns.

1 A county board shall track votes by precinct but may not
2 tabulate votes prior to the close of the polls on election day.
3 Section 1206-A. Notice of early voting.

4 A county board shall, no earlier than 15 days nor later than
5 9 days before each November election, give notice of early
6 voting by newspaper publication in the county in accordance with
7 the provisions of section 106. The notice shall be published
8 twice in counties of the first class and once in all other
9 counties. A county board shall also post the notice on the
10 county board's publicly accessible Internet website.

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