

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 345 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY BAKER, STREET, VOGEL, FOLMER, KILLION,
SANTARSIERO, COSTA, FARNESE, TARTAGLIONE, LEACH, KEARNEY,
BLAKE AND L. WILLIAMS, FEBRUARY 27, 2019

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 27, 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," in voting by qualified absentee electors, further
12 providing for applications for official absentee ballots.

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

15 Section 1. Section 1302(e.1) of the act of June 3, 1937
16 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is
17 amended to read:

18 Section 1302. Applications for Official Absentee Ballots.--*

19 * *

20 (e.1) Any qualified registered elector, including any
21 qualified bedridden or hospitalized veteran, who is unable
22 because of illness or physical disability to attend his polling

1 place on the day of any primary or election or operate a voting
2 machine and state distinctly and audibly that he is unable to do
3 so as required by section 1218 of this act may, with the
4 certification by his attending physician that he is permanently
5 disabled, and physically unable to attend the polls or operate a
6 voting machine and make the distinct and audible statement
7 required by section 1218 appended to the application
8 hereinbefore required, be placed on a permanently disabled
9 absentee ballot list file. An absentee ballot application shall
10 be mailed to every such person for each primary or election so
11 long as he does not lose his voting rights by failure to vote as
12 otherwise required by this act. Such person shall not be
13 required to file a physician's certificate of disability with
14 each application as required in subsection (e) of this section
15 [but such person must submit a written statement asserting
16 continuing disability every four years in order to maintain his
17 eligibility to vote under the provisions of this subsection].
18 Should any such person lose his disability he shall inform the
19 county board of elections of the county of his residence.

20 * * *

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