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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1098 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY LEACH AND BREWSTER, APRIL 3, 2020

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 3, 2020

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AN ACT

1 Making an appropriation from the General Fund to the Department  
2 of State for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, for the  
3 purpose of providing mail-in ballot applications and mail-in  
4 ballots to qualified electors for the 2020 primary and  
5 general elections.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Appropriation.

9 The sum of \$40,000,000 is hereby appropriated from the  
10 General Fund to the Department of State for the fiscal year  
11 beginning July 1, 2019, for the purpose of providing mail-in  
12 ballot applications and mail-in ballots to qualified electors  
13 for the 2020 primary and general elections.

14 Section 2. Procedures.

15 (a) General rule.--The county boards of elections, in  
16 coordination with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, shall send  
17 each qualified mail-in elector an application for a mail-in  
18 ballot for the 2020 primary and general elections. An  
19 application for a mail-in ballot shall be mailed to the address  
20 recorded on the elector's registration along with a postage

1 prepaid, preaddressed return envelope. The application shall  
2 state that an elector who receives a mail-in ballot application  
3 or mail-in ballot under this section is not obligated to vote by  
4 mail and may choose to vote at the elector's polling place on  
5 election day. The procedures governing application approval and  
6 voting by official mail-in ballot under Article XIII-D of the  
7 act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the  
8 Pennsylvania Election Code, not inconsistent with this section  
9 shall apply to mail-in ballot applications and mail-in ballots  
10 provided under this act.

11 (b) Definition.--As used in this section, the term  
12 "qualified mail-in elector" shall have the same meaning given to  
13 it in section 102(z.6) of the Pennsylvania Election Code.

14 Section 3. Construction.

15 The appropriation under section 1 shall be in addition to any  
16 appropriation to the Department of State under the act of June  
17 28, 2019 (P.L. , No.1A), known as the General Appropriation Act  
18 of 2019.

19 Section 4. Effective date.

20 This act shall take effect immediately.