

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2249 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY YOUNG, N. NELSON, HOHENSTEIN, D. WILLIAMS,  
SCHLOSSBERG, SANCHEZ, T. DAVIS, WEBSTER, MADDEN, INNAMORATO,  
FREEMAN, GUENST AND WARREN, JANUARY 14, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 14, 2022

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 canvassing of official absentee ballots and  
13 mail-in ballots.

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

16 Section 1. Section 1308(g)(1.1) of the act of June 3, 1937  
17 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code,  
18 amended March 27, 2020 (P.L.41, No.12), is amended to read:

19 Section 1308. Canvassing of Official Absentee Ballots and  
20 Mail-in Ballots.--\* \* \*

21 (g) \* \* \*

22 (1.1) The county board of elections shall meet [no earlier  
23 than seven o'clock A.M. on] at least once before election day to

1 pre-canvass all ballots received prior to the meeting. The  
2 county board of elections may complete the tasks specified under  
3 paragraph (4)(i), (ii) and (iii) at any point during the period  
4 beginning seven days before election day, including the day  
5 before election day, if the county board of elections completes  
6 a pre-canvass of all absentee ballots and mail-in ballots  
7 received prior to the Friday before election day. A county board  
8 of elections shall provide at least forty-eight hours' notice of  
9 a pre-canvass meeting by publicly posting a notice of a pre-  
10 canvass meeting on its publicly accessible Internet website. One  
11 authorized representative of each candidate in an election and  
12 one representative from each political party shall be permitted  
13 to remain in the room in which the absentee ballots and mail-in  
14 ballots are pre-canvassed. No person observing, attending or  
15 participating in a pre-canvass meeting may disclose the results  
16 of any portion of any pre-canvass meeting prior to the close of  
17 the polls.

18 \* \* \*

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