
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. **259** Session of
1961

INTRODUCED BY MESSRS. WEINER, MULLIN, DONOLOW
AND SILVERT, FEBRUARY 20, 1961.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS,
FEBRUARY 20, 1961.

AN ACT

Amending the act of March 30 1937 (P L 115) entitled "An act to provide for the permanent personal registration of electors in cities of the first class as a condition of their right to vote at elections and primaries and their enrollment as members of political parties as a further condition of their right to vote at primaries prescribing certain procedure for the conduct of elections and primaries and the challenge and proof of qualifications of electors and prescribing the powers and duties of citizens parties bodies of electors registration commissions

EXPLANATION—CAPITAL LETTERS indicate new matter added to bill. Matter stricken through is to be omitted from bill. Underscoring indicates new matter added to existing law. [Brackets] indicate matter stricken from existing law.

commissioners registrars inspectors of registration and other appointees of registration commission election officers municipal officers departments and bureaus police officers courts judges prothonotaries sheriffs county commissioners peace officers county treasurers county controllers registrars of vital statistics real estate brokers rental agents certain public service companies persons firms and corporations operating vehicles for moving furniture and household goods and boards of school directors and imposing penalties" authorizing registration and change of party enrollment by persons who are sick or physically disabled

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows

- 1 Section 1 Subsection (a) of section 17 act of March 30 1937 (P L
- 2 115) known as "The First Class City Permanent Registration Act"
- 3 amended May 25 1956 (P L 1746) is amended to read
- 4 Section 17 Days and Hours of Registration Places of Registration
- 5 Use of Polling Places Payments of Rentals Use of School Buildings
- 6 Public Notice
- 7 (a) The commission or any commissioner employe or clerk assigned

1 for that purpose shall at the main office of the commission during
2 ordinary business hours and during such additional hours as the com-
3 mission shall from time to time prescribe on each day and on such
4 days and during such hours as the commission may from time to time
5 designate at other offices in the city which the commission shall from
6 time to time have power to establish and discontinue except Sundays
7 holidays the days hereinafter provided for the registration of electors
8 in the districts or wards the day of each election and each primary
9 the fifty days next preceding each general municipal and primary
10 election and the thirty days next following each election and the
11 five days next following each primary receive personal applications
12 from persons who claim that they are entitled to be registered as
13 electors of the city and who appear for registration Provided how-
14 ever That in case of a special election within a certain district (con-
15 gressional senatorial or representative) held on a day other than the
16 day of a primary general or municipal election the registration of
17 electors shall be discontinued in the wards comprising such district
18 for the period of thirty-five days prior to and the five days next
19 following such special election In each year the commission may also

1 when it considers it necessary for the convenience of the electors pro-
2 vide one or more places of registration in each or any ward of the
3 city at which two or more registrars as the commission may deem
4 necessary shall be present to receive personal applications from quali-
5 fied electors of the city who claim that they are entitled to be registered
6 which registrars shall be present thereat between the hours of seven
7 antemeridian and one postmeridian and between the hours of four and
8 ten postmeridian on such days as may be selected by the commission
9 which shall be not more than sixty days and not less than fifty days
10 prior to any general municipal or primary election Provided further
11 however That with respect to any person who shall become a citizen
12 of the United States on a day subsequent to the sixtieth day prior to
13 any election or primary but at least one month prior to the day of such
14 election or primary the commission or any commissioner employe or
15 clerk assigned for that purpose shall receive personal applications from
16 such person if he or she is otherwise qualified at the office of the regis-
17 tration commission until the thirtieth day prior to such election or
18 primary during ordinary business hours except Sundays holidays and
19 the days hereinbefore provided for the registration of electors in the

1 districts or wards The commission upon receiving the signed petition
2 of a person stating that he is ill or physically disabled shall require
3 any such registrar to visit the residence of and receive such an appli-
4 cation for registration as an elector from the person who because of
5 illness or physical disability is unable to appear in person at the main
6 office of the commission or other place for personal application to be
7 registered as an elector

8 * * *

9 Section 2 Subsection (b) of section 30 of the act amended June 5
10 1947 (P L 413) is amended to read

11 Section 30 Change of Party Enrollment Notice Change of Enroll-
12 ment of Political Party Cancellation of Party Enrollment Persons
13 Suffering Disability after Registration to Have Fact Recorded Can-
14 cellation

15 * * *

16 (b) At any time except the fifty days next preceding the primary
17 election and except the thirty days next following an election any
18 person who desires to change his party enrollment or who although
19 registered has not hitherto enrolled as a member of a party shall ap-
20 pear at any office of the commission or before the registrars in his

1 ward or district and sign the change of party enrollment notice con-
2 taining the information required by subsection (a) of this section stat-
3 ing the designation of the political party in which he desires to be
4 enrolled Provided however That no registered elector shall be per-
5 mitted to change his party enrollment between any primary and the
6 following general or municipal election nor more than once between
7 any November election and the following primary election Upon peti-
8 tion of a person who is ill or physically disabled the commission shall
9 require except during the above excepted periods of time a registrar
10 to visit the home of the ill or disabled person to permit the signing
11 by such person of the change of party enrollment notice containing
12 the information otherwise required by this subsection The commis-
13 sion shall cause the signature thereon to be compared with the signa-
14 ture on the general and district registers and if the signatures ap-
15 pear authentic shall enter the change of enrollment of political party
16 in the registers unless such elector is prohibited from changing his
17 party enrollment as aforesaid

18 Section 3 This act shall take effect immediately

We certify that this bill has passed the Senate and the House of Representatives.

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Chief Clerk, Senate

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President pro tempore, Senate

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Speaker, House of Representatives

Approved The day of A. D. 1901.

.....
Governor