

No. 183

AN ACT

SB 1371

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, 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," changing certain residency and citizenship requirements and days of operation of registration places for the registration of electors.

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

Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17, act of March 30, 1937 (P.L.115), known as "The First Class City Permanent Registration Act," amended May 25, 1956 (P.L.1746), is amended to read:

Section 17. Days and Hours of Registration; Places of Registration; Use of Polling Places; Payments of Rentals; Use of School Buildings; Public Notice.—

(a) The commission, or any commissioner, employe or clerk assigned for that purpose shall at the main office of the commission, during ordinary business hours, and during such additional hours as the commission shall from time to time prescribe, on each day, and on such days and during such hours as the commission may from time to time designate at other offices in the city which the commission shall from time to time have power to establish and discontinue, except Sundays, holidays, the days hereinafter provided for the registration of electors in the districts or wards, the day of each election and each primary, the ~~[fifty]~~ *thirty* days next preceding each general, municipal and primary election, and the thirty days next following each election and the five days next following each primary, receive personal applications from persons who claim that they are entitled to be registered as electors of the city and who appear for registration: Provided, however, That in case of a special election within a certain district (congressional, senatorial or representative), held on a day other than the day of a primary, general or municipal election, the registration of electors shall be discontinued in the wards comprising such district for the period of thirty-five days prior to and the five days

next following such special election. In each year the commission may also, when it considers it necessary for the convenience of the electors, provide one or more places of registration in each or any ward of the city, at which two or more registrars, as the commission may deem necessary, shall be present to receive personal applications from qualified electors of the city who claim that they are entitled to be registered, which registrars shall be present thereat between the hours of seven antemeridian and one postmeridian, and between the hours of four and ten postmeridian on such days as may be selected by the commission, which shall be not more than sixty days, and not less than fifty days, prior to any general, municipal or primary election: Provided, further, however, That with respect to any person who shall become a citizen of the United States on a day subsequent to the sixtieth day prior to any election or primary, but at least one month prior to the day of such election or primary, the commission or any commissioner, employe or clerk assigned for that purpose shall receive personal applications from such person if he or she is otherwise qualified at the office of the registration commission until the thirtieth day prior to such election or primary during ordinary business hours except Sundays, holidays and the days hereinbefore provided for the registration of electors in the districts or wards.

* * *

Section 2. Section 21 of the act, amended June 3, 1943 (P.L.855), is amended to read:

Section 21. Who May Register; Who May Vote; Electors Need Register Only Once; Exception.—

Every person who shall possess all the qualifications of an elector as provided in the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth, [**or who by continued residence in his election district will obtain such qualifications before the next ensuing general or municipal election,**] *and has been a citizen of the United States for at least one month and who has resided in this Commonwealth and the election district where he shall offer to vote for at least thirty days prior to the next ensuing general, municipal or primary election*, shall be entitled to be registered as herein provided, and no person shall be permitted to vote at any election or primary held in such city unless he shall have been so registered, and no elector so registered shall be required to register again for any election or primary while he continues to reside at the same address, or has removed his residence to another address in the same district and has filed a removal notice as provided by this act, unless his registration is cancelled by the commission by reason of his failure to vote during the certain period as hereinafter provided, or for any other reason under the provisions of this act.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 12th day of July, A. D. 1972.

MILTON J. SHAPP

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of Act of the General Assembly
No. 183.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. McLaughlin Tucker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

Secretary of the Commonwealth.