

No. 3

AN ACT

HB 206

Amending the act of March 30, 1937 (P.L.115, No.40), 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 provisions on dates for registration.

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, No.40), known as "The First Class City Permanent Registration Act," amended July 12, 1972 (No.183), 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 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] *thirty* 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. Subsection (b) of section 30 of the act, amended June 5, 1947 (P.L.413, No.190), is amended to read:

Section 30. Change of Party Enrollment; Notice Change of Enrollment of Political Party; Cancellation of Party Enrollment; Persons Suffering Disability after Registration to Have Fact Recorded; Cancellation.—* * *

(b) At any time except the [fifty] *thirty* days next preceding the primary election and except the thirty days next following an election, any person who desires to change his party enrollment, or who, although registered, has not hitherto enrolled as member of a party, shall appear at any office of the commission or before the registrars in his ward or district, and sign the change of party enrollment notice, containing the information required by subsection (a) of this section, stating the designation of the political party in which he desires to be enrolled: Provided, however, That no registered elector shall be permitted to change his party enrollment between any primary and the following general or municipal election, nor more than once between any November election and the following primary election. The commission shall cause the signature thereon to be compared with the signature on the general and district registers, and, if the signatures appear authentic, shall enter the change of enrollment of political party in the registers, unless such elector is prohibited from changing his party enrollment as aforesaid.

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Section 3. Subsection (a) of section 34 of the act, amended May 16, 1951 (P.L.305, No.63), is amended to read:

Section 34. Comparison and Correction of Registers, Street Lists.—(a) Commencing [fifty] *thirty* days prior to each primary and each general and municipal election, the commission shall compare and correct the general and district registers.

* * *

Section 4. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 26th day of March, A. D. 1973.

MILTON J. SHAPP

The foregoing is a true and correct copy of Act of the General Assembly No. 3.

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

Secretary of the Commonwealth.