

ASSEMBLY, No. 241

(Revised Statutes, section 19:3-6, P. L. 1938, Chap. 308.)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 17, 1941

By Mr. SHOLL

Referred to Committee on Elections

AN ACT concerning the submission of public questions in State, county and municipal elections, and amending section 19:3-6 of the Revised Statutes.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New*
2 *Jersey:*

1 1. Section 19:3-6 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows:

2 19:3-6. Any public question voted upon at an election shall be presented
3 in simple language that can be easily understood by the voter. The printed
4 phrasing of said question on the ballots shall clearly set forth the true pur-
5 pose of the matter being voted upon. Where the question concerns any
6 amendment to the State Constitution, or any act or statute or other legal
7 titles of any nature, the printed phrasing on the ballots shall include a brief
8 statement interpreting same. In event that in any statute the public question
9 to be voted upon is so stated as not clearly to set forth the true purpose of
10 the matter being voted upon and no provision is made in said statute for pre-
11 senting the same in simple language or printing upon the ballots a brief
12 statement interpreting the same, there may be added on the ballots to be used
13 in voting upon the question, a brief statement interpreting the same and
14 setting forth the true purpose of the matter being voted upon in addition to
15 the statement of the public question required by the statute itself.

16 Such public question, when duly voted upon at an election, shall be
17 deemed to be approved when that percentage of the legal voters of the State

18 or any subdivision thereof as required by the statute authorizing the proposal
19 of such public question shall vote in favor of its adoption.

20 For the purpose of this Title it is hereby declared that the intent and
21 meaning in any such statute of the words "legal voters" are persons
22 entitled to vote, and who do vote, at the time and in the manner prescribed
23 in and by such statute upon the public question submitted; and for the pur-
24 pose of ascertaining what is the percentage of the legal voters of any district
25 defined in such statute, upon the public question therein directed to be sub-
26 mitted, the persons who do not vote at such election, the persons who do not
27 vote upon the public question and the persons whose ballots may be declared
28 invalid, shall not be estimated, counted or considered.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

SPONSORS STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to permit a statement of the true purpose of a
question to be voted upon under a referendum statute where the statute does not
provide for the printing of such a statement.

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