

19:6-2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 19:6-2 (Elections--District Boards of Registry and Election--revise membership requirements)

LAWS 1981 CHAPTER 257

Bill No. A1524

Sponsor(s) Cowan and others

Date Introduced April 17, 1980

Committee: Assembly State Govt., Federal & Interstate Relations & Veterans Affairs

Senate State Govt., Federal & Interstate Relations & Veterans Affairs

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Oct. 6, 1980

Senate June 18, 1981

Date of approval Aug. 12, 1981

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~ Also attached: Senate amendments adopted 6-15-81, with statement

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~No~~

Senate Yes ~~No~~

Fiscal Note Yes ~~No~~

Veto Message Yes ~~No~~

Message on signing Yes ~~No~~

Following were printed:

Reports Yes ~~No~~

Hearings Yes ~~No~~

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6/22/81

[OFFICIAL COPY REPRINT]
ASSEMBLY, No. 1524

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 17, 1980

By Assemblymen COWAN, McMANIMON, DOWD, OLSZOWY,
 LITTELL, JACKMAN, BATE, PELLECCCHIA, HOLLENBECK,
 Assemblywoman McCONNELL, Assemblymen LESNIAK, ADU-
 BATO, JANISZEWSKI, PATERO, T. GALLO and BROWN

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and
 Interstate Relations and Veterans Affairs

AN ACT concerning the qualifications of members of district boards
 of registry and election and amending R. S. 19:6-2.

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

1 1. R. S. 19:6-2 is amended to read as follows:

2 19:6-2. Any legal voter who **[shall have voted for 3 consecutive**
 3 **years in the same political party]** *is a member of a political party*
 4 *by virtue of having voted in a party primary or who shall have filed*
 5 *a party declaration form for the ensuing primary election for the*
 6 *general election with the commissioner of the county in which the*
 7 *voter is registered and who, for 2 years prior to making written*
 8 *application, has not espoused the cause of another political party*
 9 *or its candidates may make written application for service as a*
 10 *member of a district board of ***[the]*** ***any*** municipality in ***the***
 11 *county in** which he or she resides on a form to be prepared and
 12 furnished for that purpose by such board and signed by him or her
 13 and stating thereon, under the applicant's oath, the applicant's
 14 name and address and the political party to which he or she belongs
 15 and that said applicant is of good moral character and has not been
 16 convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude and possesses the
 17 following qualifications, namely: such eyesight as will enable the
 18 applicant, with or without eyeglasses, to read nonpareil type; ability
 19 to read the English language readily; ability to add and sub-
 20 tract figures correctly; ability to write in a legible hand with
 21 reasonable facility; reasonable knowledge of the duties to be per-
 22 formed by the applicant as an election officer under the election

**EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill
 is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.**

24 discharge his or her duties as such election officer. No person shall
25 be precluded from applying to serve as a member of a district
26 board of any municipality for failure to vote in any year such per-
27 son was ineligible to vote by reason of age or residence.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill eliminates the requirement that a person shall have voted for 3 consecutive years in the same political party in order to apply for service as a member of a district board of registry and election. Every county board in the State is experiencing difficulty in securing qualified election officers because of this limitation. This bill allows a person who is a member of a political party by virtue of certain criteria and who, for 2 years prior to making written application, has not espoused the cause of another political party or its candidates to apply for such service.

A1524 (1980)

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL AND
INTERSTATE RELATIONS AND VETERANS
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1524

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 29, 1980

This bill eliminates the requirement that a person shall have voted for 3 consecutive years in the same political party in order to apply for service as a member of a district board of registry and election. Every county board in the State is experiencing difficulty in securing qualified election officers because of this limitation. This bill allows a person who has voted in a party primary or has filed a party declaration form for the ensuing primary *and* who, for 2 years prior to making written application, has not espoused the cause of another political party or its candidates to apply for such service.

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SENATE AMENDMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1524

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED JUNE 15, 1981

Amend page 1, section 1, line 10, omit "the", insert "any"; after "in", insert "the county in".

STATEMENT

These amendments provide that applicants for membership on municipal district boards of registry and election need not be residents of the municipality on whose board they wish to serve, if they are residents of the county in which the municipality is located.