

19:8-3

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

HJSA 19:8-3 (Polling places--accessible to the handicapped)

LAWS OF 1977 CHAPTER 326

Bill No. A1883

Sponsor(s) Brown

Date Introduced April 8, 1976

Committee: Assembly State Gov't, Federal & Interstate Relations

Senate State Gov't, Federal & Interstate Relations

Amended during passage Yes No

Date of Passage: Assembly April 25, 1977

Senate Dec. 15, 1977

Date of approval Jan. 10, 1978

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes No (Below)

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

Sponsor's Statement:

Very often the elderly and physically disabled find it difficult to travel to polling places when only schoolhouses or public buildings are used. This bill would direct districts which utilize facilities other than the aforementioned to consider using places accessible to those who find the greatest difficulty in reaching them, the elderly and physically disabled:

(over)

974.90
H236
1976g

Dolan, Frank A
N.J. conference on handicapped
individuals: final report, 1976.
(comment on need for legislation
on p. 2-25) .

ASSEMBLY, No. 1883

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED APRIL 8, 1976

By Assemblyman BROWN

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and
Interstate Relations

AN ACT concerning the selection of polling places and amending
R. S. 19:8-3.

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

1 1. R. S. 19:8-3 is amended to read as follows:

2 19:8-3. The county board may select the schoolhouse or school-
3 houses, public building or public buildings as the polling places in
4 any municipality in the county whether or not such schoolhouses
5 or public buildings are located within the election district for which
6 the polling place is established; and shall designate the rooms or
7 places, entrances and exits to be used in the schoolhouses or public
8 buildings.

9 The county board may select a polling place other than a school-
10 house or public building for an election district, when the location
11 of the election district and of the schoolhouses and public build-
12 ings in the municipality in which the election district is located
13 is such that inconvenience would be caused the voters of such
14 election district by locating the polling place thereof in a school-
15 house or public building. *In the selection of a polling place other*
16 *than a schoolhouse or public building for an election district,*
17 *consideration shall be given to the use of buildings accessible to*
18 *elderly and physically disabled persons.*

19 The county board shall determine and certify to the board of
20 chosen freeholders the amount to be paid the several boards of
21 education or municipalities, as the case may be, for expenses in
22 connection with the use of schoolhouses or public buildings for
23 election purposes; not to exceed in any case the amount paid for
24 polling places in private premises.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

Very often the elderly and physically disabled find it difficult to travel to polling places when only schoolhouses or public buildings are used. This bill would direct districts which utilize facilities other than the aforementioned to consider using places accessible to those who find the greatest difficulty in reaching them, the elderly and physically disabled.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL
AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO
ASSEMBLY, No. 1883

—♦—
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
—♦—

DATED: NOVEMBER 8, 1976

At the present time a county board of elections may select a polling place other than a schoolhouse or public building when such a place would be more convenient to the voters of an election district. This bill provides that when a polling place other than a schoolhouse or public building is selected, the county board shall give consideration to the use of buildings which are accessible to elderly and physically disabled persons, since such persons often have great difficulty in traveling to polling places.

The legislation requires the DEP to study the feasibility of adopting pretreatment standards for sludge and require the Commissioner to pursue any public or private aid which might be available for the processing or land disposal of sludge.

A-1349, sponsored by Assemblyman C. Louis Bassano (R-Union), which outlines the procedures for filling vacancies on school boards.

Special elections will be held if the vacancy was due to a tie in the annual election or from a failure to elect due to improper election procedures.

If there is a vacancy because of improper election procedures, the Commissioner of Education will appoint a member. The county superintendent will retain his power to appoint when the vacancy results from the removal of a member for lack of qualifications or from the absence of candidates for election to the school board.

A-1883, sponsored by Assemblyman Willie Brown (D-Essex), which amends the act concerning the election of polling places.

Prior to this legislation a county board of elections was permitted to select a polling place other than a school house or public building when the new site would be more convenient to the voters of an election district.

Under this legislation the county board may still select a polling place other than a school house or public building. However, they must also consider using buildings which are accessible to elderly and physically disabled persons.

A-1936, sponsored by Assemblywoman Marie Muhler (R-Monmouth), which establishes a procedure for maintaining a system of staggered elections and terms of office for regional school board members.

The bill allows the Commissioner of Education to make a one-year adjustment in the terms of office of any member of a regional school board who represents a constituent district which, due to reappointment or enlargement of the regional district, has a disproportionate number of its representatives up for election at the same time.