

19:31-18

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 19:31-18

Laws of 1976 Chapter 22

Bill No. A1735

Sponsor(s) Deverin & others

Date Introduced March 8, 1976

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

Senate -

Amended during passage Yes ~~No~~ Amendment corrects typographical error in existing law.

Date of passage: Assembly April 8

Senate April 29

Date of approval May 7, 1976

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~No~~

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

Compare:

974.90 N.J. Election Law Revision Commission.
E38 The New Jersey Election Law Revision. Proposed
1975b 19A.
19:31-18 proposed as 19A:22-21 --see vol. 1, page 124; vol. 2, page 33.

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1735

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MARCH 8, 1976

By Assemblymen DEVERIN, McDERMOTT, BASSANO, MAGUIRE,
DiFRANCESCO and GREGORIO

Referred to Committee on State Government, Federal and
Interstate Relations

AN ACT concerning elections and amending R. S. 19:31-18.

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

1 1. R. S. 19:31-18 is amended to read as follows:

2 19:31-18. On or before the fifteenth day preceding any [primary
3 election and on or before the fifteenth day preceding any] general
4 election the commissioner shall certify and transmit to the county
5 clerk a complete list of all persons who are registered in each
6 election district in each municipality in the county together with a
7 statement as to the number of persons registered in each district.
8 On the face of the list of registered voters the commissioner shall
9 in figures state the total number of names of persons * [reregis-
10 tered] * *registered* *. Such lists shall be arranged substantially in
10A the following form:

Grand Street

	Residence number or other designation	Name of voter
11	14	Jones, Charles M.
12	15	Smith, John M.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

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7 statement as to the number of persons registered in each district.
8 On the face of the list of registered voters the commissioner shall
9 in figures state the total number of names of persons reregistered.
10 Such lists shall be arranged substantially in the following form:

	Residence number or other designation	Grand Street	Name of voter
11	14		Jones, Charles M.
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STATEMENT

P. L. 1974, c. 30 provided, among various changes which it made in the laws on voter registration, that the county clerks should print and distribute district lists of registrants prior to each primary, as well as each general election. These printed lists are distributed free to various local officials and political

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party committees, and are sold at the nominal fee of \$0.25 per district list to any interested voter.

Such lists are widely used by candidates and political organizations in connection with general elections; but the requirement, introduced by the 1974 act, that they also be made available for primary elections has proved to be a pointless and expensive exercise as, indeed, was forecast by county clerks and other persons familiar with the practical uses of these lists.

For example, the county clerk of Union County has reported that the lists printed for the primary election of last year for the 455 districts in that county cost the county \$14,500.00. Receipts from the sale of the lists brought in only \$176.50—indicating a total of 706 individual lists, or well below two for each district on the average. And of these, the county clerk points out, some were bought “for commercial use”—a practice subsequently forbidden by statute (P. L. 1975, c. 115). The rest were sold for \$9.00 as scrap paper when the lists had to be recompiled for the general election. The net loss to the county was \$14,314.50; and the net gain to the political process in the form of better voter information was evidently unsubstantial.

This bill would repeal the requirement for compiling and printing voter registry lists for primary elections. The requirement with respect to general elections would remain unchanged.