

34:2-21.3
LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2022 **CHAPTER:** 66
NJSA: 34:2-21.3
(Allows minors to serve as election workers between 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on elections days.)

BILL NO: A1969 (Substituted for S138 (1R))

SPONSOR(S) Raj Mukherji and others

DATE INTRODUCED: 1/11/2022

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** Labor
State and Local Government
SENATE: State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 6/16/2022

SENATE: 6/29/2022

DATE OF APPROVAL: 7/28/2022

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

FINAL TEXT OF BILL (Introduced bill enacted) Yes

A1969

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: Yes

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

S138 (1R)

INTRODUCED BILL: (Includes sponsor(s) statement) Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: ASSEMBLY: No

SENATE: Yes

(Audio archived recordings of the committee meetings, corresponding to the date of the committee statement, *may possibly* be found at www.njleg.state.nj.us)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENT: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: Yes

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext.103 or <mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: Yes

TERRENCE T. MCDONALD; newjerseymonitor.com, 'Gov. Murphy signs package of election legislation into law Governor Murphy signs group of election bills into law', Press of Atlantic City, The (online), 30 Jul 2022 4A

Matt Arco - For The Star-Ledger, 'Murphy signs voting reform laws to help speed up election results', Star-Ledger, The (online), 30 Jul 2022 006

end

P.L. 2022, CHAPTER 66, *approved July 28, 2022*

Assembly, No. 1969

1 **AN ACT** allowing minors to serve as election workers and amending
2 P.L.1940, c.153.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.3) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 3. Except as provided in section 15 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-
10 21.15) and except for domestic service or messengers employed by
11 communications companies subject to the supervision and control of
12 the Federal Communications Commission, no minor under 18 years of
13 age shall be employed, permitted, or suffered to work in, about, or in
14 connection with any gainful occupation more than six consecutive
15 days in any one week, or more than 40 hours in any one week, or more
16 than eight hours in any one day, nor shall any minor under 16 years of
17 age be so employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 7 a.m. or
18 after 7 p.m. of any day, except a minor who is 14 or 15 years of age
19 may work in a restaurant, supermarket or other retail establishment, or
20 in any occupation not prohibited by the provisions of this act,
21 P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et seq.) or by regulations promulgated by
22 the commissioner pursuant to this act, P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et
23 seq.), during the period beginning on the last day of a minor's school
24 year and ending on Labor Day of each year until 9 p.m. of any day
25 with written permission from a parent or legal guardian, and except a
26 minor who is 14 or 15 years of age may be employed as a little league
27 umpire for little leagues chartered by Little League Baseball,
28 Incorporated, until 9 p.m. of any day with written permission from a
29 parent or legal guardian; nor shall any minor between 16 and 18 years
30 of age be so employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 6 a.m. or
31 after 11 p.m. of any day; provided that minors between 16 and 18
32 years of age may be employed after 11 p.m. during any regular
33 vacation season, and on days which do not precede a regularly
34 scheduled school day, with a special written permit from their parents
35 or legal guardian stating the hours they are permitted to work;
36 provided that minors between 16 and 18 years of age may be
37 employed in a seasonal amusement or restaurant occupation after 11
38 p.m. and following 12:01 a.m. of the next day, if that employment is a
39 continuation of a workday which began before 11 p.m., either during
40 any regular school vacation season, or on workdays which do not
41 begin on a day which precedes a regularly scheduled school day, with
42 a special written permit from their parents or legal guardian stating the

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 hours they are permitted to work, except that in no case shall minors
2 between 16 and 18 years of age be employed after 3 a.m. or before 6
3 a.m. on a day which precedes a regularly scheduled school day;
4 provided, further, that minors may be employed in a concert or a
5 theatrical performance up to 11:30 p.m.; provided, further, that minors
6 between 16 and 18 years of age may serve at an election pursuant to
7 R.S.19:6-2, between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that
8 the election is held; and provided, further, that minors not less than 16
9 years of age and who are attending school may be employed as
10 pinsetters, lane attendants, or busboys in public bowling alleys up to
11 11:30 p.m., but may not be so employed during the school term
12 without a special written permit from the superintendent of schools or
13 the supervising principal, as the case may be, which permit shall state
14 that the minor has undergone a complete physical examination by the
15 medical inspector, and, in the opinion of the superintendent or
16 supervising principal, may be so employed, without injury to health or
17 interference with progress in school, such special permits to be good
18 for a period of three months only and are revocable in the discretion of
19 the superintendent or supervising principal. Such permit may not be
20 renewed until satisfactory evidence has been submitted to the
21 superintendent or supervising principal showing that the minor has had
22 a physical examination and the minor's health is not being injured by
23 said work; and provided, further, that minors between 16 and 18 years
24 of age may not be employed after 10 p.m. during the regular school
25 vacation seasons in or for a factory or in any occupation otherwise
26 prohibited by law or by order or regulation made in pursuance of law.
27 The hours of work of minors under 16 employed outside school hours
28 shall not exceed three hours in any one day when school is in session
29 and shall not exceed in any one week when school is in session the
30 maximum number of hours permitted for that period under the federal
31 "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," 29 U.S.C.s.201 et seq., and
32 regulations promulgated pursuant to that federal act.

33 This section is not applicable to the employment of a minor
34 between 16 and 18 years of age during the months of June, July,
35 August or September by a summer resident camp, conference or
36 retreat operated by a nonprofit or religious corporation or association,
37 unless the employment is primarily general maintenance work or food
38 service activities.

39 (cf: P.L.1998, c.138, s.1)

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41 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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46 Allows minors to serve as election workers between 5:30 a.m.
47 and 9:00 p.m. on election days.

ASSEMBLY, No. 1969

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman RAJ MUKHERJI

District 33 (Hudson)

Assemblywoman SHAVONDA E. SUMTER

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblyman JOSEPH V. EGAN

District 17 (Middlesex and Somerset)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman Stanley, Assemblywoman

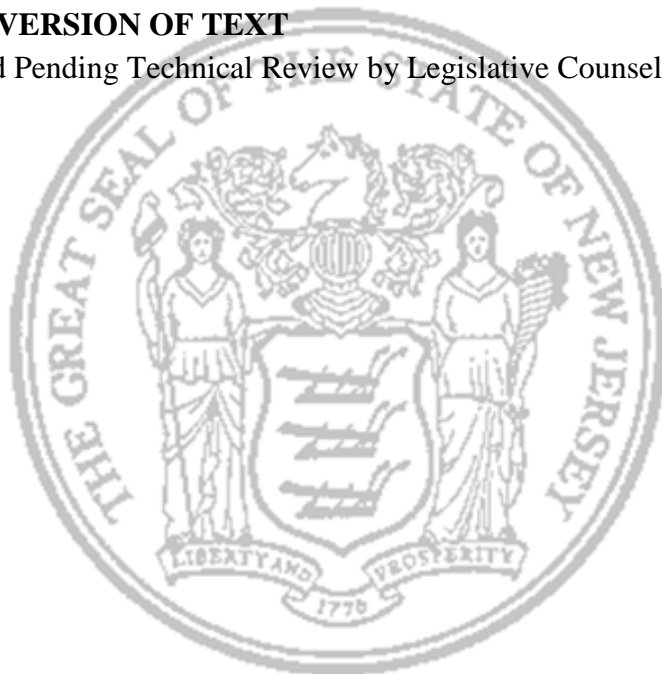
Timberlake and Assemblyman Wimberly

SYNOPSIS

Allows minors to serve as election workers between 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on election days.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/21/2022)

A1969 MUKHERJI, SUMTER

2

1 AN ACT allowing minors to serve as election workers and amending
2 P.L.1940, c.153.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.3) is amended to read
8 as follows:

9 3. Except as provided in section 15 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-
10 21.15) and except for domestic service or messengers employed by
11 communications companies subject to the supervision and control of
12 the Federal Communications Commission, no minor under 18 years of
13 age shall be employed, permitted, or suffered to work in, about, or in
14 connection with any gainful occupation more than six consecutive
15 days in any one week, or more than 40 hours in any one week, or more
16 than eight hours in any one day, nor shall any minor under 16 years of
17 age be so employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 7 a.m. or
18 after 7 p.m. of any day, except a minor who is 14 or 15 years of age
19 may work in a restaurant, supermarket or other retail establishment, or
20 in any occupation not prohibited by the provisions of this act,
21 P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et seq.) or by regulations promulgated by
22 the commissioner pursuant to this act, P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et
23 seq.), during the period beginning on the last day of a minor's school
24 year and ending on Labor Day of each year until 9 p.m. of any day
25 with written permission from a parent or legal guardian, and except a
26 minor who is 14 or 15 years of age may be employed as a little league
27 umpire for little leagues chartered by Little League Baseball,
28 Incorporated, until 9 p.m. of any day with written permission from a
29 parent or legal guardian; nor shall any minor between 16 and 18 years
30 of age be so employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 6 a.m. or
31 after 11 p.m. of any day; provided that minors between 16 and 18
32 years of age may be employed after 11 p.m. during any regular
33 vacation season, and on days which do not precede a regularly
34 scheduled school day, with a special written permit from their parents
35 or legal guardian stating the hours they are permitted to work;
36 provided that minors between 16 and 18 years of age may be
37 employed in a seasonal amusement or restaurant occupation after 11
38 p.m. and following 12:01 a.m. of the next day, if that employment is a
39 continuation of a workday which began before 11 p.m., either during
40 any regular school vacation season, or on workdays which do not
41 begin on a day which precedes a regularly scheduled school day, with
42 a special written permit from their parents or legal guardian stating the
43 hours they are permitted to work, except that in no case shall minors
44 between 16 and 18 years of age be employed after 3 a.m. or before 6
45 a.m. on a day which precedes a regularly scheduled school

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 day; provided, further, that minors may be employed in a concert or a
2 theatrical performance up to 11:30 p.m.; provided, further, that minors
3 between 16 and 18 years of age may serve at an election pursuant to
4 R.S.19:6-2, between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that
5 the election is held; and provided, further, that minors not less than 16
6 years of age and who are attending school may be employed as
7 pinsetters, lane attendants, or busboys in public bowling alleys up to
8 11:30 p.m., but may not be so employed during the school term
9 without a special written permit from the superintendent of schools or
10 the supervising principal, as the case may be, which permit shall state
11 that the minor has undergone a complete physical examination by the
12 medical inspector, and, in the opinion of the superintendent or
13 supervising principal, may be so employed, without injury to health or
14 interference with progress in school, such special permits to be good
15 for a period of three months only and are revocable in the discretion of
16 the superintendent or supervising principal. Such permit may not be
17 renewed until satisfactory evidence has been submitted to the
18 superintendent or supervising principal showing that the minor has had
19 a physical examination and the minor's health is not being injured by
20 said work; and provided, further, that minors between 16 and 18 years
21 of age may not be employed after 10 p.m. during the regular school
22 vacation seasons in or for a factory or in any occupation otherwise
23 prohibited by law or by order or regulation made in pursuance of law.
24 The hours of work of minors under 16 employed outside school hours
25 shall not exceed three hours in any one day when school is in session
26 and shall not exceed in any one week when school is in session the
27 maximum number of hours permitted for that period under the federal
28 "Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938," 29 U.S.C.s.201 et seq., and
29 regulations promulgated pursuant to that federal act.

30 This section is not applicable to the employment of a minor
31 between 16 and 18 years of age during the months of June, July,
32 August or September by a summer resident camp, conference or
33 retreat operated by a nonprofit or religious corporation or association,
34 unless the employment is primarily general maintenance work or food
35 service activities.

36 (cf: P.L.1998, c.138, s.1)

37

38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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40

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STATEMENT

42

43 This bill amends existing law to permit minors between the ages of
44 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers, pursuant to R.S.19:6-2,
45 between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an election
46 is held.

ASSEMBLY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1969

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 12, 2022

The Assembly State and Local Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1969.

This bill amends existing law to permit minors between the ages of 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers, pursuant to R.S.19:6-2, between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an election is held.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM &
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1969

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 1969.

This bill amends existing law to permit minors between the ages of 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an election is held.

Assembly Bill No. 1969 is identical to Senate Bill No. 138 (1R) of the 2022-2023 session.

SENATE, No. 138

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator PATRICK J. DIEGNAN, JR.

District 18 (Middlesex)

Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Turner

SYNOPSIS

Allows minors to serve as election workers between 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on election days.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT allowing minors to serve as election workers and amending
2 P.L.1940, c.153.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. Section 3 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.3) is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 3. Except as provided in section 15 of P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-
10 21.15) and except for domestic service or messengers employed by
11 communications companies subject to the supervision and control
12 of the Federal Communications Commission, no minor under 18
13 years of age shall be employed, permitted, or suffered to work in,
14 about, or in connection with any gainful occupation more than six
15 consecutive days in any one week, or more than 40 hours in any one
16 week, or more than eight hours in any one day, nor shall any minor
17 under 16 years of age be so employed, permitted, or suffered to
18 work before 7 a.m. or after 7 p.m. of any day, except a minor who is
19 14 or 15 years of age may work in a restaurant, supermarket or
20 other retail establishment, or in any occupation not prohibited by
21 the provisions of this act, P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et seq.) or
22 by regulations promulgated by the commissioner pursuant to this
23 act, P.L.1940, c.153 (C.34:2-21.1 et seq.), during the period
24 beginning on the last day of a minor's school year and ending on
25 Labor Day of each year until 9 p.m. of any day with written
26 permission from a parent or legal guardian, and except a minor who
27 is 14 or 15 years of age may be employed as a little league umpire
28 for little leagues chartered by Little League Baseball, Incorporated,
29 until 9 p.m. of any day with written permission from a parent or
30 legal guardian; nor shall any minor between 16 and 18 years of age
31 be so employed, permitted, or suffered to work before 6 a.m. or
32 after 11 p.m. of any day; provided that minors between 16 and 18
33 years of age may be employed after 11 p.m. during any regular
34 vacation season, and on days which do not precede a regularly
35 scheduled school day, with a special written permit from their
36 parents or legal guardian stating the hours they are permitted to
37 work; provided that minors between 16 and 18 years of age may be
38 employed in a seasonal amusement or restaurant occupation after 11
39 p.m. and following 12:01 a.m. of the next day, if that employment is
40 a continuation of a workday which began before 11 p.m., either
41 during any regular school vacation season, or on workdays which
42 do not begin on a day which precedes a regularly scheduled school
43 day, with a special written permit from their parents or legal
44 guardian stating the hours they are permitted to work, except that in
45 no case shall minors between 16 and 18 years of age be employed
46 after 3 a.m. or before 6 a.m. on a day which precedes a regularly

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

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 scheduled school day; provided, further, that minors may be
2 employed in a concert or a theatrical performance up to 11:30 p.m.;
3 provided, further, that minors between 16 and 18 years of age may
4 serve at an election pursuant to R.S.19:45-6, between the hours of
5 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that the election is held; and
6 provided, further, that minors not less than 16 years of age and who
7 are attending school may be employed as pinsetters, lane attendants,
8 or busboys in public bowling alleys up to 11:30 p.m., but may not
9 be so employed during the school term without a special written
10 permit from the superintendent of schools or the supervising
11 principal, as the case may be, which permit shall state that the
12 minor has undergone a complete physical examination by the
13 medical inspector, and, in the opinion of the superintendent or
14 supervising principal, may be so employed, without injury to health
15 or interference with progress in school, such special permits to be
16 good for a period of three months only and are revocable in the
17 discretion of the superintendent or supervising principal. Such
18 permit may not be renewed until satisfactory evidence has been
19 submitted to the superintendent or supervising principal showing
20 that the minor has had a physical examination and the minor's
21 health is not being injured by said work; and provided, further, that
22 minors between 16 and 18 years of age may not be employed after
23 10 p.m. during the regular school vacation seasons in or for a
24 factory or in any occupation otherwise prohibited by law or by
25 order or regulation made in pursuance of law. The hours of work of
26 minors under 16 employed outside school hours shall not exceed
27 three hours in any one day when school is in session and shall not
28 exceed in any one week when school is in session the maximum
29 number of hours permitted for that period under the federal "Fair
30 Labor Standards Act of 1938," 29 U.S.C.s.201 et seq., and
31 regulations promulgated pursuant to that federal act.

32 This section is not applicable to the employment of a minor
33 between 16 and 18 years of age during the months of June, July,
34 August or September by a summer resident camp, conference or
35 retreat operated by a nonprofit or religious corporation or
36 association, unless the employment is primarily general
37 maintenance work or food service activities.

38 (cf: P.L.1998, c.138, s.1)

39

40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

41

42

43

STATEMENT

44

45 This bill amends existing law to permit minors between the ages of
46 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers, pursuant to R.S.19:45-
47 6, between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an
48 election is held.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM &
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 138

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JUNE 23, 2022

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 138, with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill amends existing law to permit minors between the ages of 16 and 18 to be employed as election workers between the hours of 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a day that an election is held.

This bill was prefiled for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The amendments change a statutory reference concerning the current law for serving as an election worker.

These amendments make this bill identical to Assembly Bill No. 1969 of the 2022-2023 session.

Governor Murphy Signs Voting Reform Package to Strengthen New Jersey Elections

07/28/2022

TRENTON – Governor Phil Murphy today reaffirmed his commitment to securing access to voting rights by signing a series of bills to strengthen New Jersey’s elections. Today’s signings build on reforms to expand democracy enacted during the Murphy Administration, including automatic voter registration and in-person early voting.

“Across the nation, we continue to see one of our nation’s core principles come under attack as states restrict access to the ballot,” **said Governor Murphy**. “I am proud to sign legislation that will make democracy more accessible, more transparent, and stronger in our state. New Jersey will continue to move forward as we ensure that the democratic process is secure and protected.”

“With this bill package, New Jersey continues to expand access to the ballot box and provide additional resources to our election officials, while strengthening the security of our elections,” **Secretary of State Tahesha Way said**. “The right to vote is the very foundation of our democracy and we are committed to making voting as safe, simple, and transparent as possible.”

The Governor signed the following bills into law:

A-1969/S-138 (Mukherji, Sumter, Egan/Diegnan, Greenstein) - Allows minors to serve as election workers between 5:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on election days

A-3817/S-2863 (Verrelli, Benson/Zwicker, Gopal) - Requires ballot privacy sleeves at polling place; makes various changes to early and mail-in voting procedures; creates online form to update name and residence on existing voter registration record

A-3819/S-2868 (Mukherji, Dunn, Stanley/Cryan, Gopal) - Specifies circumstances when voter will be removed from permanent vote by mail status and when ballot will be sent to primary address; requires educational campaign; makes appropriation of \$5 million

A-3820/S-2869 (Karabinchak, Jaffer, Stanley/Cryan, Gopal) - Prohibits unaffiliated mail-in voters from receiving mail-in ballot for primary election; requires election officials to provide such voters certain notices; prohibits mail-in ballot envelopes from containing visible political affiliation or designation for certain elections

A-3822/S-2865 (Coughlin, DiMaio, Stanley, Dunn, Daniels/Zwicker, Cryan) - Changes certain mail-in ballot deadlines; permits opening and canvassing of mail-in ballots prior to election day; permits pickup schedule for certain mail-in ballots; requires confirmation notice when voter changes party affiliation at MVC

A-3823/S-2867 (Sumter, Rooney, Benson, Reynolds-Jackson/Lagana, Cryan) - Requires enhanced review of death records two months prior to election; permits remote training for certain election workers; exempts election worker compensation from taxation and remuneration

A-3929/S-2899 (Mukherji, Reynolds-Jackson, Murphy/Turner, Beach) - Allows certain voters residing overseas to vote in certain elections in this State depending on overseas residency or intent to return

“The only way to strengthen our democracy is to make sure we can all participate in it, and that the people have trust in the results and the process,” **said Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin**. “Working together across the aisle, we accomplished just that with these new laws. By updating our voting systems to reflect the kind of world we live in today and ensuring the results reported on election night are easily understood and transparent, we safeguard the health of our democracy.”

“Protecting the public’s ability to participate fairly and freely in the electoral process is crucial,” **said Assemblyman Joe Daniels, sponsor of A-3822**. “With meaningful changes to our election infrastructure, we will be able to empower voters and ensure the way we count and report ballots remains efficient and transparent. These necessary updates will encourage and preserve public trust in our elections.”

“Reducing the potential for fraud is an absolute necessity to ensure strong, fair elections in New Jersey,” **said Assembly members Robert Karabinchak, Sadaf Jaffer, and Sterley Stanley, sponsors of the bill A-3820**. “Requiring voters who are not aligned with a political party to request a mail-in ballot for primaries will further guarantee integrity in our election process.”

“Serving as a poll worker is a unique opportunity for civic engagement for our youth. Today New Jersey will join many other states in allowing youth to work as poll workers, which can be a great experience for high school students or community youth programs,” **said Assembly members Raj Mukherji, Shavonda Sumter, and Joseph Egan, sponsors of A-1969.** “The collective of election laws signed today will strengthen our election process and increase participation of voters throughout the state.”

“New Jersey has made great strides in expanding the ways voters can cast their ballot. We continue to empower residents who want to participate in the election process,” **said Assemblywomen Verlina Reynolds Jackson and Carol Murphy, sponsors of A-3929.** “The election reforms signed into law today, supported by legislators from both sides of the aisle, will help us to ensure New Jersey elections continue to be fair, transparent, and secure.”

“Ensuring voter privacy will enhance the voter experience and strengthen their trust in our elections,” **said Assembly members Anthony Verrelli and Dan Benson, sponsors of the bill A-3817.** “These new laws are necessary steps toward ensuring a fairer election process where people will feel confident when casting their vote.”

“Lawmakers understood the democratic process could not stop, even in the midst of a pandemic. Still, there was much confusion going into the 2020 and 2021 elections. Both Republicans and Democrats saw the challenges that arose. Senate and Assembly members came together with this bill package to address those problems and strengthen voter confidence and election integrity,” **said Assembly Minority Leader John DiMaio, Assemblywoman Aura Dunn and Assemblyman Kevin J. Rooney in a joint statement.**

“Voting by mail has become increasingly popular among New Jersey residents as evidenced by our past election cycle,” **said Senator Joseph Cryan.** “By allowing early canvassing of mail-in ballots, this law (S-2865) will ensure results are available in a timely manner while maintaining and upholding election integrity.”

“Last election cycle we faced a poll worker shortage that threatened our residents’ ability to exercise their right to vote,” **said Senator Patrick Diegnan.** “This law (S-138) will alleviate this worker shortage by tapping into a new sector of the labor pool.”

“I am in support of all we can do to bolster trust in the electoral process, which is a backbone of our democracy. This law (S-2867) will help ensure the integrity and accuracy of our voting rolls and will also serve to uphold free and fair elections,” **said Senator Joseph Lagana.** “In addition, this law will bring needed flexibility for training election workers, and allow us to maintain a steady and strong roster of qualified individuals available to work on any election day.”

“This law (S-2899) guarantees that all citizens of the United States who are eligible to participate in elections are able to do so,” **said Senator Shirley K. Turner.** “Even though they may not be currently residing in the country, they are still citizens of the United States and deserve to be heard in our elections.”

“Ensuring our elections are fair and genuine is crucial in preserving our democracy,” **said Senator Andrew Zwicker.** “This law (S-2863) will guarantee that privacy is maintained through the entire voting process for our voters so that they feel secure when casting their ballots.”