#### 19:5-2 & 19:5-3; 19:23-54 LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

Compiled by the NJ State Law Library

LAWS OF: 2021 CHAPTER: 108 NJSA: 19:5-2 & 19:5-3; 19:23-54 (Changes dates on which members of municipal and county committees of political party take office and hold annual meetings; transfers certain election responsibilities to county clerks.) **BILL NO:** A5725 (Substituted for S1246 (12R)) **SPONSOR(S)** Downey, Joann and others DATE INTRODUCED: 5/12/2021 COMMITTEE: ASSEMBLY: Appropriations SENATE: AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: Yes DATE OF PASSAGE: ASSEMBLY: 5/20/2021 SENATE: 6/3/2021 **DATE OF APPROVAL:** 6/11/2021 **FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:** FINAL TEXT OF BILL (First Reprint enacted) Yes A5725 **INTRODUCED BILL (INCLUDES SPONSOR'S STATEMENT):** Yes **COMMITTEE STATEMENT:** ASSEMBLY: Yes SENATE: No (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:** Nο S1246 (12R) **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: Yes

No

VETO MESSAGE: No

**LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE:** 

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:	
REPORTS:	No
HEARINGS:	No
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES:	No

RH/CL

#### P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 108, approved June 11, 2021 Assembly, No. 5725 (First Reprint)

AN ACT changing the dates on which members of the municipal and 2 county committees of a political party take office and hold 3 annual meetings and transferring certain responsibilities to 4 county clerks, and amending R.S.19:5-2, R.S.19:5-3, and R.S.19:23-54.

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

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#### 1. R.S.19:5-2 is amended to read as follows:

19:5-2. The members of the municipal committees of political parties shall consist of the elected members of the county committee resident in the respective municipalities. The members of the municipal committee shall take office <sup>1</sup>[on] by <sup>1</sup> the [first] third Saturday following the certification of the results of their election as members of the county committee, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each municipal committee shall be held '[on] by' the [first Monday] third Saturday following the certification of the results of the primary election for the general election, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice to be given by the [chairman] chairperson to each member and memberelect. The members of each committee shall elect some suitable person who shall be a resident of such municipality as [chairman] chairperson. The municipal committee shall have power to adopt a constitution and bylaws for its proper government. The [chairman] chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the committee, and shall perform all duties required [of him] by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a municipal committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the committee shall exist. A member of a municipal committee of any political party may resign [his] their office to the committee of which [he is] they are a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of a municipal committee of any political party, howsoever caused, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the committee in the municipality in which the vacancy

40 (cf: P.L.2009, c.135, s.1)

> 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.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted May 18, 2021.

#### 2. R.S.19:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

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19:5-3. The members of the county committees of political parties shall be elected at the primary for the general election in the manner provided in this Title for the selection of party candidates to be voted for at the general election by voters of a municipality at such intervals as shall be provided in the bylaws of the county committee. The county committee shall consist of one male and one female member from each unit of representation in the county. The male receiving the highest number of votes among the male candidates and the female receiving the highest number of votes among the female candidates shall be declared elected. Members of the county committee shall actually reside in the districts or units which they respectively represent. The county committee shall determine by its bylaws the units into which the county shall be divided for purpose of representation in the county committee.

The members of the county committee of each of the political parties shall take office <sup>1</sup>[on] by <sup>1</sup> the [first] third Saturday following the certification of the results of their election, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each county committee shall be held '[on] by the [first Tuesday] third Saturday following the certifications of the results of the primary election, except that when such meeting day falls on a legal holiday then the said meeting shall be held on the day following, and when such meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff election within the county then said meeting may be held on the day following, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice in writing to be mailed by the chairperson to each member and member-elect. If the annual meeting coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting may be held on another date, and under no circumstances shall that date occur later than the third Tuesday following the <u>certification of the results of</u> the primary election. The members of such committee shall elect some suitable person as chairperson who shall be a resident of such county to hold office until a successor is elected. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall transmit, with the notice of the annual meeting, a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any newly elected committee member. The members shall also elect a vice-chairperson of the opposite sex of the chairperson to hold office for 1 year or until a successor is elected and the vicechairperson shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee. Any person elected or appointed to membership on the county committee pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 may request, in writing and by certified mail to the county chairperson, such constitution or bylaws currently in effect. The committee member requesting the constitution or bylaws shall receive the constitution or bylaws within 48 hours of the receipt of the request by the chairperson. The chairperson shall preside at all

meetings of the committee and shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a county committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the county committee shall exist. A member of a county committee of any political party may resign [his or her] their office to the committee of which [he or she is] they are a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee, a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of the county committee of any political party, caused by death, resignation, failure to elect, or removal for cause, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the municipal committee of the municipality wherein the vacancy occurs, if there is such committee, and if not, by the remaining members of the county committee of such political party representing the territory in the county in which such vacancy occurs. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall provide a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any committee member appointed pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 to fill a vacancy within three business days of the committee member's selection.

The chairperson of the county committee of the several political parties shall, before April 1 in a year in which county committee members are to be elected, certify to the clerk of each municipality in the county the unit of representation in such municipality, together with the enumeration of the election district or districts embraced within such unit.

(cf: P.L.2011, c.180, s.1)

#### 3. R.S.19:23-54 is amended to read as follows:

19:23-54. The municipal clerk shall [forthwith] canvass the statements of the district board, not later than the third day after they are received, as far as they relate to the election of members of the county committee of any political party, and, after counting information on write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots received from the county clerk or board of elections, as appropriate, shall issue a certificate of election to each person shown by the returns [filed in the office of such municipal clerk] to have been so elected.

No person whose name was printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for the county committee shall receive a certificate of election as a member of any other county committee.

When a person whose name was not printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for member of the county committee has been elected as a member of the county committee of more than one political party, [he] the person shall file with the municipal clerk within three days a statement certifying to which political party [he] the person belongs, and a certificate of election shall be issued to such

#### **A5725** [1R]

person as a member of the county committee of the political party so certified.

Any person elected as a member of the county committee of any political party whose name was not printed upon the primary ballot and to whom a certificate of election has been issued, shall before the organization of the county committee file with the secretary thereof a written statement certifying that [he] the person is a member of such political party.

The [municipal] county clerk shall within thirteen days after the primary election certify [to the county clerk and also] to the county board two copies of the names and post-office addresses of the persons elected as members of the county committee of the several political parties, together with the ward, district or unit which they respectively represent.

(cf: P.L.2020, c.71, s.4)

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Changes dates on which members of municipal and county committees of political party take office and hold annual meetings; transfers certain election responsibilities to county clerks.

## ASSEMBLY, No. 5725

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

## 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 12, 2021

Sponsored by: Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY District 11 (Monmouth)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Changes dates on which members of municipal and county committees of political party take office and hold annual meetings; transfers certain election responsibilities to county clerks.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



AN ACT changing the dates on which members of the municipal and county committees of a political party take office and hold annual meetings and transferring certain responsibilities to county clerks, and amending R.S.19:5-2, R.S.19:5-3, and R.S.19:23-54.

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

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#### 1. R.S.19:5-2 is amended to read as follows:

19:5-2. The members of the municipal committees of political parties shall consist of the elected members of the county committee resident in the respective municipalities. The members of the municipal committee shall take office on the [first] third Saturday following the certification of the results of their election as members of the county committee, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each municipal committee shall be held on the [first Monday] third Saturday following the certification of the results of the primary election for the general election, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice to be given by the [chairman] chairperson to each member and member-elect. The members of each committee shall elect some suitable person who shall be a resident of such municipality as [chairman] chairperson. municipal committee shall have power to adopt a constitution and bylaws for its proper government. The [chairman] chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the committee, and shall perform all duties required [of him] by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a municipal committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the committee shall exist. A member of a municipal committee of any political party may resign [his] their office to the committee of which [he is] they are a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of a municipal committee of any political party, howsoever caused, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the committee in the municipality in which the vacancy occurs.

(cf: P.L.2009, c.135, s.1)

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#### 2. R.S.19:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

19:5-3. The members of the county committees of political parties shall be elected at the primary for the general election in the manner provided in this Title for the selection of party candidates to

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

1 be voted for at the general election by voters of a municipality at 2 such intervals as shall be provided in the bylaws of the county 3 committee. The county committee shall consist of one male and 4 one female member from each unit of representation in the county. 5 The male receiving the highest number of votes among the male 6 candidates and the female receiving the highest number of votes 7 among the female candidates shall be declared elected. Members of 8 the county committee shall actually reside in the districts or units 9 which they respectively represent. The county committee shall 10 determine by its bylaws the units into which the county shall be 11 divided for purpose of representation in the county committee.

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The members of the county committee of each of the political parties shall take office on the [first] third Saturday following the certification of the results of their election, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each county committee shall be held on the [first Tuesday] third Saturday following the certifications of the results of the primary election, except that when such meeting day falls on a legal holiday then the said meeting shall be held on the day following, and when such meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff election within the county then said meeting may be held on the day following, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice in writing to be mailed by the chairperson to each member and member-elect. If the annual meeting coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting may be held on another date, and under no circumstances shall that date occur later than the third Tuesday following the certification of the results of the primary election. The members of such committee shall elect some suitable person as chairperson who shall be a resident of such county to hold office until a successor is elected. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall transmit, with the notice of the annual meeting, a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any newly elected committee member. The members shall also elect a vice-chairperson of the opposite sex of the chairperson to hold office for 1 year or until a successor is elected and the vicechairperson shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee. Any person elected or appointed to membership on the county committee pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 may request, in writing and by certified mail to the county chairperson, such constitution or bylaws currently in effect. The committee member requesting the constitution or bylaws shall receive the constitution or bylaws within 48 hours of the receipt of the request by the chairperson. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the committee and shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a county committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the county committee shall exist. A member of a county committee of any

#### **A5725** DOWNEY

political party may resign [his or her] their office to the committee of which [he or she is] they are a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee, a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of the county committee of any political party, caused by death, resignation, failure to elect, or removal for cause, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the municipal committee of the municipality wherein the vacancy occurs, if there is such committee, and if not, by the remaining members of the county committee of such political party representing the territory in the county in which such vacancy occurs. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall provide a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any committee member appointed pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 to fill a vacancy within three business days of the committee member's selection.

The chairperson of the county committee of the several political parties shall, before April 1 in a year in which county committee members are to be elected, certify to the clerk of each municipality in the county the unit of representation in such municipality, together with the enumeration of the election district or districts embraced within such unit.

(cf: P.L.2011, c.180, s.1)

#### 3. R.S.19:23-54 is amended to read as follows:

19:23-54. The municipal clerk shall [forthwith] canvass the statements of the district board, not later than the third day after they are received, as far as they relate to the election of members of the county committee of any political party, and, after counting information on write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots received from the county clerk or board of elections, as appropriate, shall issue a certificate of election to each person shown by the returns [filed in the office of such municipal clerk] to have been so elected.

No person whose name was printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for the county committee shall receive a certificate of election as a member of any other county committee.

When a person whose name was not printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for member of the county committee has been elected as a member of the county committee of more than one political party, [he] the person shall file with the municipal clerk within three days a statement certifying to which political party [he] the person belongs, and a certificate of election shall be issued to such person as a member of the county committee of the political party so certified.

Any person elected as a member of the county committee of any political party whose name was not printed upon the primary ballot and to whom a certificate of election has been issued, shall before the organization of the county committee file with the secretary

#### A5725 DOWNEY

thereof a written statement certifying that [he] the person is a 1 2 member of such political party.

The [municipal] county clerk shall within thirteen days after the primary election certify [to the county clerk and also] to the county board two copies of the names and post-office addresses of the persons elected as members of the county committee of the several political parties, together with the ward, district or unit which they respectively represent.

(cf: P.L.2020, c.71, s.4)

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4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### **STATEMENT**

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This bill amends existing law to change the date on which members of the municipal committee of a political party take office from the first Saturday to the second Saturday following their election as members of the county committee. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a municipal committee will be held on the second Monday following the primary election for the general election rather than on the first Monday after that election.

Similarly, the members of the county committee of a political party will take office on the second Saturday, rather than the first Saturday, following the primary election. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a county committee will be held on the second Tuesday, rather than the first Tuesday, following the primary election.

In addition, the bill amends existing law to transfer responsibility for the issuance of certificates of election to county boards and successful candidates for county committee member from municipal clerks to county clerks. This will help to ensure that write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots will be included in the vote count before such certificates are issued.

#### ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

#### ASSEMBLY, No. 5725

with committee amendments

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 18, 2021

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 5725, with committee amendments.

As amended by the committee, this bill amends existing law to change the date on which members of the municipal committee of a political party take office from the first Saturday to by the third Saturday following their election as members of the county committee. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a municipal committee will be held by the third Saturday following the primary election for the general election rather than on the first Monday after that election.

Similarly, the members of the county committee of a political party will take office by the third Saturday, rather than on the first Saturday, following the primary election. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a county committee will be held by the third Saturday, rather than on the first Tuesday, following the primary election.

As amended, the bill allows municipal or county committee members to take office by the date specified, instead of on the specific date.

In addition, the bill amends existing law to transfer responsibility for the issuance of certificates of election to county boards and successful candidates for county committee member from municipal clerks to county clerks. This will help to ensure that write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots will be included in the vote count before such certificates are issued.

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:**

The committee amended the bill to allow municipal and county committee members to take office and hold their reorganization meeting by the date specified, instead of on the specific date.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

## **SENATE, No. 1246**

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

### 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 3, 2020

Sponsored by:
Senator VIN GOPAL
District 11 (Monmouth)
Senator SHIRLEY K. TURNER
District 15 (Hunterdon and Mercer)

#### **SYNOPSIS**

Changes dates on which members of municipal and county committees of political party take office and hold annual meetings; transfers certain election responsibilities to county clerks.

#### **CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/5/2020)

AN ACT changing the dates on which members of the municipal and county committees of a political party take office and hold annual meetings and transferring certain responsibilities to county clerks, and amending R.S.19:5-2, R.S.19:5-3, and R.S.19:23-54.

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

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#### 1. R.S.19:5-2 is amended to read as follows:

19:5-2. The members of the municipal committees of political parties shall consist of the elected members of the county committee resident in the respective municipalities. The members of the municipal committee shall take office on the [first] third Saturday following their election as members of the county committee, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each municipal committee shall be held on the [first] third Monday following the primary election for the general election, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice to be given by the chairman to each member and member-elect. The members of each committee shall elect some suitable person who shall be a resident of such municipality as chairman. The municipal committee shall have power to adopt a constitution and bylaws for its proper government. The chairman shall preside at all meetings of the committee, and shall perform all duties required of him by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a municipal committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the committee shall exist. A member of a municipal committee of any political party may resign his office to the committee of which he is a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of a municipal committee of any political party, howsoever caused, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members of the committee in the municipality in which the vacancy occurs.

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#### 2. R.S.19:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

19:5-3. The members of the county committees of political parties shall be elected at the primary for the general election in the manner provided in this Title for the selection of party candidates to be voted for at the general election by voters of a municipality at such intervals as shall be provided in the bylaws of the county committee. The county committee shall consist of one male and

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

(cf: P.L.2009, c.135, s.1)

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one female member from each unit of representation in the county.

The male receiving the highest number of votes among the male candidates and the female receiving the highest number of votes among the female candidates shall be declared elected. Members of the county committee shall actually reside in the districts or units which they respectively represent. The county committee shall determine by its bylaws the units into which the county shall be

divided for purpose of representation in the county committee.

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The members of the county committee of each of the political parties shall take office on the **[**first**]** third Saturday following their election, on which day the terms of all members of such committees theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each county committee shall be held on the [first] third Tuesday following the primary election, except that when such meeting day falls on a legal holiday then the said meeting shall be held on the day following, and when such meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff election within the county then said meeting may be held on the day following, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice in writing to be mailed by the chairperson to each member and member-elect. If the annual meeting coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting may be held on another date, and under no circumstances shall that date occur later than the third Tuesday following the primary election. The members of such committee shall elect some suitable person as chairperson who shall be a resident of such county to hold office until a successor is elected. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall transmit, with the notice of the annual meeting, a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any newly elected committee member. The members shall also elect a vice-chairperson of the opposite sex of the chairperson to hold office for 1 year or until a successor is elected and the vice-chairperson shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee. person elected or appointed to membership on the county committee pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 may request, in writing and by certified mail to the county chairperson, such constitution or bylaws currently in effect. The committee member requesting the constitution or bylaws shall receive the constitution or bylaws within 48 hours of the receipt of the request by the chairperson. The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the committee and shall perform all duties required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

When a member of a county committee ceases to be a resident of the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the county committee shall exist. A member of a county committee of any political party may resign his or her office to the committee of which he or she is a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee, a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of the county committee of any political party, caused by death, resignation, failure to elect, or removal for cause, shall be

#### **S1246** GOPAL, TURNER

filled for the unexpired term by the municipal committee of the municipality wherein the vacancy occurs, if there is such committee, and if not, by the remaining members of the county committee of such political party representing the territory in the county in which such vacancy occurs. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall provide a copy of the constitution and bylaws to any committee member appointed pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 to fill a vacancy within three business days of the committee member's selection.

The chairperson of the county committee of the several political parties shall, before April 1 in a year in which county committee members are to be elected, certify to the clerk of each municipality in the county the unit of representation in such municipality, together with the enumeration of the election district or districts embraced within such unit.

(cf: P.L.2011, c.180, s.1)

#### 3. R.S.19:23-54 is amended to read as follows:

19:23-54. The municipal clerk shall [forthwith] canvass the statements of the district board, not later than the third day after they are received, as far as they relate to the election of members of the county committee of any political party, and, after counting information on write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots received from the county clerk or board of elections, as appropriate, shall issue a certificate of election to each person shown by the returns [filed in the office of such municipal clerk] to have been so elected.

No person whose name was printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for the county committee shall receive a certificate of election as a member of any other county committee.

When a person whose name was not printed on a primary ballot as a candidate for member of the county committee has been elected as a member of the county committee of more than one political party, he shall file with the municipal clerk within three days a statement certifying to which political party he belongs, and a certificate of election shall be issued to such person as a member of the county committee of the political party so certified.

Any person elected as a member of the county committee of any political party whose name was not printed upon the primary ballot and to whom a certificate of election has been issued, shall before the organization of the county committee file with the secretary thereof a written statement certifying that he is a member of such political party.

The [municipal] <u>county</u> clerk shall within eight days after the primary election certify [to the county clerk and also] to the county board two copies of the names and post-office addresses of the persons elected as members of the county committee of the several

#### S1246 GOPAL, TURNER

1 political parties, together with the ward, district or unit which they 2 respectively represent. 3

(cf: R.S.19:23-54)

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4. This act shall take effect immediately.

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#### **STATEMENT**

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This bill amends existing law to change the date on which members of the municipal committee of a political party take office from the first Saturday to the second Saturday following their election as members of the county committee. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a municipal committee will be held on the second Monday following the primary election for the general election rather than on the first Monday after that election.

Similarly, the members of the county committee of a political party will take office on the second Saturday, rather than the first Saturday, following the primary election. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a county committee will be held on the second Tuesday, rather than the first Tuesday, following the primary election.

In addition, the bill amends existing law to transfer responsibility for the issuance of certificates of election to county boards and successful candidates for county committee member from municipal clerks to county clerks. This will help to ensure that write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots will be included in the vote count before such certificates are issued.

# SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM & HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

#### STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1246

with committee amendments

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MARCH 5, 2020

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate Bill No. 1246.

As amended by the committee, this bill changes the date on which members of the municipal committee of a political party take office from the first Saturday to the third Saturday following the certification of the results of their election as members of the county committee. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a municipal committee will be held on the third Saturday following the certification of the results of the primary election for the general election rather than on the first Monday after that election.

Similarly, under the bill as amended, the members of the county committee of a political party will take office on the third Saturday, rather than the first Saturday, following the certification of the results of the primary election. The bill also provides that the annual meeting of a county committee will be held on the third Saturday, rather than the first Tuesday, following the certification of the results of the primary election.

In addition, the bill requires the county clerk to certify to the county boards the names and addresses of the persons elected as members of the county political party committees. Under the bill, the municipal clerk continues to be responsible for canvassing the statements of the district boards and for issuing a certificate of election to each person who is elected. The bill clarifies that such statements will be issued after counting write-in votes, vote by mail ballots, and provisional ballots.

The bill, as amended, also makes language changes for gender neutrality by, for example, replacing the use of the term "chairman" with the term "chairperson."

#### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

The committee amended the bill to:

(1) provide that municipal and county committee members will take office and hold their annual meetings on the third Saturday following the certification of the election results;

- (2) provide that the annual meeting of the county committee will be held no later than the third Tuesday following the certification of the election results in the event the scheduled date coincides with a period of religious observance; and
  - (3) make the provisions of the bill gender neutral.

#### STATEMENT TO

# [First Reprint] **SENATE, No. 1246**

with Senate Floor Amendments (Proposed by Senator GOPAL)

ADOPTED: JUNE 3, 2021

These Senate amendments allow municipal and county committee members to take office and hold their reorganization meeting by the date specified, instead of on the specific date.

These amendments also update section 3 of the bill to the current law statute.

# Governor Murphy Takes Action on Legislation

06/11/2021

**TRENTON** – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills into law:

**A-4680/S-2932 (Sweeney/Burzichelli)** – Concerns subcontracting agreements entered into by four-year public institutions of higher education

A-5344/S-3197 (Scutari, Smith/Mukherji) – Clarifies eligibility for deferred retirement for certain judges in JRS

**A-5696/S-3690 (Quijano, Carter, Kennedy/Scutari, Cryan)** – Revises modified basic training program for certain county correctional police officers to be certified as county prosecutor's detectives or investigators or county or municipal police officers

A-5725/S-1246 (Downey, Houghtaling/Gopal, Turner) – Changes dates on which members of municipal and county committees of political party take office and hold annual meetings; transfers certain election responsibilities to county clerks