

19:31-2

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 19:31-2 (Voter registration--arrange in all high schools in March)

LAWS OF 1979 CHAPTER 393

Bill No. S3415

Sponsor(s) Lipman and others

Date Introduced Sept. 10, 1979

Committee: Assembly Education

Senate Education

Amended during passage Yes Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly Jan. 7, 1980

Senate Dec. 3, 1979

Date of approval Feb. 6, 1980

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes ~~xxx~~

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes ~~xxx~~

Senate Yes ~~xxx~~

Fiscal Note ~~xxx~~ No

Veto message ~~xxx~~ No

Message on signing ~~xxx~~ No

Following were printed:

Reports Yes ~~xxx~~

Hearings ~~xxx~~ No

Survey cited in sponsor's and Senate Committee statements:

974.90 N.J. Department of State.
E38 Electoral participation in New Jersey, 1979.
1979 Trenton, 1979.

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SENATE, No. 3415

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 10, 1979

By Senators LIPMAN, FELDMAN, YATES, ERRICHETTI,
RODGERS, ORECHIO, GRAVES, BEDELL, EWING,
DUMONT, FRIEDLAND and MERLINO

Referred to Committee on Education

AN ACT concerning voter registration of high school students and
amending R. S. 19:31-2.

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

1 1. R. S. 19:31-2 is amended to read as follows:

2 19:31-2. In all counties having a superintendent of elections,
3 the superintendent of elections is hereby constituted the commis-
4 sioner of registration and in all other counties the secretary of
5 the county board is hereby constituted the commissioner of regis-
6 tration.

7 The commissioner of registration in all counties having a super-
8 intendent of elections, and the county board in all other counties,
9 shall have complete charge of the permanent registration of all
10 eligible voters within their respective counties.

11 The commissioner of registration in counties of the first class
12 having a superintendent of elections and having less than 800,000
13 inhabitants, and the county board in all other counties, shall have
14 power to appoint temporarily, and the commissioner of registration
15 in counties of the first class having more than 800,000 inhabitants
16 shall have power to appoint on a permanent, or temporary basis,
17 such number of persons, as in his or its judgment may be necessary
18 in order to carry out the provisions of this Title. All persons ap-
19 pointed by the commissioner of registration in counties of the first
20 class having more than 900,000 inhabitants according to the 1970
21 Federal census to serve for terms of more than 6 months in any 1
22 year shall be in the classified service of the civil service and shall
23 be appointed, and hold their positions, in accordance with the pro-
24 visions of Title 11, Civil Service. All persons appointed by 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.

25 commissioner of registration in counties of the first class having
26 more than 800,000 but less than 900,000 inhabitants according to
27 the 1970 Federal census to serve for terms of more than 6 months
28 in any 1 year, other than the chief deputy and chief clerk and
29 confidential secretary and chief custodian, shall be in the classi-
30 fied service of the civil service and shall be appointed and hold
31 their positions, in accordance with the provisions of Title 11, Civil
32 Service. Persons appointed by the commissioner of registration
32A in such counties to serve for terms of 6 months or less in any 1
32B year and persons appointed by the commissioner of registration,
33 or by the county board of elections, in other counties, shall not be
34 subject to any of the provisions of Title 11, Civil Service, but shall
35 be in the unclassified service.

36 In each county the commissioner of registration shall submit
37 to the Secretary of State on or before February 15 of each year a
38 plan providing for evening registration for the primary election
39 and on or before July 1 plans providing for evening and
40 out-of-office registration for the general election, which plans shall
41 be subject to approval by the Secretary of State. Evening registra-
42 tion shall be made available in the office of each commissioner of
43 registration between the hours of 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. for at least 6
44 working days immediately preceding the close of registration, in
45 each municipality having a population in excess of 12,000 persons
46 according to the most recent United States census between the
47 hours of 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. for at least 3 working days immediately
48 preceding the close of registration, and in each municipality having
49 a population of less than 12,000 persons between the hours of 4
50 p.m. and 9 p.m. on the day of the close of registration for the
51 primary and general elections and for municipal elections. Such
52 plan for out-of-office registration may include door-to-door regis-
53 tration, and shall include the schedule and route to be followed by
54 any out-of-office registration units, as well as a description of the
55 number and nature of units to be used, and such further pertinent
56 information as the Secretary of State may by rule or regulation
57 require. Out-of-office registration shall be made available pursuant
58 to such plan in each municipality having a population in excess of
59 12,000 persons according to the most recent United States census.
60 Nothing in this section shall preclude the commissioner from pro-
61 viding pursuant to plan evening registration or out-of-office regis-
62 tration in excess of the requirements of this section, or shall
63 preclude or in anyway limit out-of-office registration conducted by
64 persons or groups other than the commissioner.

65 [On or before the last school day on which a person may
66 register to be entitled to vote in the ensuing primary election,]
67 *During the ***[first full week]*** *month* of March of each year* the
68 commissioner of registration in *all* counties [having a superin-
69 tendent of elections, and the county board in all other counties,]
70 shall arrange for and conduct registration in each public and non-
71 public high school in the county, of all students who are eligible to
72 register to vote in the ensuing election. School officials shall co-
73 operate with efforts to register students in such schools. *The com-*
74 *missioner of registration shall complete, on a form prescribed by*
75 *the Secretary of State, a report concerning the number of students*
76 *registered during the designated ***[week]*** *month*. Copies of*
77 *such report shall be forwarded to the Secretary of State.*

78 The commissioner of registration in counties having a superin-
79 tendent of elections, and the county board in all other counties,
80 shall provide such printed forms, blanks, supplies and office tele-
81 phone and transportation equipment and shall prescribe such rea-
82 sonable rules and regulations not inconsistent with those of the
83 Secretary of State as are necessary in the opinion of the commis-
84 sioner or county board to carry out the provisions of this Title
85 and any amendments or supplements thereto.

86 Subject to the limitations set forth in chapter 32 of this Title
87 as hereby amended all necessary expenses incurred, as and when
88 certified and approved by the commissioner of registration in
89 counties having a superintendent of elections, and by the county
90 board in all other counties, shall be paid by the county treasurer
91 of the county.

92 Nothing in the provisions of subtitle 2 of the Title, Municipali-
93 ties and Counties (40:16-1 et seq.), shall in anywise be construed
94 to affect, restrict or abridge the powers herein conferred on the
95 commissioners in counties having a superintendent of elections,
96 and upon the county boards in all other counties.

97 All powers granted to the commissioner in all counties not hav-
98 ing superintendents of elections by the provisions of this Title are
99 hereby conferred on the county board in such counties and any and
100 all duties conferred upon the commissioner in all counties not
101 having a superintendent of elections by the provisions of this Title
102 shall only be exercised and performed by such commissioner under
103 the instructions and directions of and subject to the approval of
104 the county board of such counties.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

The purpose of the bill is to provide a more comprehensive effort for registering eligible high school students to vote. A recent survey by the New Jersey Department of State indicated that in the 18-20 year age bracket, the likelihood of voting was only 20%.

Under the bill the first full week of March will be designated as the period in which voter registration efforts in all high schools in the State will be conducted by the commissioner of registration.

The commissioner of registration will be required to submit a report as to the number of students registered in that period to monitor the results of the registration effort.

S. 3415 (1979)

ASSEMBLY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3415

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 17, 1979

The Assembly Education Committee favorably reports this bill and endorses the statement of the Senate Education Committee.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 3415

with Senate committee amendment

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 19, 1979

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports this bill which provides for a more comprehensive effort for registering eligible high school students to vote. A recent survey by the New Jersey Department of State indicated that in the 18-20 year age bracket, the likelihood of voting was only 20%.

Under the bill the first full week of March will be designated as the period in which voter registration efforts in all high schools in the State will be conducted by the commissioner of registration.

The commissioner of registration will be required to submit a report as to the number of students registered in that period to monitor the results of the registration effort.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

The amendment extends the voter registration period from the first week in March to the entire month.

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS TO
SENATE, No. 3415

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ADOPTED NOVEMBER 19, 1979

Amend page 3, section 1, line 67, omit "first full week", insert "month".

Amend page 3, section 1, line 76, omit "week", insert "month".

FEBRUARY 6, 1980

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In addition, the bill streamlines the procedure for collecting all criminal fines.

Formerly, the Probation Department collected most fines, including fines imposed on parolees. This bill provides that the Probation Department will collect from probationers, the Parole Bureau will collect from parolees and the Municipal Court clerks will collect from defendants in that court, except when they are placed on probation, in which case the Probation Department will collect.

The bill provides for the distribution of the criminal fines as follows:

- Fines imposed by the municipal court go to the municipality;
- Fines imposed by the upper court go to the counties in cases where the defendant serves a custodial sentence in county jails;
- All other fines to the State.

S-3415, sponsored by Senator Wynona M. Lipman (D-Essex), which provides that in the month of March the Commissioner of Registration shall arrange for voter registration in all high schools.

Under the former law, the Commissioner of Registration or the County Board of Election was required to conduct a voter registration drive in all high schools on or before the last day of classes.

The bill also requires the Commissioner of Registration to file a report on the results of the drive with the Department of State.

A-3456, sponsored by Assemblyman Vincent Ozzie Pellecchia (D-Passaic), which establishes tenure and other rights of certain municipal officials performing responsibilities under the "State Uniform Construction Code Act."

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