

AN ACT

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

*Codification
District of
Columbia
Official Code*

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To amend, on a temporary basis, the District of Columbia Election Code of 1955 to establish consistent rules for all same-day registrants to vote by special ballot, to mandate that the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics ("Board") operate at least 4 early voting centers during primary and general elections, to establish that the Board will count votes cast by an individual voting out of precinct to the fullest extent possible, and to establish the deadline for voter registration by mail.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Board of Elections and Ethics Electoral Process Improvement Temporary Amendment Act of 2012".

Sec. 2. The District of Columbia Election Code of 1955, approved August 12, 1955 (69 Stat. 699; D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.01 *et seq.*), is amended as follows:

(a) Section 7(g) (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.07(g)) is amended as follows:

Note,
§ 1-1001.07

(1) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking the phrase "5:00 p.m. on the 31st day" and inserting the phrase "4:45 P.M. on the 30th day, or such time on that day as the Board's office remains open to receive registrations" in its place.

(2) Paragraph (5) is amended by striking the phrase "law; provided, that, for each election occurring before December 31, 2010, the individual shall cast a special ballot, subject to the Board's verification of residence; provided further, that for each election occurring after December 31, 2010, if the individual does not present a government-issued and valid photo identification card showing the individual's address, the individual shall cast a special ballot, subject to the Board's verification of residence." and inserting the phrase "law, District law, or Board regulation. Each individual who registers on Election Day shall cast a special ballot, subject to the Board's verification of residence." in its place.

(3) Paragraph (7)(A)(i) is amended by striking the phrase "register but" and inserting the phrase "register and vote in the election, but" in its place.

(b) Section 9 (D.C. Official Code § 1-1001.09) is amended as follows:

Note,
§ 1-1001.09

(1) Subsection (b) is amended as follows:

(A) Paragraph (1) is amended by striking the phrase "the vote of a person who is a registered qualified elector of the District shall be valid only if the vote is cast in the

voting precinct that serves his or her current residence address” and inserting the phrase “each registered qualified elector shall cast his or her vote in the voting precinct that serves his or her current residence address” in its place.

(B) Paragraph (3) is amended by striking the phrase “federal election contests and for any District-wide election contests” and inserting the phrase “all contests for which the elector would have been eligible to cast votes had he or she cast a vote in the correct voting precinct” in its place.

(2) Subsection (b-1)(1) is amended by striking the phrase “an early voting center in each of the 8 election wards” and inserting the phrase “no fewer than 4 early voting centers” in its place.

Sec. 3. Fiscal impact statement.

The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement of the Budget Director as the fiscal impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

Sec. 4. Effective date.

(a) This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)), and publication in the District of Columbia Register.

(b) This act shall expire after 225 days of its having taken effect.

Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Mayor
District of Columbia