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## 2026 ELECTION LAW PROPOSALS

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The following is a brief description of the State Board of Elections' legislative proposals to address the administration of elections in New York State:

- SBOE 26-01 **Special Ballot for Election Day Health-Related Exigency:** Allows boards of elections to issue a special ballot on Election Day for a person unable to go to the polls due to health-related exigency arising on or after the day before the election.
- SBOE 26-02 **Local Registration Repeal:** Local registration dates to an era when voters registered before each election event. In the modern era of expanded and permanent registration, these provisions serve no continued utility.
- SBOE 26-03 **Relates to LLC Attribution Statement:** Requires LLC ownership attribution statement to be filed within week of the first LLC contribution and provides a penalty for non-filing.
- SBOE 26-04 **Election Day Start Time for Poll Workers:** Requires poll workers to arrive at the poll site one (as opposed to ½) hour prior to the opening of polls on Election Day.
- SBOE 26-05 **Publication Requirements:** Eliminates the outdated and costly requirement that certified election results be printed in certain legal ads; satisfies newspaper advertising requirements publishing description of notice and where to find the notice on the board of elections' website, provided the board of elections upon request would provide the information by mail or other means.
- SBOE 26-06 **Multiple Vacancies For Same Office:** Provides that when an office is on the ballot to fill both a vacancy for the remainder of the current year as well as a new term, the office will appear only once on the primary and general election ballot.
- SBOE 26-07 **Election Day Non-Instruction Day at Schools:** To make schools more accessible as polling sites, provides that schools will not schedule regular instruction on the day of the general election or primary day in New York City.

- SBOE 26-08 **Voting Systems Use:** Provides that boards of elections shall, whenever possible, make voting equipment available to municipalities conducting elections and empowers boards to charge expenses to such municipalities.
- SBOE 26-09 **Village Caucuses Relating To Elections Held in November:** Clarifies statute to ensure there is no legal ambiguity as to the ability of parties to use caucuses in the same manner available to towns for the purpose of making village nominations.
- SBOE 26-10 **Training for New Election Officials:** Requires new election officials receive introductory training and an annual update not to exceed three hours.
- SBOE 26-11 **Clarify Town Caucus Voter Participant Cannot Sign Independent Nominating Petition:** Provides for filing of list of town caucus participants.
- SBOE 26-12 **Filing Exclusion and Ballot Provision Cleanup:** Clarifies the filing exclusion for under \$1,000 expenditure in small jurisdictions includes all political subdivisions with populations under ten thousand; changes the term “paper ballot” to “affidavit ballot” since lever voting machines are no longer in use; removes language that excludes certain committee contests from certain ballots.
- SBOE 26-13 **Clarifies and Repeals Certain Language Relating to Expenditures and Contribution Limits:** Removes the limitation on corporate contributions as applied to independent expenditures, the limitation on individual aggregate contributions, and the spending limit on certain party contributions, all of which were held unconstitutional.
- SBOE 26-14 **Change 72 Hour Filing Requirement For Convention Minutes to Three Days:** Conforms election law filing deadlines to all be measured in days.
- SBOE 26-15 **Change Deadlines for Special Presidential Ballots:** Conforms the deadlines for Special Presidential Ballot applications to the regular absentee deadlines.
- SBOE 26-16 **Failure to File Campaign Finance Disclosure Statements:** Authorizes the Enforcement Counsel to commence a special proceeding for failure to timely file financial disclosure statements without referring the matter to a hearing officer.
- SBOE 26-17 **Accessible Ballot Permanent Status and Self-Authenticating Statement of Disabled Voters:** Allows those qualifying for use of accessible ballot to qualify for permanent status; removes anachronistic language related to voters seeking assistance in voting.
- SBOE 26-18 **Extend Enrollment Change Freeze Window:** Extends the end of the enrollment change freeze period from one week after the June Primary to five weeks after the June primary.

- SBOE 26-19 **Sample Ballots Posted on Board's Website At Least 12 Days Before Election:** Ensures exemplar ballots are posted to board websites at least 12 days before the election to which they relate.
- SBOE 26-20 **Require Election Results To Be Transmitted to Municipal Clerks:** Ensures election results are transmitted by boards of elections to municipal clerks within their jurisdiction.
- SBOE 26-21 **Exclude Party Position Elections from Manual Hand Recounts:** Excludes elections for party positions from the provisions triggering manual hand counts.
- SBOE 26-22 **Statewide Voter Registration System:** Consolidate election processes under a statewide voter registration and election management system to be administered solely by the State Board of Elections.

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