

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 224 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY ARGALL, STREET, BARTOLOTTA, PHILLIPS-HILL, FARRY, AUMENT, STEFANO, COSTA, SANTARSIERO AND CAPPELLETTI, JANUARY 31, 2023

SENATOR DUSH, STATE GOVERNMENT, RE-REPORTED AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled
2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,
3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,
4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating
5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;
6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,
7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;
8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,
9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and
10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to
11 elections," in dates of elections and primaries and special
12 elections, further providing for general primary and
13 candidates to be nominated and party officers to be elected; <--
14 AND, IN NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES, FURTHER PROVIDING FOR
15 MANNER OF SIGNING NOMINATION PETITIONS AND TIME OF
16 CIRCULATING AND FOR PLACE AND TIME OF FILING NOMINATION
17 PETITIONS AND FILING FEES.

18 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
19 hereby enacts as follows:

20 Section 1. ~~Section 603 of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, <--~~
21 ~~No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is amended to~~
22 ~~read:~~

23 SECTION 1. SECTIONS 603, 908 AND 913(D) OF THE ACT OF JUNE <--
24 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, NO.320), KNOWN AS THE PENNSYLVANIA ELECTION

1 CODE, ARE AMENDED TO READ:

2 Section 603. General Primary; Candidates to Be Nominated and
3 Party Officers to Be Elected.--(a) There shall be a General
4 primary preceding each general election which shall be held on
5 the third Tuesday of May in all even-numbered years, except in
6 the year of the nomination of a President of the United States,
7 in which year the General primary shall be held on the fourth
8 Tuesday of April. Candidates for all offices to be filled at the
9 ensuing general election shall be nominated at the General
10 primary. The vote for candidates for the office of President of
11 the United States, as provided for by this act, shall be cast at
12 the General primary.

13 (b.1) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the General primary
14 for 2000 shall be held on April 4, 2000.

15 ~~(c)~~ (B.2) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the General <--
16 primary for 2024 shall be held on March 19, 2024.

17 SECTION 908. MANNER OF SIGNING NOMINATION PETITIONS; TIME OF <--
18 CIRCULATING.--

19 (1) EACH SIGNER OF A NOMINATION PETITION SHALL SIGN BUT ONE
20 SUCH PETITION FOR EACH OFFICE TO BE FILLED, AND SHALL DECLARE
21 THEREIN THAT HE IS A REGISTERED AND ENROLLED MEMBER OF THE PARTY
22 DESIGNATED IN SUCH PETITION: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT WHERE THERE
23 ARE TO BE ELECTED TWO OR MORE PERSONS TO THE SAME OFFICE, EACH
24 SIGNER MAY SIGN PETITIONS FOR AS MANY CANDIDATES FOR SUCH OFFICE
25 AS, AND NO MORE THAN, HE COULD VOTE FOR AT THE SUCCEEDING
26 ELECTION. HE SHALL ALSO DECLARE THEREIN THAT HE IS A QUALIFIED
27 ELECTOR OF THE COUNTY THEREIN NAMED, AND IN CASE THE NOMINATION
28 IS NOT TO BE MADE OR CANDIDATES ARE NOT TO BE ELECTED BY THE
29 ELECTORS OF THE STATE AT LARGE, OF THE POLITICAL DISTRICT
30 THEREIN NAMED, IN WHICH THE NOMINATION IS TO BE MADE OR THE

1 ELECTION IS TO BE HELD. HE SHALL ADD HIS ADDRESS WHERE HE IS
2 DULY REGISTERED AND ENROLLED, GIVING CITY, BOROUGH OR TOWNSHIP,
3 WITH STREET AND NUMBER, IF ANY, AND SHALL LEGIBLY PRINT HIS NAME
4 AND ADD THE DATE OF SIGNING, EXPRESSED IN WORDS OR NUMBERS:
5 PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF THE SAID POLITICAL DISTRICT NAMED IN
6 THE PETITION LIES WHOLLY WITHIN ANY CITY, BOROUGH OR TOWNSHIP,
7 OR IS COEXTENSIVE WITH SAME, IT SHALL NOT BE NECESSARY FOR ANY
8 SIGNER OF A NOMINATION PETITION TO STATE THEREIN THE CITY,
9 BOROUGH OR TOWNSHIP OF HIS RESIDENCE. [NO]

10 (2) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3), NO NOMINATION
11 PETITION SHALL BE CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE THIRTEENTH TUESDAY
12 BEFORE THE PRIMARY, AND NO SIGNATURE SHALL BE COUNTED UNLESS IT
13 BEARS A DATE AFFIXED NOT EARLIER THAN THE THIRTEENTH TUESDAY NOR
14 LATER THAN THE TENTH TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY.

15 (3) FOR THE GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION THAT OCCURS IN 2024, NO
16 NOMINATION PETITION SHALL BE CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THE ELEVENTH
17 TUESDAY BEFORE THE PRIMARY AND NO SIGNATURE SHALL BE COUNTED
18 UNLESS IT BEARS A DATE AFFIXED NOT EARLIER THAN THE ELEVENTH
19 TUESDAY NOR LATER THAN THE EIGHTH TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY.

20 SECTION 913. PLACE AND TIME OF FILING NOMINATION PETITIONS;
21 FILING FEES.--* * *

22 [(D) ALL] (D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2),
23 ALL NOMINATION PETITIONS SHALL BE FILED ON OR BEFORE THE TENTH
24 TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY.

25 (2) FOR THE GENERAL PRIMARY ELECTION THAT OCCURS IN 2024,
26 ALL NOMINATION PETITIONS SHALL BE FILED ON OR BEFORE THE EIGHTH
27 TUESDAY PRIOR TO THE PRIMARY.

28 * * *

29 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.