

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 515 Session of 2021

INTRODUCED BY STEFANO, AUMENT, MASTRIANO, J. WARD, SCAVELLO,  
MARTIN, PITTMAN AND MENSCH, APRIL 1, 2021

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 1, 2021

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 voting by qualified mail-in electors, further  
12 providing for applications for official mail-in ballots.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Section 1302-D(g) of the act of June 3, 1937  
16 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code,  
17 amended March 27, 2020 (P.L.41, No.12), is amended and the  
18 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

19 Section 1302-D. Applications for official mail-in ballots.

20 \* \* \*

21 (a.1) Application restriction.--Notwithstanding any other  
22 provision of law, only the Department of State or a county board  
23 of election of a county in which a qualified elector's voting

1 residence is located may send an application to a qualified  
2 elector for an official mail-in ballot under this article.

3 \* \* \*

4 [(g) Permanent mail-in voting list.--

5 (1) Any qualified registered elector may request to be  
6 placed on a permanent mail-in ballot list file at any time  
7 during the calendar year. A mail-in ballot application shall  
8 be mailed to every person otherwise eligible to receive a  
9 mail-in ballot application by the first Monday in February  
10 each year or within 48 hours of receipt of the request,  
11 whichever is later, so long as the person does not lose the  
12 person's voting rights by failure to vote as otherwise  
13 required by this act. A mail-in ballot application mailed to  
14 an elector under this section, which is completed and timely  
15 returned by the elector, shall serve as an application for  
16 any and all primary, general or special elections to be held  
17 in the remainder of that calendar year and for all special  
18 elections to be held before the third Monday in February of  
19 the succeeding year.

20 (2) The Secretary of the Commonwealth may develop an  
21 electronic system through which all qualified electors may  
22 apply for a mail-in ballot and request permanent mail-in  
23 voter status under this section, provided the system is able  
24 to capture a digitized or electronic signature of the  
25 applicant. A county board of elections shall treat an  
26 application or request received through the electronic system  
27 as if the application or request had been submitted on a  
28 paper form or any other format used by the county.

29 (3) The transfer of a qualified registered elector on a  
30 permanent mail-in voting list from one county to another

1 county shall only be permitted upon the request of the  
2 qualified registered elector.]

3 Section 2. All regulations and parts of regulations are  
4 abrogated to the extent of any inconsistency with the provisions  
5 of this act.

6 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.