

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 543 Session of 2013

INTRODUCED BY LEACH, TEPLITZ, STACK, WASHINGTON, HUGHES, FERLO,  
COSTA, TARTAGLIONE, BLAKE, BREWSTER AND FARNESE,  
FEBRUARY 21, 2013

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 21, 2013

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 preliminary provisions, further providing for  
12 definitions; in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, further  
13 providing for requirements relating to voter identification;  
14 in preparation for and conduct of primaries and elections,  
15 further providing for manner of applying to vote, persons  
16 entitled to vote, voter's certificates, entries to be made in  
17 district register, numbered lists of voters and challenges;  
18 in voting by qualified absentee electors, further providing  
19 for applications for official absentee ballots, for approval  
20 of application for absentee ballot, for delivering or mailing  
21 ballots, for canvassing of official absentee ballots and for  
22 public records; in penalties, further providing for  
23 enforcement; and making a related repeal.

24 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
25 hereby enacts as follows:

26 Section 1. Sections 102(z.5) and 206 of the act of June 3,  
27 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election  
28 Code, added March 14, 2012 (P.L.195, No.18), are repealed:

1 Section 102. Definitions.--The following words, when used in  
2 this act, shall have the following meanings, unless otherwise  
3 clearly apparent from the context:

4 \* \* \*

5 [(z.5) The words "proof of identification" shall mean:

6 (1) In the case of an elector who has a religious objection  
7 to being photographed, a valid-without-photo driver's license or  
8 a valid-without-photo identification card issued by the  
9 Department of Transportation.

10 (2) For an elector who appears to vote under section 1210, a  
11 document that:

12 (i) shows the name of the individual to whom the document  
13 was issued and the name substantially conforms to the name of  
14 the individual as it appears in the district register;

15 (ii) shows a photograph of the individual to whom the  
16 document was issued;

17 (iii) includes an expiration date and is not expired,  
18 except:

19 (A) for a document issued by the Department of  
20 Transportation which is not more than twelve (12) months past  
21 the expiration date; or

22 (B) in the case of a document from an agency of the Armed  
23 forces of the United States or their reserve components,  
24 including the Pennsylvania National Guard, establishing that the  
25 elector is a current member of or a veteran of the United States  
26 Armed Forces or National Guard which does not designate a  
27 specific date on which the document expires, but includes a  
28 designation that the expiration date is indefinite; and

29 (iv) was issued by one of the following:

30 (A) The United States Government.

1 (B) The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

2 (C) A municipality of this Commonwealth to an employee of  
3 that municipality.

4 (D) An accredited Pennsylvania public or private institution  
5 of higher learning.

6 (E) A Pennsylvania care facility.

7 (3) For a qualified absentee elector under section 1301:

8 (i) in the case of an elector who has been issued a current  
9 and valid driver's license, the elector's driver's license  
10 number;

11 (ii) in the case of an elector who has not been issued a  
12 current and valid driver's license, the last four digits of the  
13 elector's Social Security number;

14 (iii) in the case of an elector who has a religious  
15 objection to being photographed, a copy of a document that  
16 satisfies paragraph (1); or

17 (iv) in the case of an elector who has not been issued a  
18 current and valid driver's license or Social Security number, a  
19 copy of a document that satisfies paragraph (2).

20 Section 206. Requirements Relating to Voter

21 Identification.--(a) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall  
22 prepare and disseminate information to the public regarding the  
23 proof of identification requirements established under sections  
24 1210 and 1302.

25 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of 75 Pa.C.S. § 1510(b)  
26 (relating to issuance and content of driver's license) to the  
27 contrary, the Department of Transportation shall issue an  
28 identification card described in 75 Pa.C.S. § 1510(b) at no cost  
29 to any registered elector who has made application therefor and  
30 has included with the completed application a statement signed

1 by the elector declaring under oath or affirmation that the  
2 elector does not possess proof of identification as defined in  
3 section 102(z.5)(2) and requires proof of identification for  
4 voting purposes.

5 (c) The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall prepare the form  
6 of the statement described in subsection (b) and shall  
7 distribute the form to the counties and the Department of  
8 Transportation. The Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Secretary  
9 of Transportation and the county boards of election shall  
10 disseminate information to the public regarding the availability  
11 of identification cards under subsection (b).]

12 Section 2. Section 1210(a), (a.2), (a.3), (a.4)(1) and (5)  
13 and (f) of the act, amended or added March 14, 2012 (P.L.195,  
14 No.18), are amended and the section is amended by adding a  
15 subsection to read:

16 Section 1210. Manner of Applying to Vote; Persons Entitled  
17 to Vote; Voter's Certificates; Entries to Be Made in District  
18 Register; Numbered Lists of Voters; Challenges.--(a) At every  
19 primary and election each elector who appears to vote in that  
20 election district for the first time and who desires to vote  
21 shall first present to an election officer [proof of  
22 identification] one of the following forms of photo  
23 identification:

24 (1) a valid driver's license or identification card issued  
25 by the Department of Transportation;

26 (2) a valid identification card issued by any other agency  
27 of the Commonwealth;

28 (3) a valid identification card issued by the United States  
29 Government;

30 (4) a valid United States passport;

- 1 (5) a valid student identification card;
- 2 (6) a valid employe identification card; or
- 3 (7) a valid armed forces of the United States identification
- 4 card.

5 The election officer shall examine the [proof of] identification  
6 presented by the elector and sign an affidavit stating that this  
7 has been done.

8 (a.1) Where the elector does not have a photo identification  
9 as provided for in subsection (a), the elector shall present for  
10 examination one of the following forms of identification that  
11 shows the name and address of the elector:

12 (1) nonphoto identification issued by the Commonwealth, or  
13 any agency of the Commonwealth;

14 (2) nonphoto identification issued by the United States  
15 Government, or agency of the United States Government;

16 (3) a firearm permit;

17 (4) a current utility bill;

18 (5) a current bank statement;

19 (6) a paycheck;

20 (7) a government check.

21 The election officer shall examine the identification presented  
22 by the elector and sign an affidavit stating that this has been  
23 done.

24 (a.2) [If any of the following apply, the elector shall be  
25 permitted to cast a provisional ballot in accordance with  
26 subsection (a.4):

27 (1) The elector is unable to produce proof of  
28 identification:

29 (i) on the grounds that the elector is indigent and unable  
30 to obtain proof of identification without the payment of a fee;

1 or

2 (ii) on any other grounds.

3 (2) The elector's proof of identification is challenged by  
4 the judge of elections.] If the elector is unable to produce  
5 identification or the elector's identification is challenged by  
6 the judge of elections, the elector shall be permitted to cast a  
7 provisional ballot in accordance with subsection (a.4).

8 (a.3) (1) All electors, including any elector that shows  
9 [proof of] identification pursuant to subsection (a), shall  
10 subsequently sign a voter's certificate in blue, black or blue-  
11 black ink with a fountain pen or ball point pen, and, unless he  
12 is a State or Federal employe who has registered under any  
13 registration act without declaring his residence by street and  
14 number, he shall insert his address therein, and hand the same  
15 to the election officer in charge of the district register.

16 (2) Such election officer shall thereupon announce the  
17 elector's name so that it may be heard by all members of the  
18 election board and by all watchers present in the polling place  
19 and shall compare the elector's signature on his voter's  
20 certificate with his signature in the district register. If,  
21 upon such comparison, the signature upon the voter's certificate  
22 appears to be genuine, the elector who has signed the  
23 certificate shall, if otherwise qualified, be permitted to vote:  
24 Provided, That if the signature on the voter's certificate, as  
25 compared with the signature as recorded in the district  
26 register, shall not be deemed authentic by any of the election  
27 officers, such elector shall not be denied the right to vote for  
28 that reason, but shall be considered challenged as to identity  
29 and required to make the affidavit and produce the evidence as  
30 provided in subsection (d) of this section.

1       (3) When an elector has been found entitled to vote, the  
2 election officer who examined his voter's certificate and  
3 compared his signature shall sign his name or initials on the  
4 voter's certificate, shall, if the elector's signature is not  
5 readily legible, print such elector's name over his signature,  
6 and the number of the stub of the ballot issued to him or his  
7 number in the order of admission to the voting machines, and at  
8 primaries a letter or abbreviation designating the party in  
9 whose primary he votes shall also be entered by one of the  
10 election officers or clerks.

11       (4) As each voter is found to be qualified and votes, the  
12 election officer in charge of the district register shall write  
13 or stamp the date of the election or primary, the number of the  
14 stub of the ballot issued to him or his number in the order of  
15 admission to the voting machines, and at primaries a letter or  
16 abbreviation designating the party in whose primary he votes,  
17 and shall sign his name or initials in the proper space on the  
18 registration card of such voter contained in the district  
19 register.

20       (5) As each voter votes, his name in the order of voting  
21 shall be recorded in two (2) numbered lists of voters provided  
22 for that purpose, with the addition of a note of each voter's  
23 party enrollment after his name at primaries.

24       (a.4) (1) At all elections an individual who claims to be  
25 properly registered and eligible to vote at the election  
26 district but whose name does not appear on the district register  
27 and whose registration cannot be determined by the inspectors of  
28 election or the county election board shall be permitted to cast  
29 a provisional ballot. Individuals who [appear to vote] are  
30 voting for the first time at the election district shall be

1 required to produce [proof of] identification pursuant to  
2 subsection (a) or (a.1) and if unable to do so shall be  
3 permitted to cast a provisional ballot. An individual presenting  
4 a judicial order to vote shall be permitted to cast a  
5 provisional ballot.

6 \* \* \*

7 (5) (i) Except as provided in subclause (ii), if it is  
8 determined that the individual was registered and entitled to  
9 vote at the election district where the ballot was cast, the  
10 county board of elections shall compare the signature on the  
11 provisional ballot envelope with the signature on the elector's  
12 registration form and, if the signatures are determined to be  
13 genuine, shall count the ballot if the county board of elections  
14 confirms that the individual did not cast any other ballot,  
15 including an absentee ballot, in the election.

16 (ii) A provisional ballot shall not be counted if:

17 (A) either the provisional ballot envelope under clause (3)  
18 or the affidavit under clause (2) is not signed by the  
19 individual;

20 (B) the signature required under clause (3) and the  
21 signature required under clause (2) are either not genuine or  
22 are not executed by the same individual; or

23 (C) a provisional ballot envelope does not contain a secrecy  
24 envelope[;]\_.

25 [(D) in the case of a provisional ballot that was cast under  
26 subsection (a.2) (1) (i), within six calendar days following the  
27 election the elector fails to appear before the county board of  
28 elections to execute an affirmation or the county board of  
29 elections does not receive an electronic, facsimile or paper  
30 copy of an affirmation affirming, under penalty of perjury, that



1 the elector is the same individual who personally appeared  
2 before the district election board on the day of the election  
3 and cast a provisional ballot and that the elector is indigent  
4 and unable to obtain proof of identification without the payment  
5 of a fee; or

6 (E) in the case of a provisional ballot that was cast under  
7 subsection (a.2)(1)(ii), within six calendar days following the  
8 election, the elector fails to appear before the county board of  
9 elections to present proof of identification and execute an  
10 affirmation or the county board of elections does not receive an  
11 electronic, facsimile or paper copy of the proof of  
12 identification and an affirmation affirming, under penalty of  
13 perjury, that the elector is the same individual who personally  
14 appeared before the district election board on the day of the  
15 election and cast a provisional ballot.]

16 (iii) One authorized representative of each candidate in an  
17 election and one representative from each party shall be  
18 permitted to remain in the room in which deliberation or  
19 determination of subclause (ii) is being made.

20 \* \* \*

21 [(f) As used in this section, "care facility" means any of  
22 the following:

23 (1) A long-term care nursing facility as defined in section  
24 802.1 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the  
25 "Health Care Facilities Act."

26 (2) An assisted living residence or a personal care home as  
27 defined in section 1001 of the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31,  
28 No.21), known as the "Public Welfare Code."]

29 Section 3. Sections 1302(e), (e.2) and (j), 1302.2(c), (d)  
30 and (f), 1305(b) and (c), 1308(g)(2) and (3), (h) and (i) and

1 1309 of the act, amended or added March 14, 2012 (P.L.195,  
2 No.18), are amended to read:

3 Section 1302. Applications for Official Absentee Ballots.--\*

4 \* \*

5 (e) Any qualified bedridden or hospitalized veteran absent  
6 from the municipality of his residence and unable to attend his  
7 polling place because of such illness or physical disability,  
8 regardless of whether he is registered or enrolled, may apply at  
9 any time before any primary or election for an official absentee  
10 ballot on any official county board of election form addressed  
11 to the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the  
12 county board of elections of the county in which his voting  
13 residence is located.

14 The application shall contain the following information:  
15 Residence at the time of becoming bedridden or hospitalized,  
16 length of time a citizen, length of residence in Pennsylvania,  
17 date of birth, length of time a resident in voting district,  
18 voting district if known, party choice in case of primary, name  
19 and address of present residence or hospital at which  
20 hospitalized. When such application is received by the Secretary  
21 of the Commonwealth, it shall be forwarded to the proper county  
22 board of elections.

23 The application for an official absentee ballot for any  
24 primary or election shall be made on information supplied over  
25 the signature of the bedridden or hospitalized veteran as  
26 required in the preceding subsection. Any qualified registered  
27 elector, including a spouse or dependent referred to in  
28 subsection (1) of section 1301, who expects to be or is absent  
29 from the municipality of his residence because his duties,  
30 occupation or business require him to be elsewhere on the day of

1 any primary or election and any qualified registered elector who  
2 is unable to attend his polling place on the day of any primary  
3 or election because of illness or physical disability and any  
4 qualified registered bedridden or hospitalized veteran in the  
5 county of residence, or in the case of a county employe who  
6 cannot vote due to duties on election day relating to the  
7 conduct of the election, or in the case of a person who will not  
8 attend a polling place because of the observance of a religious  
9 holiday, may apply to the county board of elections of the  
10 county in which his voting residence is located for an Official  
11 Absentee Ballot. Such application shall be made upon an official  
12 application form supplied by the county board of elections. Such  
13 official application form shall be determined and prescribed by  
14 the Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

15 (1) The application of any qualified registered elector,  
16 including spouse or dependent referred to in subsection (1) of  
17 section 1301, who expects to be or is absent from the  
18 municipality of his residence because his duties, occupation or  
19 business require him to be elsewhere on the day of any primary  
20 or election, or in the case of a county employe who cannot vote  
21 due to duties on election day relating to the conduct of the  
22 election, or in the case of a person who will not attend a  
23 polling place because of the observance of a religious holiday,  
24 shall be signed by the applicant and shall include the surname  
25 and given name or names of the applicant, [proof of  
26 identification,] his occupation, date of birth, length of time a  
27 resident in voting district, voting district if known, place of  
28 residence, post office address to which ballot is to be mailed,  
29 the reason for his absence, and such other information as shall  
30 make clear to the county board of elections the applicant's

1 right to an official absentee ballot.

2 (2) The application of any qualified registered elector who  
3 is unable to attend his polling place on the day of any primary  
4 or election because of illness or physical disability and the  
5 application of any qualified registered bedridden or  
6 hospitalized veteran in the county of residence shall be signed  
7 by the applicant and shall include surname and given name or  
8 names of the applicant, [proof of identification,] his  
9 occupation, date of birth, residence at the time of becoming  
10 bedridden or hospitalized, length of time a resident in voting  
11 district, voting district if known, place of residence, post  
12 office address to which ballot is to be mailed, and such other  
13 information as shall make clear to the county board of elections  
14 the applicant's right to an official ballot. In addition, the  
15 application of such electors shall include a declaration stating  
16 the nature of their disability or illness, and the name, office  
17 address and office telephone number of their attending  
18 physician: Provided, however, That in the event any elector  
19 entitled to an absentee ballot under this subsection be unable  
20 to sign his application because of illness or physical  
21 disability, he shall be excused from signing upon making a  
22 statement which shall be witnessed by one adult person in  
23 substantially the following form: I hereby state that I am  
24 unable to sign my application for an absentee ballot without  
25 assistance because I am unable to write by reason of my illness  
26 or physical disability. I have made or have received assistance  
27 in making my mark in lieu of my signature.

28 ..... (Mark)

29 (Date)

30 .....

1 (Complete Address of Witness) (Signature of Witness)

2 \* \* \*

3 (e.2) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this act any  
4 qualified elector who expects to be or is absent from the  
5 municipality of his residence because his duties, occupation or  
6 business require him to be elsewhere on the day of any election  
7 or a county employe who cannot vote due to duties on election  
8 day relating to the conduct of the election or a person who will  
9 not attend a polling place because of the observance of a  
10 religious holiday may make an application for an absentee ballot  
11 by mail by sending a letter to the county board of elections in  
12 the county in which his voting residence is located. The letter  
13 shall be signed by the applicant and contain his name[, ] and  
14 place of residence [and proof of identification].

15 \* \* \*

16 [(j) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section  
17 requiring proof of identification, a qualified absentee elector  
18 shall not be required to provide proof of identification if the  
19 elector is entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the  
20 Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (Public Law  
21 99-410, 100 Stat. 924) or by an alternative ballot under the  
22 Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act (Public  
23 Law 98-435, 98 Stat. 1678).]

24 Section 1302.2. Approval of Application for Absentee  
25 Ballot.--

26 \* \* \*

27 (c) The county board of elections, upon receipt of any  
28 application of a qualified elector required to be registered  
29 under the provisions of preceding section 1301, shall determine  
30 the qualifications of such applicant by [verifying the proof of

1 identification and] comparing the information set forth on such  
2 application with the information contained on the applicant's  
3 permanent registration card. If the board is satisfied that the  
4 applicant is qualified to receive an official absentee ballot,  
5 the application shall be marked "approved." Such approval  
6 decision shall be final and binding, except that challenges may  
7 be made only on the ground that the applicant did not possess  
8 the qualifications of an absentee elector. Such challenges must  
9 be made to the county board of elections prior to 5:00 o'clock  
10 P. M. on the first Friday prior to the election. When so  
11 approved, the registration commission shall cause an absentee  
12 voter's temporary registration card to be inserted in the  
13 district register on top of and along with the permanent  
14 registration card. The absentee voter's temporary registration  
15 card shall be in the color and form prescribed in subsection (e)  
16 of this section:

17       Provided, however, That the duties of the county boards of  
18 elections and the registration commissions with respect to the  
19 insertion of the absentee voter's temporary registration card of  
20 any elector from the district register as set forth in section  
21 1302.2 shall include only such applications and emergency  
22 applications as are received on or before the first Tuesday  
23 prior to the primary or election. In all cases where  
24 applications are received after the first Tuesday prior to the  
25 primary or election and before five o'clock P. M. on the first  
26 Friday prior to the primary or election, the county board of  
27 elections shall determine the qualifications of such applicant  
28 by [verifying the proof of identification and] comparing the  
29 information set forth on such application with the information  
30 contained on the applicant's duplicate registration card on file

1 in the General Register (also referred to as the Master File) in  
2 the office of the Registration Commission and shall cause the  
3 name and residence (and at primaries, the party enrollment) to  
4 be inserted in the Military, Veterans and Emergency Civilian  
5 Absentee Voters File as provided in section 1302.3, subsection  
6 (b). In addition, the local district boards of elections shall,  
7 upon canvassing the official absentee ballots under section  
8 1308, examine the voting check list of the election district of  
9 said elector's residence and satisfy itself that such elector  
10 did not cast any ballot other than the one properly issued to  
11 him under his absentee ballot application. In all cases where  
12 the examination of the local district board of elections  
13 discloses that an elector did vote a ballot other than the one  
14 properly issued to him under the absentee ballot application,  
15 the local district board of elections shall thereupon cancel  
16 said absentee ballot and said elector shall be subject to the  
17 penalties as hereinafter set forth.

18 (d) In the event that any application for an official  
19 absentee ballot is not approved by the county board of  
20 elections, the elector shall be notified immediately to that  
21 effect with a statement by the county board of the reasons for  
22 the disapproval. [For those applicants whose proof of  
23 identification was not provided with the application or could  
24 not be verified by the board, the board shall send notice to the  
25 elector with the absentee ballot requiring the elector to  
26 provide proof of identification with the absentee ballot or the  
27 ballot will not be counted.]

28 \* \* \*

29 [(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a  
30 qualified absentee elector shall not be required to provide

1 proof of identification if the elector is entitled to vote by  
2 absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens  
3 Absentee Voting Act (Public Law 99-410, 100 Stat. 924) or by an  
4 alternative ballot under the Voting Accessibility for the  
5 Elderly and Handicapped Act (Public Law 98-435, 98 Stat. 1678).]

6 Section 1305. Delivering or Mailing Ballots.--

7 \* \* \*

8 (b) The county board of elections upon receipt and approval  
9 of an application filed by any elector qualified in accordance  
10 with the provisions of section 1301, subsections (i) to (l),  
11 inclusive, shall commence to deliver or mail official absentee  
12 ballots on the second Tuesday prior to the primary or election.  
13 [For those applicants whose proof of identification was not  
14 provided with the application or could not be verified by the  
15 board, the board shall send the notice required under section  
16 1302.2(d) with the absentee ballot.] As additional applications  
17 are received and approved, the board shall deliver or mail  
18 official absentee ballots to such additional electors within  
19 forty-eight hours.

20 [(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a  
21 qualified absentee elector shall not be required to provide  
22 proof of identification if the elector is entitled to vote by  
23 absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens  
24 Absentee Voting Act (Public Law 99-410, 100 Stat. 924) or by an  
25 alternative ballot under the Voting Accessibility for the  
26 Elderly and Handicapped Act (Public Law 98-435, 98 Stat. 1678).]

27 Section 1308. Canvassing of Official Absentee Ballots.--\* \*

28 \*

29 (g) \* \* \*

30 (2) The county board of elections shall meet on the eighth



1 day following the election to canvass the absentee ballots  
2 received under this subsection [and subsection (h) (2)]. One  
3 authorized representative of each candidate in an election and  
4 one representative from each political party shall be permitted  
5 to remain in the room in which the absentee ballots are  
6 canvassed. Representatives shall be permitted to challenge any  
7 absentee elector in accordance with the provisions of paragraph  
8 (3).

9 (3) When the county board meets to canvass absentee ballots  
10 under paragraph (2), the board shall examine the declaration on  
11 the envelope of each ballot not set aside under subsection (d)  
12 and shall compare the information thereon with that contained in  
13 the "Registered Absentee Voters File," the absentee voters' list  
14 and/or the "Military Veterans and Emergency Civilians Absentee  
15 Voters File," whichever is applicable. If the county board [has  
16 verified the proof of identification as required under this  
17 act,] is satisfied that the declaration is sufficient and the  
18 information contained in the "Registered Absentee Voters File,"  
19 the absentee voters' list and/or the "Military Veterans and  
20 Emergency Civilians Absentee Voters File" verifies his right to  
21 vote, the county board shall announce the name of the elector  
22 and shall give any candidate representative or party  
23 representative present an opportunity to challenge any absentee  
24 elector upon the ground or grounds: (i) that the absentee  
25 elector is not a qualified elector; or (ii) that the absentee  
26 elector was within the municipality of his residence on the day  
27 of the primary or election during the period the polls were  
28 open, except where he was in the military service or except in  
29 the case where his ballot was obtained for the reason that he  
30 was unable to appear personally at the polling place because of

1 illness or physical disability; or (iii) that the absentee  
2 elector was able to appear personally at the polling place on  
3 the day of the primary or election during the period the polls  
4 were open in the case his ballot was obtained for the reason  
5 that he was unable to appear personally at the polling place  
6 because of illness or physical disability. Upon challenge of any  
7 absentee elector, as set forth herein, the board shall mark  
8 "challenged" on the envelope together with the reasons therefor,  
9 and the same shall be set aside unopened pending final  
10 determination of the challenge according to the procedure  
11 described in paragraph (5).

12 \* \* \*

13 [(h) For those absentee ballots for which proof of  
14 identification has not been received or could not be verified:

15 (1) If the proof of identification is received and verified  
16 by the county board of elections prior to the distribution of  
17 the absentee ballots to the local election districts, then the  
18 county shall distribute the absentee ballots for which proof of  
19 identification is received and verified, along with the other  
20 absentee ballots, to the absentee voter's respective election  
21 district. If the county board of elections does not receive or  
22 is not able to verify the proof of identification for an elector  
23 prior to the absentee ballots' being sent to the appropriate  
24 local election districts, the county board shall keep the  
25 absentee ballot and follow the procedures set forth in paragraph  
26 (2) or (3), whichever is applicable.

27 (2) If the proof of identification is received and verified  
28 after the absentee ballots have been distributed to the  
29 appropriate local election districts, but prior to the sixth  
30 calendar day following the election, then the county board of

1 elections shall canvass the absentee ballots under this  
2 subsection in accordance with subsection (g) (2), unless the  
3 elector appeared to vote at the proper polling place for the  
4 purpose of casting a ballot, then the absentee ballot cast by  
5 that elector shall be declared void.

6 (3) If an elector fails to provide proof of identification  
7 that can be verified by the county board of elections by the  
8 sixth calendar day following the election, then the absentee  
9 ballot shall not be counted.

10 (i) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a  
11 qualified absentee elector shall not be required to provide  
12 proof of identification if the elector is entitled to vote by  
13 absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens  
14 Absentee Voting Act (Public Law 99-410, 100 Stat. 924) or by an  
15 alternative ballot under the Voting Accessibility for the  
16 Elderly and Handicapped Act (Public Law 98-435, 98 Stat. 1678).]

17 Section 1309. Public Records.--All official absentee  
18 ballots, files, applications for such ballots and envelopes on  
19 which the executed declarations appear, and all information and  
20 lists are hereby designated and declared to be public records  
21 and shall be safely kept for a period of two years, except that  
22 no [proof of identification shall be made public, nor shall]  
23 information concerning a military elector shall be made public  
24 which is expressly forbidden by the Department of Defense  
25 because of military security.

26 Section 4. Section 1854 of the act, added March 14, 2012  
27 (P.L.195, No.18), is repealed:

28 [Section 1854. Enforcement.--(a) The Attorney General shall  
29 have prosecutorial jurisdiction over all violations committed  
30 under this act.

1 (b) The district attorney of any county in which a violation  
2 has occurred shall have concurrent powers and responsibilities  
3 with the Attorney General over violations committed under this  
4 act.]

5 Section 5. Repeals are as follows:

6 (1) The General Assembly declares that the repeal under  
7 paragraph (2) is necessary to effectuate the amendment or  
8 addition of the following provisions of the act:

9 (i) Section 102(z.5).

10 (ii) Section 206.

11 (iii) Section 1210(a), (a.1), (a.2), (a.3), (a.4) (1  
12 and (5) and (f).

13 (iv) Section 1302(e), (e.2) and (j).

14 (v) Section 1302.2(c), (d) and (f).

15 (vi) Section 1305(b) and (c).

16 (vii) Section 1308(g) (2) and (3), (h) and (i).

17 (viii) Section 1309.

18 (ix) Section 1854.

19 (2) Section 10 of the act of March 14, 2012 (P.L.195,  
20 No.18), entitled, "An act amending the act of June 3, 1937  
21 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled 'An act concerning elections,  
22 including general, municipal, special and primary elections,  
23 the nomination of candidates, primary and election expenses  
24 and election contests; creating and defining membership of  
25 county boards of elections; imposing duties upon the  
26 Secretary of the Commonwealth, courts, county boards of  
27 elections, county commissioners; imposing penalties for  
28 violation of the act, and codifying, revising and  
29 consolidating the laws relating thereto; and repealing  
30 certain acts and parts of acts relating to elections,' in

1 preliminary provisions, defining 'proof of identification';  
2 in the Secretary of the Commonwealth, providing for  
3 requirements relating to voter identification; in preparation  
4 for and conduct of primaries and elections, further providing  
5 for manner of applying to vote, persons entitled to vote,  
6 voter's certificates, entries to be made in district  
7 register, numbered lists of voters and challenges; in voting  
8 by qualified absentee electors, further providing for  
9 applications for official absentee ballots, for approval of  
10 application for absentee ballot, for delivering or mailing  
11 ballots, for canvassing of official absentee ballots and for  
12 public records; and providing for enforcement and for a  
13 special procedure at certain elections," is repealed.  
14 Section 6. This act shall take effect immediately.