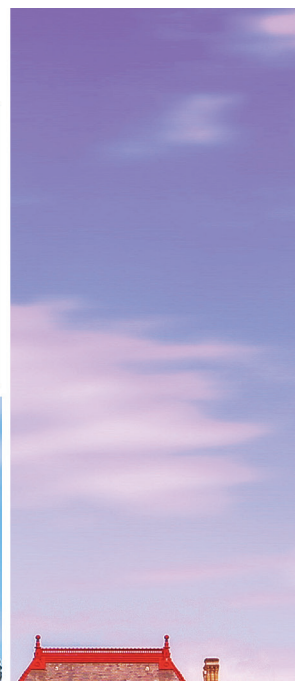
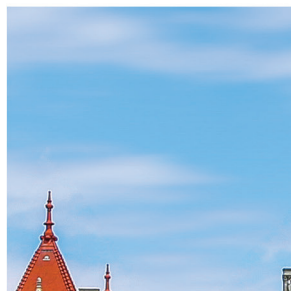
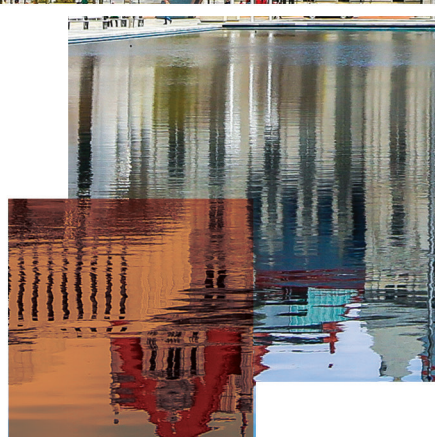


The New York State Assembly
Annual Report



**20
25**



Committee on
Election Law

Speaker Carl E. Heastie
Latrice Monique Walker, CHAIR



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

LATRICE M. WALKER
Member of Assembly
55th Assembly District
Kings County

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Committee on Election Law

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Codes
Housing
Judiciary
Ways and Means

MEMBER:
Legislative Women's Caucus
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic & Asian
Legislative Caucus
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force
Task Force on Women's Issues

December 15, 2025

The Honorable Carl Heastie
Speaker of the Assembly
Room 932, Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Mr. Speaker:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2025 Annual Report of the Assembly Standing Committee on Election Law.

During the 2025 legislative session, the Committee continued to make great strides in improving the laws that govern elections in New York State. Among the initiatives undertaken by the Committee during the 2025 session were ensuring election integrity, improving the public campaign finance system, and expanding and protecting voter rights in New York State.

Election integrity is at the very base of the work undertaken by the Committee. It is crucial that the citizens of New York have confidence in the franchise and the systems in place for casting a ballot. Legislation was advanced to ensure that voter rolls are kept current and unlawful purging of voter rolls will not occur. Legislation was advanced to enter New York State as a member of a multistate voter list maintenance organization. The purpose of joining these types of organizations is to have the ability to utilize databases from different states and entities to ensure that the voter rolls in New York State are correct and up to date.

A State public campaign finance system was established in 2020 and has allowed small donors to have more of an impact on State elections. During this legislative session, the Committee advanced legislation to make specific technical changes that would create a better, more efficient program. Among the changes made were allowing donors to make a \$250 matchable donation for both the primary and general election within the same election cycle, allowing substituted candidates ample time to opt into the program, amending the payment schedules allowing candidates to be eligible for matching funds earlier in their campaigns and codifying the criteria for what may constitute as a competitive race.

Expanding access to voting continues to be a priority for the Committee. In 2024, the Committee advanced legislation to allow for the public to utilize drop boxes provided by their local boards of elections. In 2025, the Committee clarified that statute in order to ensure early mail ballots could be deposited into the drop boxes as well.

As we have seen all too often, voter rights are in danger of being diluted and worse yet, wiped away. New York had been one of only a small number of states that had a line warming ban in law, and the

Committee advanced legislation this past session to repeal that ban and therefore allow items of nominal value to be distributed to voters at polling places.

In the months ahead, I look forward to working with you, Mr. Speaker, and the members of the Election Law Committee to continue to explore ways in which we, as a State, can improve the administration of our elections systems to provide New Yorkers with the most effective and safe way to exercise their right to vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Walker", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Latrice Walker, Chairperson
Assembly Standing Committee on Election Law

**2025 ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAW**

Latrice M. Walker

Chair

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I. INTRODUCTION

Committee Jurisdiction

The jurisdiction of the Assembly Standing Committee on Election law (hereinafter known as “The Committee”) includes all legislation that affects elections on the national, state and local levels, including ballot access, voter registration and enrollment, voter education and outreach, campaign financing, and related administrative procedures of the state board of elections and local board of elections.

II. LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Relates to early voting for certain special elections.

A.5834 (Walker)/S.5101 (Gonzalez) – Chapter 103 of 2025

This law modified the days of early voting for any special elections held on April 29, 2025, requiring the days to end on April 27, to account for religious holidays. The law also required the hours provided during the shortened early voting timeframe to equal that of the hours of normal early voting days.

Relates to permitting candidates for office to be employees of a board of elections.

A.1015 (Jacobson)/S.799 (Mayer) – Chapter 105 of the 2025

This law amended Chapter 639 of the laws of 2024 to permit a candidate for office to be employed by a board of elections with prior authorization and a majority vote of the elections commissioners.

Relates to notice of candidate designation.

A.438 (Epstein)/S.810 (Myrie) – Chapter 106 of 2025

This law amended Chapter 655 of the Laws of 2024 to require the Board of Elections of New York City to provide notice to each candidate designated for election to a party position of a county committee located within New York City.

This legislation removes the requirement of the Board of Elections of New York City to provide the candidate with information regarding the process in which they may decline a designation in order to remedy any operational hurdles for the city board of elections related to various deadlines across the election law.

Relates to ballot drop-off locations.

A.1014 (Simone)/S.752 (Hoylman-Sigal) – Chapter 109 of 2025

This law amended Chapter 500 of the laws of 2024 to make technical changes that clarify that both absentee ballots and early mail ballots may be returned to a ballot drop box.

Relates to furnishing money or entertainment at poll sites.

A.1241-A (Simon)/S.7281 (Myrie) – Chapter 156 of 2025

This law repealed section 17-140 to allow items of nominal value to be distributed to voters at polling places.

Relates to providing for the declination of a designation as a candidate or nomination under special circumstances.

A.559-A (Paulin)/S.8260 (Skoufis) – Reported to Rules

This bill would provide for the declination of a designation as a candidate or nomination for a party position if the person designated or nominated has received a diagnosis of a serious health

condition or has resigned the office for which they are nominated or designated to run for re-election.

Relates to the dates to file a designating petition.
A.1223 (Bores)/S.6996 (Gonzalez) – Chapter 577 of 2025

This law changes the dates to file a petition so as to not conflict with the religious holiday of Passover in 2026. The filing period for designating petitions in the year 2026 was amended from the thirteenth Monday through the twelfth Thursday preceding the primary to the thirteenth Monday through the twelfth Monday proceeding the primary. This law further amends the earliest day designating petition signatures shall be counted in the year 2026 from 37 days before the last day to file a designating petition to 41 days before the last day to file a designating petition and adds that the twelfth Thursday proceeding the primary is the last day designating petition signatures shall be counted in the year 2026.

Relates to mandatory training curriculum for key staff of boards of elections.
A.1228 (Seawright)/S.1035 (Myrie) – Reported to Ways and Means

This bill would establish a mandatory training curriculum for elections commissioners and key staff of boards of elections.

Relates to notifying voters when they have been redistricted.
A.1416 (Rosenthal)/S.5371 (Cleare) – Reported to Ways and Means

This bill would require the State Board of Elections to develop a program to be administered by all boards of elections to notify voters of certain information where their area has been redistricted.

Relates to the compensation of election inspectors and coordinators.
A.1993 (Colton)/S.559 (Krueger) – Reported to Ways and Means

This bill would increase compensation for election inspectors, poll clerks, and election coordinators.

Relates to public-facing websites operated by political committees.
A.3415 (McDonald)/S.1030 (Gonzalez) – Chapter 595 of 2025

This law requires public-facing political websites, if paid for, hosted, and/or operated by a political committee, to feature a clearly displayed disclaimer of such. This law further amends the definition of "independent expenditure" to include public-facing websites.

Relates to New York State joining multistate voter list maintenance organizations.
A.3649-B (Taylor)/S.1356-A (Skoufis) – Chapter 630 of 2025

This law requires the SBOE to join the electronic registration information center (ERIC), and authorizes the SBOE to join other multistate voter list maintenance organizations.

Relates to requiring disclosure of social media posts that are paid for by a campaign.
A.3929-B (Dinowitz)/S.2437-A (Krueger) – Reported to Rules

This bill would require that social media posts made by individuals who are being paid by a campaign to make such social media posts on behalf of a particular candidate, election, ballot measure or other issue, include a disclosure identifying who paid for the post.

Relates to the voting rights of formally incarcerated individuals.
A.4423 (Dilan)/S.3791-A (Myrie) – Reported to Rules

This bill would clarify eligibility to apply for an absentee ballot for school board and town elections in relation to felony convictions.

Relates to the ability of judicial candidates for office be allowed to run as a candidate in another party's primary election.
A.5234 (Jacobson)/S.1102 (May) – Passed the Assembly

This bill would eliminate the current exemption to judicial candidates from being required to be an enrolled member of a party in order to run on that party's ballot line.

Relates to deadlines for special presidential ballot applications for military voters.
A.5507 (Simon)/No Same As – Reported to Rules

This bill would adjust certain deadlines for military ballots to facilitate military voting.

Relates to split shifts for election inspectors or poll clerks.
A.6138 (Glick)/S.1842 (Hovlman-Sigal) – Chapter 596 of 2025

This law aids in the recruitment of poll clerks by allowing for split shifts.

Relates to requiring state and county boards of elections to post sample ballots.
A.6741-A (Simone)/S.6253-A (Skoufis) – Passed the Assembly

This bill would require county boards of elections to transmit a sample ballot for all election districts within that county to the state board of elections. This bill would amend the time that sample ballots may be mailed to each eligible voter to three days before the first day of early voting and remove the alternative publishing in the local newspaper. This bill would further require that the state board of elections post, at least 12 days prior to the first day of early voting, a sample ballot for each election district in the state on the board's website in a secure and searchable database. It would also authorize county boards of elections to post sample ballots for all of the election districts in the county.

Relates to requiring the New York City Board to provide certain notices prior to a change of polling place.

A.7618-C (Lee)/S.4274-C (Kavanaugh) – Chapter 603 of 2025

This law requires the New York City Board of Elections to notify certain elected officials of a change to the location of a poll site within five days of the determination of that change.

Relates to changing party enrollment of certain voters.

A.7804 (Walker)/S.923 (Skoufis) – Veto Memo 77 of 2025

This bill would disenroll any voter who is currently enrolled in a party with "Independent" or "Independence" in the party name, as those words have been prohibited from being used in the name of a political party, and maintain their voter registration as “not affiliated” with any party.

Relates to permitting political parties to perform certain functions without forming county committees.

A.7862-A (Levenberg)/S.7111-A (Harckham) – Chapter 701 of 2025

This law provides that, in the absence of a county committee, a party’s state committee may elect a person to hold a hearing and make a determination on whether a voter’s registration with the party be cancelled due to the voter not being in sympathy with the principles of the party.

III. SFY 2025-2026 COMMITTEE BUDGET ACTION

The State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-2026 budget for the New York State Board of Elections provided for an all-funds appropriation of \$143.4 million, an increase of \$1 million over the Executive proposal. This appropriation included funds dedicated to the administration of the Doctor John L. Flateau New York Voting and Elections database, for the support of the Public Campaign Finance (PCF) Board staff, for the payment of matching grants to candidates participating in the PCF program and for the costs related to the elections held in 2025. This appropriation also reflects a federal appropriation to disburse federal grants in support of enhanced technology and security and supporting staff.

The State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-2026 budget also included language to allow candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor to be jointly designated or nominated for a primary election. It also included language to make various amendments to the Public campaign Finance program including to allow for a \$250 match for contributions up to \$1050 per covered elections; to allow candidates to carry over up to \$50,000 in surplus to the next election cycle and to adjust the timing of payments to candidates.

IV. Appendices

APPENDIX A

SUMMARY OF ACTION ON ALL BILLS

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON

Election Law

TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD 5

2025 SUMMARY SHEET

ASSEMBLY SENATE TOTAL

BILLS BILLS BILLS

BILLS REPORTED FAVORABLE TO:

Codes	2	0	2
Judiciary	0	0	0
Ways and Means	4	0	4
Rules	11	0	11
Floor	3	0	3
TOTAL	20	0	20

COMMITTEE ACTION

Held For Consideration	3	0	3
Defeated	0	0	0
Enacting Clause Stricken	0	0	0
REMAINING IN COMMITTEE	227	22	249

BILLS REFERENCE CHANGED TO:

Ways and Means

TOTAL	1	0	1
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APPENDIX B
2025 CHAPTERS

CHAPTER NUMBER	ASSEMBLY BILL (SPONSOR)	SENATE BILL (SPONSOR)	DESCRIPTION
103	A.5834 Walker	S.5101 Gonzalez	Relates to early voting for certain special elections.
105	A.1015 Jacobson	S.799 Mayer	Relates to permitting candidates for office to be employees of a board of elections.
106	A.438 Epstein	S.810 Myrie	Relates to notice of candidate designation.
109	A.1014 Simone	S.752 Hoylman- Sigal	Relates to ballot drop-off locations.
156	A.1241-A Simon	S.7281 Myrie	Relates to furnishing money or entertainment at poll sites.
577	A.1223 Bores	S.6996 Gonzalez	Relates to the dates to file a designating petition.
595	A.3415 McDonald	S.1030 Gonzalez	Relates to public-facing websites operated by political committees.
596	A.6138 Glick	S.1942 Holyman- Sigal	Relates to split shifts for election inspectors or poll clerks.
603	A.7618-C Lee	S.4274-C Kavanagh	Requires the board of elections in a city with a population of one million or more to provide certain notices prior to a change of polling place.
630	A.3649-B Taylor	S.1356-A Skoufis	Relates to joining multistate voter list maintenance organizations.
701	A.7862-A Levenberg	S.7111-A Harckham	Permits political parties to perform certain functions without forming county committees.