STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, McKenney, Tikoian, F. Lombardi, Euer, Ciccone, Sosnowski, DiPalma, Burke, and LaMountain

Date Introduced: February 01, 2023

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Secretary of State)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 17-9.1-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-9.1 entitled "Registration of Voters" is hereby amended to read as follows:


(a) Whenever any person registers to vote, that person may designate his or her party affiliation, or that person may designate that he or she is not affiliated with any political party. The information shall be recorded on a form prescribed by the state board of elections.

(b) Any person who is already registered to vote and wishes to designate his or her party affiliation may do so by submitting to that person’s local board of canvassers a form provided by the state board designating his or her party affiliation and certifying to the fact on the form furnished for that purpose.

(c) Whenever any person participates in a party primary, that act shall serve as identifying the person as being affiliated with the party in whose primary that person has participated and the local board shall record the affiliation on the appropriate form. For the purposes of this section, “participating in a party primary” does not include the circulation or signing of nomination papers.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
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1 This act would allow non-affiliated party voters to vote in party primaries, without
2 becoming an affiliated party voter.
3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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