

2012 -- H 7854

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- PROVISIONAL BALLOT REPORTING

Introduced By: Representatives Marcello, Handy, Edwards, Ajello, and Walsh

Date Introduced: February 28, 2012

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 17-19 of the General Laws entitled "Conduct of Election and
2 Voting Equipment, and Supplies" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **17-19-24.4. Provisional ballot reporting requirement.** – (a) The total number of
4 provisional ballots cast, by precinct, at every primary, special or general election, shall be
5 reported by each local board of canvassers to the state board of elections.

6 (b) The total number of provisional ballots cast at every primary, special and general
7 election that are filed because of the voter's failure to comply with the identification requirements
8 of subdivisions 17-19-24.2(a)(1) and 17-19-24.2(a)(2) shall be reported by precinct, by the local
9 board of canvassers to the state board of elections. Of those provisional ballots, the local board
10 shall identify the number of ballots that were accepted and the number that were rejected.

11 (c) Within ninety (90) days of each election, the state board of elections shall submit a
12 written report to the secretary of state, the speaker of the house of representatives and the
13 president of the senate, which shall summarize the provisional ballot data collection pursuant to
14 this section.

15 (d) The state board of elections shall promulgate regulations necessary to aid the
16 implementation of this reporting section.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require every local board of canvassers to report to the board of elections
2 the number of provisional ballots voted in each election, including the number of those accepted
3 and rejected, after problems with identification verification have been resolved. It would also
4 require the board of elections to submit written reports which summarize data concerning the
5 number of provisional ballots cast, counted and rejected.

6 This act would take effect upon passage.

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