

2021 -- S 0181

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- CONDUCT OF ELECTION AND VOTING EQUIPMENT
AND SUPPLIES

Introduced By: Senators Mack, Goldin, Valverde, Acosta, Kallman, Bell, Anderson,
Murray, Euer, and Miller

Date Introduced: February 05, 2021

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-19-24.2 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-19 entitled "Conduct
2 of Election and Voting Equipment, and Supplies" is hereby repealed.

3 ~~**17-19-24.2. Voter identification.**~~

4 ~~(a) Beginning on January 1, 2012, any person claiming to be a registered and eligible voter~~
5 ~~who desires to vote at a primary election, special election, or general election shall provide proof~~
6 ~~of identity. For purposes of this section, proof of identity shall be valid if unexpired or expired no~~
7 ~~more than six (6) months prior to voting, and shall include:~~

8 ~~(1) A valid and current document showing a photograph of the person to whom the~~
9 ~~document was issued, including without limitation:~~

10 ~~(i) Rhode Island driver's license;~~

11 ~~(ii) Rhode Island voter identification card;~~

12 ~~(iii) United States passport;~~

13 ~~(iv) Identification card issued by a United States educational institution;~~

14 ~~(v) United States military identification card;~~

15 ~~(vi) Identification card issued by the United States or the State of Rhode Island;~~

16 ~~(vii) Government issued medical card.~~

17 ~~(2) A valid and current document without a photograph of the person to whom the~~
18 ~~document was issued, including without limitation:~~

- 1 ~~(i) Birth certificate;~~
- 2 ~~(ii) Social security card;~~
- 3 ~~(iii) Government issued medical card.~~

4 ~~(b) From and after January 1, 2014, any person claiming to be a registered and eligible~~
5 ~~voter who desires to vote at a primary election, special election, or general election shall provide~~
6 ~~proof of identity listed in subsection (a)(1).~~

7 ~~(c) No later than January 1, 2012, Rhode Island voter identification cards will be issued~~
8 ~~upon request, and at no expense to the voters, at locations and in accordance with procedures~~
9 ~~established by rules and regulations promulgated by the secretary of state. The purpose of this~~
10 ~~section is to provide voter identification cards to those voters who do not possess the identification~~
11 ~~listed in subsection (a)(1).~~

12 ~~(d) If the person claiming to be a registered and eligible voter is unable to provide proof of~~
13 ~~identity as required in subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) above, the person claiming to be a registered~~
14 ~~voter shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot pursuant to § 17-19-24.3 upon completing a~~
15 ~~provisional ballot voter's certificate and affirmation. The local board shall determine the validity of~~
16 ~~the provisional ballot pursuant to § 17-19-24.3.~~

17 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 repeal the state voter identification law.
- 2 This act would take effect upon passage.

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