

CHAPTER 204

AN ACT concerning voter registration with the Motor Vehicle Commission and amending various parts of the statutory law.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

1. R.S.19:31-6 is amended to read as follows:

Registration places, time, requirements.

19:31-6. Any person qualified to vote in an election shall be entitled to vote in the election if the person shall have registered to vote on or before the 21st day preceding the election by:

- a. registering in person at any offices designated by the commissioner of registration for providing and receiving registration forms;

- b. completing a voter registration transaction, as processed by a county commissioner of registration, while applying for a motor vehicle driver's license from an agent of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, as provided for in section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2);

- c. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having returned thereto a voter registration form received from a voter registration agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 26 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.19:31-6.11), while applying for services or assistance or seeking a recertification, renewal, or change of address at an office of that agency;

- d. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a voter registration form obtained from a public agency, as defined in subsection a. of section 15 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.3);

- e. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or having returned thereto a voter registration form received from a door-to-door canvass or mobile registration drive, as provided for in section 19 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.7);

- f. completing and returning to the Secretary of State a federal mail voter registration form, as prescribed in subsection (b) of section 9 of the "National Voter Registration Act of 1993," (42 U.S.C. s. 1973gg et seq.);

- g. completing and returning to the Secretary of State or the appropriate county clerk an application for a federal postcard application form to register to vote, as permitted pursuant to the federal "Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act" 52 U.S.C. s.120301 et seq.) and section 4 of P.L.1976, c.23 (C.19:59-4);

- h. completing a provisional ballot affirmation statement and voting the provisional ballot in the previous election, if the person who submitted the provisional ballot in that election is determined not to be a registered voter; or

- i. completing and submitting an online voter registration form available on the Secretary of State's Internet website, as provided under section 1 of P.L.2019, c.382 (C.19:31-6.4c).

When the commissioner has designated a place or places other than his office for receiving registrations, the commissioner shall cause to be published a notice in a newspaper circulated in the municipality wherein such place or places of registration shall be located. Such notice shall be published pursuant to R.S.19:12-7.

Any office designated by the commissioner of registration for receiving registration forms shall have displayed, in a conspicuous location, registration and voting instructions. These instructions shall be the same as those provided for polling places under R.S.19:9-2 and shall be provided by the commissioner.

2. Section 17 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.5) is amended to read as follows:

C.19:31-6.5 Acceptance of registration, commissioner's duties.

17. a. Upon receipt of any completed registration form, the commissioner of registration shall review it, and, if it is found to be in order, shall:

(1) Send to the registrant written notification that such registrant is duly registered to vote. No registrant shall be considered a registered voter until the commissioner of registration reviews the application submitted by the registrant and deems it acceptable. On the face of such notification in the upper left-hand corner shall be printed the words: "Do Not Forward. Return Postage Guaranteed. If not delivered in 2 days, return to the Commissioner of Registration."

(2) In as timely a manner as possible, enter the information provided for the registrant on the completed registration form, or electronically transfer the information from an online voter registration form completed pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2019, c.382 (C.19:31-6.4c) or received electronically from the Motor Vehicle Commission pursuant to section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2), into the Statewide voter registration system established pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2005, c.145 (C.19:31-31).

(3) Paste, tape, or photocopy the completed registration form onto an original registration form and shall paste or tape a copy of such completed registration form onto a duplicate registration form, both of which shall be filed as provided in R.S.19:31-10. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude any commissioner of registration from keeping the original mail registration form on file.

(4) In the case of a registrant currently registered in another county of this State, notify the commissioner of registration of such other county to remove the individual's name from the registry list of voters of the county and place into an appropriate retention file all registration documents or material relating to that voter. The commissioner of registration of the current county of the registrant shall secure and maintain the entire voting history of that registrant.

b. The commissioner shall notify a registrant of the reasons for any refusal to approve his registration.

c. (Deleted by amendment, P.L.1994, c.182)

3. Section 4 of P.L.2018, c.6 (C.19:31-6.14) is amended to read as follows:

C.19:31-6.14 Procedures for automatic voter registration through State agencies which collect documents.

4. a. Any State agency, except for the Motor Vehicle Commission, that the Secretary of State verifies already collects sufficient information, including through documents or database verification, that would provide proof of eligibility, including age, citizenship, and residence address, may establish and implement, upon approval by the Secretary of State, a procedure for automatically and electronically transmitting voter registration information to the Secretary of State of persons who are eligible to vote for the purpose of registering such persons to vote or updating their voter registration. Each person from whom such information is collected shall be offered an opportunity to decline automatic voter registration. Any such agency and each county commissioner of registration shall comply with the requirements to the extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State, as established in subsections b. through d. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2).

b. Subject to compliance with all applicable federal and State laws, rules, directives, and regulations, the Department of Corrections, the Secretary of State, and the Motor Vehicle Commission shall coordinate to ensure that eligible individuals scheduled to be released from

incarceration imposed as a sentence for a crime and who are provided a non-driver identification card in anticipation of release pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2020, c.45 (C.30:1B-6.15) are also provided voter registration opportunities pursuant to section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) as part of the application for such non-driver identification card. An otherwise eligible individual shall not be processed for voter registration pursuant to this section unless the individual has identified a place of residence within the State where the individual will reside following the individual's release from incarceration. An otherwise eligible individual shall not be registered to vote pursuant to this section until the person's release from incarceration imposed as a sentence for a crime, and the notices and procedures required by section 24 of P.L. 1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) may be modified by the Secretary of State to allow for processing of registration information from an otherwise eligible person and to reflect that an otherwise eligible person shall not be registered to vote until the person's release from incarceration imposed as a sentence for a crime. In processing information received pursuant to this section, the Department of Corrections, the Chief Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Commission, and each county commissioner of registration shall comply with the requirements established in section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2), to the extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State, the Department of Corrections, and the county commissioners of registration shall coordinate to ensure that no person is registered to vote pursuant to this subsection until the person has been released from incarceration imposed as a sentence for a crime.

c. Any additional agencies that are designated for automatic voter registration pursuant to subsection a. of this section shall comply with the requirements, to the extent applicable as determined by the Secretary of State, as established in section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) for automatic voter registration and shall provide the notices required pursuant to subsection b. through d. of that section to each person from whom such information is collected.

4. R.S.19:31-11 is amended to read as follows:

Change of residence notice.

19:31-11. a. In all counties within the State, change of residence notices shall be made: (1) by a written request, signed by the registrant, forwarded to the commissioner by mail, and actually received by the commissioner; (2) by calling in person at the office of the commissioner or the municipal clerk; or (3) by completing and submitting a change of residence notice online as provided by the Secretary of State. Change of residence information shall also be received from the Motor Vehicle Commission and processed pursuant to subsection d. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) and from any State agency that has implemented procedures pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2018, c.6 (C.19:31-6.14). The commissioner shall provide change of residence notices in card form for the use of any registered voter moving to another address within the same election district, to another election district within the same county, or to another election district in another county for processing as provided under subsection c. of this section. Copies of these notices shall also be available at the office of the municipal clerk in each municipality. Each municipal clerk shall transmit daily to the commissioner all the filled out change of residence notices that may be in the municipal clerk's office at the time. These notices shall be printed upon cards, shall contain a blank form showing where the applicant last resided and the address and exact location to which the applicant has moved, and shall have a line for the applicant's signature, printed name, and date of birth. Upon receipt of such change of residence notice, the commissioner shall cause the signature to be compared with the registration forms of the applicant and, if such

signature appears to be of and by one and the same legal voter, the commissioner shall cause the entry of the change of residence to be made on those registration forms and the registrant shall thereupon be qualified to vote in the election district to which the registrant shall have so moved. If the commissioner is not satisfied as to the signature on the request for a change of residence, a confirmation notice as prescribed by subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15 shall be sent by mail with postage prepaid to the registrant at the new address.

The application for change of residence shall be filed with the commissioner or municipal clerk, as the case may be, on or before the 21st day preceding any election.

b. In any county, any voter who, prior to an election, shall move within the same county after the time above prescribed for filing an application for change of residence without having made application for change of residence, or who has not returned a confirmation notice sent to the voter by the commissioner of registration of the county, if such a notice has been sent to the voter, or who has not moved since the previous election but whose registration information is missing or otherwise deficient, or has otherwise failed to notify the commissioner of registration of the voter's change of address within the county, shall be permitted to vote in that election in the district to which the voter has moved upon making a written affirmation regarding the change of address at the polling place of the district in which the voter resides on the day of the election. No identifying document shall be required from the voter for this affirmation. A district board member shall provide the voter with a provisional ballot and an envelope with an affirmation statement that conforms with the requirements for such documents contained in subsection b. of section 7 of P.L.1999, c.232 (C.19:53C-1). The voter shall complete the provisional ballot and affirmation statement, place the ballot in the envelope, and seal and return it to the district board member. The board member shall review the information in the affirmation statement for completeness before forwarding it for inspection, tabulation, and notation by the county board of elections, as provided for by sections 7 through 26 of P.L.1999, c.232 (C.19:53C-1 through C.19:53C-20). The affirmation statement shall constitute a transfer to the registrant's new residence for any subsequent election. However, if the voter has moved from one residence to another within the same election district at any time, the voter shall be permitted to vote in such election district at any election in the same manner as other voters at the polling place upon written affirmation by the registrant to the district board member of the registrant's change of address.

c. A voter who moves from an election district in one county to an election district in another county prior to the close of registration preceding an election shall register in the new county of residence, in accordance with the provisions of R.S.19:31-6, or shall file a change of residence notice with the commissioner of either county or complete and submit that notice online as provided by the Secretary of State, or shall have their registration updated pursuant to subsection d. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) or by any State agency that has implemented procedures pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2018, c.6 (C.19:31-6.14), in order to be permitted to vote. A change of residence notice filed by a voter pursuant to this subsection shall cause the commissioners of the county of previous residence and the county of new residence to update the voter registration record of that voter. The commissioner of the county of new residence shall notify the voter by mail that the voter is now registered to vote in that county or, if the notice submitted by the voter is incomplete, to request any additional information or documentation necessary to finalize the change of residence notice. Nothing in this subsection shall be interpreted to waive the requirement specified under R.S.19:31-5 that the voter shall have been a resident of the county of new residence for at least 30 days prior to being eligible to vote in any election in that county.

5. R.S.19:31-13 is amended to read as follows:

Change in registration due to name change.

19:31-13. Whenever the registrant after his or her original registration shall change his or her name due to marriage, divorce, or by judgment of court, the registrant shall in person or by mail submit to the commissioner of registration a written statement notifying the commissioner of the change, which statement shall take such form, and be printed on a postal card suitable for mailing of such design, as the Attorney General shall prescribe and shall be signed by the registrant. A registrant may complete the form online as provided by the Secretary of State. Change of name information shall also be received from the Motor Vehicle Commission and processed pursuant to subsection d. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) and from any State agency that has implemented procedures pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2018, c.6 (C.19:31-6.14). The commissioner, upon receipt of such a notice of change of name, shall revise accordingly the name of the registrant as it appears among the items of information concerning the registrant included on the registrant's registration forms, shall make a photographic copy of the notice of name change submitted by the registrant, and shall affix the original notice so submitted to the registrant's original registration form and the photographic copy of that notice to the registrant's duplicate registration record.

When notice of such change in name has not been received by or filed with the commissioner prior to the 21st day preceding any election, such person may be permitted to vote under the name under which the person was registered prior to that change at the first election following such change in name at which the person shall appear to vote after signing the signature copy register with both the registered name and his or her new name. The commissioner shall then revise accordingly the name of the registrant as it appears on the registrant's registration forms, make a photographic copy of the notice, and affix the original and copy of the notice to the registrant's permanent registration forms as hereinabove prescribed.

6. Section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2) is amended to read as follows:

C.39:2-3.2 Cooperation by New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission to register voters.

24. a. The Secretary of State, with the assistance of the Chief Administrator of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, shall provide for an eligible applicant to simultaneously apply for a motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a probationary driver's license, or a non-driver identification card, as applicable, and be automatically registered to vote, or have an existing voter registration updated, in a manner which satisfies both the requirements necessary to receive a license to operate a motor vehicle, pursuant to R.S.39:3-10, or an examination permit, a probationary driver's license, or a non-driver identification card, as applicable, and to register to vote, pursuant to R.S.19:4-1. The applicant shall be offered an opportunity to decline the automatic voter registration under this section.

b. (1) Pursuant to subsection a. of this section, for every application for a REAL ID license or identification card, and each related update, renewal, or change of address, where, in the course of business with the Motor Vehicle Commission, the applicant provides or has provided documentation demonstrating United States citizenship, is determined to not already be registered to vote in the State of New Jersey in accordance with subsection g. of this section, and is of sufficient age to register to vote, the Chief Administrator shall promptly transmit electronically to the Secretary of State the applicant's:

- (a) name;
- (b) date of birth;
- (c) driver's license or state ID number;
- (d) residence address, and mailing address if different from the residence address;
- (e) county of residence;
- (f) information concerning the applicant's citizenship status;
- (g) signature as a digitized image;
- (h) telephone number, if available; and
- (i) e-mail address, if available.

The Chief Administrator shall not transmit information for any person who, at the time of an application for a REAL ID license or identification card or a related update, renewal, or change of address transaction for a REAL ID license or identification card with the Motor Vehicle Commission, provides a document that conclusively demonstrates that the person is not a United States citizen. Nothing in this section shall be construed to amend the substantive qualifications for voter registration in this State, or to require documentary proof of citizenship for voter registration, or to require the Motor Vehicle Commission to maintain or validate official records of voter registration. Nothing in this section shall be construed to authorize the Motor Vehicle Commission to request documentation establishing an applicant's citizenship solely for the purposes of voter registration.

(2) Upon receiving information pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection for a person who is not registered to vote in the State of New Jersey, is of sufficient age to register to vote, and has provided documentation demonstrating United States citizenship in the course of business with the Motor Vehicle Commission, unless the Secretary of State determines that the person is ineligible to register to vote or is a member of the Address Confidentiality Program pursuant to R.S.47:4-1, the Secretary of State shall transmit the person's information to the appropriate county commissioner of registration.

(3) Upon receiving information pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a county commissioner of registration shall proceed to register the person to vote pursuant to section 17 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.5) and send to the person's address of record, by nonforwardable mail, a notice that the person has been registered to vote that contains a postage paid preaddressed return form by which the person may affiliate with a political party or decline to be registered and request that their registration be removed from the Statewide voter registration system. Such notice shall also provide an option for the person to apply for and receive a mail-in ballot as provided under section 3 of P.L.2009, c.79 (C.19:63-3), until the voter requests otherwise. A notice mailed pursuant to this paragraph shall include an explanation of the eligibility requirements to register to vote. The notice shall also state the penalties for submission of a false application. A person shall not be registered to vote pursuant to this subsection until their information has been received and processed by a county commissioner of registration pursuant to section 17 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C.19:31-6.5), provided that such registration shall be deemed effective as of the date of the person's application with the Motor Vehicle Commission. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter the provisions of R.S.19:31-15.

(4) The notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection shall also include a statement that, if the person declines to register to vote and requests to have their registration removed from the Statewide voter registration system, the request will remain confidential unless required by other laws, regulations, or a lawful court order or subpoena and will be used only for election administration purposes under the provisions of Title 19 of the Revised Statutes. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter the provisions of R.S.19:31-15. The notice

shall also include a statement that, if a person does not decline registration, the office at which the person was registered will remain confidential and will be used only for election administration purposes.

(5) The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form of the notice required under paragraph (3) of this subsection. Such notice may be combined with the notice provided to newly registered voters pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 17 of P.L.1974, c.30 (C:19:31-6.5). The notice shall include the required information in English and Spanish, as well any additional language which is the primary language of five percent or more of the registered voters in the county where the notice is mailed.

(6) If a person returns the notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection by declining to be registered and requesting to have their registration removed from the Statewide voter registration system, the county commissioner of registration shall remove the person's voter registration from the Statewide voter registration system, and the person shall be deemed to have never registered. However, if the person has voted in an election after the transfer of the person's record but before the notice is returned, the returned form shall be of no force and effect and the person shall be registered as of the date of the person's application with the Motor Vehicle Commission. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to alter the provisions of R.S.19:31-15.

(7) If a person returns the notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection and affiliates with a political party, the person shall be registered to vote as of the date of the person's application with the Motor Vehicle Commission and the person's affiliation shall be marked effective as of the date the affiliation information is received.

(8) If the person returns the notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection but does not select any options or provide any new information, the form shall be of no force and effect, and the person shall remain registered to vote.

(9) If a notice provided under paragraph (3) of this subsection is returned as undeliverable, the county commissioner of registration shall send the person a confirmation notice pursuant to subsection d. of R.S.19:31-15.

(10) Information relating to the return of a notice form declining to be registered shall not be used for any purpose other than as described under paragraph (4) of this subsection. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit, or in any way restrict, any action where such prohibition or restriction would be contrary to federal law. However, documents, records, or information relating to an individual person's decision declining to be registered shall not be disclosed for any purpose related to Title 8 of the United States Code without the person's informed consent, a warrant signed by a State or federal judge, or a lawful court order or subpoena.

c. (1) Pursuant to subsection a. of this section, for every application for a standard motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a standard probationary driver's license, or a standard non-driver identification card, and each related update, renewal, or change of address, by a person who is determined to not already be registered to vote in the State of New Jersey in accordance with subsection g. of this section, except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, the Chief Administrator shall ensure that the information necessary for voter registration is collected from the application and promptly transmitted electronically to the Secretary of State if the applicant selects the option to register to vote. Such application shall require an applicant to either affirmatively select or affirmatively decline voter registration as a necessary condition to complete the application. The Chief Administrator shall ensure that electronic records are not transmitted to the Secretary of State for any applicant who has declined registration under this subsection. Upon receiving information pursuant to this

section, the Secretary of State shall transmit the person's information to the appropriate county commissioner of registration. The Commissioner of Registration shall register to vote any eligible applicant who has selected voter registration under this subsection.

(2) Voter registration information from an application received online for the renewal of a motor vehicle driver's license or non-driver identification card shall be collected and promptly transmitted electronically to the Secretary of State upon the implementation by the Secretary of State of online voter registration. Subsection c. of this section shall be inapplicable to such applications until that time.

(3) Voter registration information from an application received through the mail for the renewal of a motor vehicle driver's license or non-driver identification card shall be exempt from collection and electronic transmission to the Secretary of State until such time as the Chief Administrator determines that the prompt electronic transmission of the information is practicable. Paragraph (4) of this subsection shall be inapplicable to such applications until that time. Following the effective date of P.L.2018, c.6, the Chief Administrator shall inform the Governor and the Legislature every six months of the practicability of collecting and transmitting to the Secretary of State voter registration information from such applications. This paragraph shall not be construed to preclude the Motor Vehicle Commission from processing voter registration applications received in the manner in which such applications were processed in connection with such renewals prior to the effective date of P.L.2018, c.6.

(4) The Chief Administrator shall provide for the following notices to be provided with every application for a standard motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a standard probationary driver's license, or a standard non-driver identification card and every related update, renewal, or change of address conducted pursuant to subsection c. of this section:

(a) a notice requiring the applicant to either affirmatively select or affirmatively decline voter registration as a necessary condition to complete the application;

(b) a notice of the voter eligibility requirements under R.S.19:4-1 and the penalties for false registration and illegal voting under Title 19 of the Revised Statutes, which notice shall contain an affirmation that the applicant meets each such requirement and shall require the signature of the applicant, under penalty of law; and

(c) a notice that an applicant who is a victim of domestic violence or stalking may decline the automatic voter registration and register to vote without disclosing the applicant's street address pursuant to section 1 of P.L.1994, c.148 (C.19:31-3.2).

d. (1) For every application for a motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a probationary driver's license, or a non-driver identification card, and each related update, renewal, or change of address, by an applicant who is determined to already be registered to vote in the State of New Jersey pursuant to subsection g. of this section, the Chief Administrator shall promptly transmit electronically to the Secretary of State information regarding the applicant's name and address for the purpose of maintaining current information on the applicant.

(2) Any change of address notification received by the Chief Administrator in paper format shall be reported to the Secretary of State no later than the 10th day following its receipt by the Chief Administrator.

(3) For any information received from the Chief Administrator pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection d. of this section for an applicant who is already registered to vote in the State of New Jersey, and that indicates a different name or address from that on the person's voter registration record, the Secretary of State shall transmit change of address and change of name information for the person to the appropriate commissioner of registration. The Commissioner of Registration in the applicant's county of residence shall use the change of address or change

of name notification to update an existing voter registration, transfer the person's registration file if inactive to the active file, and send to the person's address of record, by forwardable mail, notice of the change and a postage paid preaddressed return form by which the person may verify or correct the information. If the person returns the notice and indicates that the change to the person's registration record was an error, the appropriate county commissioners of registration, including the commissioner of the previous county of residence, shall immediately correct the person's previously updated information in the Statewide Voter Registration System. A change of address notification submitted to the commission, which is used for voter registration purposes, shall be subject to the provisions of section 1 of P.L.1994, c.148 (C.19:31-3.2) if the person submitting the change of address notification previously registered to vote in accordance with that section.

e. If a person who is not entitled to vote becomes registered to vote pursuant to this section, that person's registration shall be presumed to have been effected with official authorization, and the person shall not be deemed to have committed a crime under R.S.19:34-1. This subsection shall not apply to a person who knowingly and willfully makes a false statement to effectuate voter registration.

f. The Secretary of State, with the assistance of the Chief Administrator, shall take appropriate measures to educate the public about voter registration under this section.

g. The Secretary of State and the Chief Administrator shall jointly develop a process by which the Motor Vehicle Commission, upon obtaining a person's full name, date of birth, driver's license or state identification number, residence address, and mailing address if different from residence address, may use information from the statewide voter registration system to determine whether the person is already registered to vote in the state.

For the purposes of this section, "eligible applicant" means a person submitting to the commission an application for a motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a probationary driver's license, or a non-driver identification card who meets all requirements for eligibility to vote under R.S.19:4-1.

7. Section 23 of P.L.1994, s.182 (C.39:3-10m) is amended to read as follows:

C.39:3-10m Applicants for license, other documents; voter registration.

23. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary, each applicant, who meets all requirements for eligibility to vote, for a State motor vehicle driver's license, an examination permit, a probationary driver's license, or a non-driver identification card application, including any application for a renewal or update thereof, except as provided in paragraph (1) of subsection b. of section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2), submitted to an agent of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission, shall be offered an opportunity to decline the automatic voter registration as provided pursuant to section 24 of P.L.1994, c.182 (C.39:2-3.2).

8. The Secretary of State may promulgate any guidelines or regulations necessary to effectuate the purposes of P.L.2025, c.204, which regulations shall be effective immediately upon filing with the Office of Administrative Law for a period not to exceed 18 months, and shall, thereafter, be amended, adopted, or readopted in accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.).

9. This act shall take effect two years after the date of enactment, except that the Secretary of State may take any anticipatory administrative action in advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

Approved January 12, 2026.