

2018 -- H 8272

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LC005827  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2018

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

Introduced By: Representatives Edwards, and Canario

Date Introduced: June 01, 2018

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 17-1-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-1 entitled "General  
2 Provisions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **17-1-3. Eligibility to vote.**

4           (a) Every citizen of the United States who is at least eighteen (18) years of age, whose  
5 residence as defined in § 17-1-3.1 has been in this state for at least thirty (30) days, and in the  
6 town or city and voting district in which that person desires to cast his or her vote at least thirty  
7 (30) days next preceding the election, and who is registered in that city or town and voting district  
8 at least thirty (30) days next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote in the election;  
9 provided, a person may vote in a primary election only if that person is eligible under the  
10 provisions of this title.

11           (b) A person who has not registered to vote, or whose registration has been canceled  
12 pursuant to § 17-10-1, may cast a vote for president and vice-president on election day at his or  
13 her city or town hall or at an alternate location designated by the board of canvassers, and  
14 approved by the board of elections, where such location is deemed necessary to better  
15 accommodate such voters. The casting of that vote shall commence the process of voter  
16 registration and subject the person voting to the requirements and penalties of this chapter.

17           (c) "Election" as used in this section is intended to, and shall, include, in addition to  
18 general and special elections, primary elections and referenda, any annual or special financial  
19 meeting of a municipality or legislatively created taxing district at which the residents of that

1 [municipality or district are entitled to vote.](#)

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

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
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RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- GENERAL PROVISIONS

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- 1           This act would clarify the application of elections law to financial town or district
- 2 meetings.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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