

2019 -- S 0611

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

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

Introduced By: Senators Metts, Cano, Crowley, Quezada, and DiPalma

Date Introduced: March 14, 2019

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Board of Elections)

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 amended to read as follows:

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

4 (a) Beginning on January 1, 2012, 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. For purposes of this section, proof of identity shall [be valid if unexpired or](#)
7 [expired no 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 subdivisions (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
11 identification listed in subdivision (a)(1).

12 (d) If the person claiming to be a registered and eligible voter is unable to provide proof
13 of identity as required in subdivisions (1) and (2) above, the person claiming to be a registered
14 voter shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot pursuant to § 17-19-24.2 upon completing a
15 provisional ballot voter's certificate and affirmation. The local board shall determine the validity
16 of 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 provide that a voter may use proof of identity which expired no more than
- 2 six (6) months prior to voting.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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