

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 267 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY HANBIDGE, KHAN, GIRAL, SCHLOSSBERG, SANCHEZ,  
HOWARD, HILL-EVANS, OTTEN, CERRATO AND GREEN,  
JANUARY 22, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 22, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled  
2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,  
3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,  
4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating  
5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;  
6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,  
7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;  
8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,  
9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and  
10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to  
11 elections," in preparation for and conduct of primaries and  
12 elections, further providing for assistance in voting.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Section 1218 of the act of June 3, 1937  
16 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is  
17 amended to read:

18 Section 1218. Assistance in Voting.--

19 (a) [No] Except as provided under subsection (a.1), no voter  
20 shall be permitted to receive any assistance in voting at any  
21 [primary or] election, unless there is recorded upon his  
22 registration card his declaration that, by reason of blindness,

1 disability, or inability to read or write, he is unable to read  
2 the names on the ballot or on the voting machine labels, or that  
3 he has a physical disability which renders him unable to see or  
4 mark the ballot or operate the voting machine, or to enter the  
5 voting compartment or voting machine booth without assistance,  
6 the exact nature of such condition being recorded on such  
7 registration card[, and unless the election officers are  
8 satisfied that he still suffers from the same condition].

9 (a.1) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of this act or any  
10 other law or regulation to the contrary, a voter who, due to  
11 blindness, disease or other disability, is physically unable to  
12 enter a polling place where ballots or an electronic voting  
13 system are used at any election may vote without leaving a motor  
14 vehicle.

15 (2) The regular voting procedures may be modified by the  
16 election officer to the extent necessary to conduct voting under  
17 this subsection.

18 (3) If the exact nature of the voter's disability or  
19 condition is not recorded on the voter's registration card, the  
20 voter may provide evidence of a disability or condition in  
21 accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary of the  
22 Commonwealth.

23 (4) At least two election officers who are members of  
24 different major political parties shall assist the voter by  
25 providing the necessary ballots at the polling place entrance or  
26 curb, as the case may be.

27 (5) After the voter is accepted for voting, the voter shall  
28 mark the ballot and give it to the election officers who shall  
29 deposit it in the ballot box. The voter may request additional  
30 assistance as provided under subsection (a).

1     (6) On the voter's request, a person accompanying the voter  
2 shall be permitted to select the voter's ballot and deposit the  
3 ballot in the ballot box or enter the voting compartment or  
4 voting machine booth in accordance with subsection (b).

5     (b) Any elector who is entitled to receive assistance in  
6 voting under the provisions of this section shall be permitted  
7 by the judge of election to select a person of the elector's  
8 choice to enter the voting compartment or voting machine booth  
9 with him to assist him in voting, such assistance to be rendered  
10 inside the voting compartment or voting machine booth except  
11 that the judge of election, a candidate for election, the  
12 elector's employer or an agent of the employer or an officer or  
13 agent of the elector's union shall not be eligible to assist the  
14 elector.

15     (c) In every case of assistance under the provisions of this  
16 section, the judge of election shall forthwith enter in writing  
17 in a book to be furnished by the county board of elections, to  
18 be known as the record of assisted voters--(1) the voter's name;  
19 (2) a statement of the facts which entitle him to receive  
20 assistance; and (3) the name of the person furnishing the  
21 assistance. The record of assisted voters shall be returned by  
22 the judge of election to the county board of elections with the  
23 other papers, as hereinafter provided, and said county board  
24 shall permit the same to be examined only upon the written order  
25 of a judge of the court of common pleas: Provided, however, That  
26 such record shall be subject to subpoena to the same extent to  
27 which other election records may be subpoenaed: And provided  
28 further, That the county election board shall permit any  
29 registration commission to examine any records of assisted  
30 voters without a court order, in order that the registration

1 commission may ascertain whether electors, who have declared, at  
2 the time of registration, their need for assistance, actually  
3 did receive assistance when voting at any election.

4 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.