

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1158 Session of
2025

INTRODUCED BY FINK, HAMM, KAUFFMAN, BERNSTINE, GLEIM, STAATS AND
ANDERSON, APRIL 7, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, APRIL 7, 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 preliminary provisions, providing for
12 designation of Election Day as legal holiday; and, in
13 election districts and polling places, further providing for
14 public buildings to be used where possible and portable
15 polling places.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 Section 1. The act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known
19 as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is amended by adding a
20 section to read:

21 Section 108. Designation of Election Day as Legal Holiday.--
22 The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, known as
23 Election Day, is designated a legal holiday in this
24 Commonwealth.

1 Section 2. Section 527(a) of the act is amended to read:

2 Section 527. Public Buildings to Be Used Where Possible;

3 Portable Polling Places.--(a) In selecting polling places, the

4 county board of elections shall, wherever possible and

5 practicable, select schoolhouses, municipal buildings or rooms,

6 or other public buildings for that purpose. Any board of public

7 education or school directors, or county or the municipal

8 authorities shall[, upon request of the county board,] make

9 arrangements for the use of school property, or of county or

10 municipal property for polling places. In selecting polling

11 places, the county board of elections shall make every effort to

12 select polling places that provide all electors with an

13 environment that is free from intimidation and violence.

14 In the event no available public building as contemplated

15 under this section is situated within the boundaries of any

16 election district, the county board of elections may, not less

17 than twenty days prior to any election, designate as the polling

18 place for such election district any such public building

19 situated in another election district within the same or

20 immediately adjacent ward, or, if there are no wards, then

21 within the same borough or township as the case may be, provided

22 such other building is located in an election district which is

23 immediately adjacent to the boundary of the election district

24 for which it is to be the polling place and is directly

25 accessible therefrom by public street or thoroughfare. Two or

26 more polling places may be located in the same public building

27 under this section. A polling place may be selected and

28 designated hereunder less than twenty days prior to any

29 election, with the approval of a court of competent

30 jurisdiction.

1 * * *

2 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.