

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 37 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY CONKLIN, VENKAT, RABB, SANCHEZ, KINKEAD, PIELLI, HANBIDGE, HILL-EVANS, CIRESI, HADDOCK, SCHLOSSBERG, FRANKEL, KHAN, FIEDLER, HARKINS, SHUSTERMAN, FREEMAN, WARREN, FLEMING AND GREEN, JANUARY 10, 2025

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, APRIL 14, 2026

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 voting by qualified absentee electors, further
12 providing for canvassing of official absentee ballots and
13 mail-in ballots; and, in Election Integrity Grant Program,
14 further providing for funding for elections.

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

17 Section 1. Sections 1308(g)(1.1) and 1602-A(j)(1) of the act
18 of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania
19 Election Code, are amended to read:

20 Section 1308. Canvassing of Official Absentee Ballots and
21 Mail-in Ballots.--* * *

22 (g) * * *

1 (1.1) The county board of elections shall meet no earlier
2 than [seven o'clock A.M. on] seven (7) days prior to election
3 day to pre-canvass all ballots received prior to the meeting. A
4 county board of elections shall provide at least forty-eight
5 hours' notice of a pre-canvass meeting by publicly posting a
6 notice of a pre-canvass meeting on its publicly accessible
7 Internet website. One authorized representative of each
8 candidate in an election and one representative from each
9 political party shall be permitted to remain in the room in
10 which the absentee ballots and mail-in ballots are pre-
11 canvassed. No person observing, attending or participating in a
12 pre-canvass meeting may disclose the results of any portion of
13 any pre-canvass meeting prior to the close of the polls.

14 * * *

15 Section 1602-A. Funding for elections.

16 * * *

17 (j) Grant agreement.--The grant agreement between the
18 department and the county under this section shall include the
19 following requirements for counties:

20 †(1) The county shall begin pre-canvassing [at] NO LATER <--
21 THAN 7 a.m. on election day and shall continue without
22 interruption FROM 7 A.M. ON ELECTION DAY until each mail-in <--
23 ballot and absentee ballot TIMELY received [by 7 a.m. on <--
24 election day is pre-canvassed.] IS PRE-CANVASSED. <--

25 * * *

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