



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5705

LCO No. 2303

Referred to Committee on Government Administration and Elections

Introduced by:
(GAE)

AN ACT CONCERNING A VOTER GUIDE FOR STATE ELECTIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2003*) (a) Not later than October
2 first in each year in which a state election, as defined in section 9-1 of
3 the general statutes, is to be held, the Secretary of the State, in
4 consultation with the State Elections Enforcement Commission, shall
5 prepare and publish on the Internet a voter guide for such state
6 election.

7 (b) The voter guide shall contain:

8 (1) Photographs and campaign statements submitted by candidates
9 who are nominated or qualify as petitioning candidates for election to
10 the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State
11 Treasurer, State Comptroller, Secretary of the State, State Senator or
12 State Representative at the state election;

13 (2) Maps showing the boundaries of General Assembly senatorial
14 and assembly districts and congressional districts;

- 15 (3) A description of each office to be filled at the state election;
- 16 (4) An absentee ballot application in printable format;
- 17 (5) Instructions regarding voting by absentee ballot;
- 18 (6) Information on the procedure for registering to vote;
- 19 (7) A voter registration application in printable format;
- 20 (8) The full text of each proposed constitutional amendment that
21 will appear on the ballot at the state election; and
- 22 (9) The explanatory text as to the content and purpose of each such
23 proposed constitutional amendment, which is prepared by the Office
24 of Legislative Research pursuant to section 2-30a of the general
25 statutes.
- 26 (c) Not later than one week after the date on which nominating
27 primaries are required to be held under section 9-423 of the general
28 statutes for offices to be filled at a state election, each candidate
29 described in subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section may file
30 with the Secretary of the State a photograph of the candidate,
31 biographical information and a statement advocating the candidate's
32 candidacy.
- 33 (d) Each such candidate shall have the equivalent of one printed
34 page of space in the Internet voter guide for such photograph,
35 biographical information and statement. Each such candidate's page
36 shall contain the statement, "Photograph, Information and Statement
37 Provided by the Candidate." Each candidate's biographical
38 information shall consist of not more than one hundred fifty words
39 and each candidate's advocacy statement shall contain not more than
40 two hundred fifty words. All photographs of candidates in the voter
41 guide shall be of uniform size and shall have been taken within five
42 years of the year of the state election.

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| This act shall take effect as follows: | |
| Section 1 | January 1, 2003 |

Statement of Purpose:

To make information about state elections available to the public through the Internet.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]