General Assembly

Proposed Bill No. 653

January Session, 2025

LCO No. **638**

Referred to Committee on GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS

Introduced by:
SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist.
REP. MASTROFRANCESCO, 80th Dist.
REP. DAUPHINAIS, 44th Dist.

AN ACT CONCERNING UNSOLICITED PROVISION OF ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATIONS, AUDITS OF SAME-DAY ELECTION REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE VOTING, FREE-OF-CHARGE PHOTO IDENTIFICATION FOR VOTING PURPOSES, MANDATORY MINIMUMS FOR ELECTION CRIMES AND SIGNATURE VERIFICATION FOR ABSENTEE VOTING.

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

That title 9 of the general statutes be amended to (1) prohibit the unsolicited mailing, delivery or other provision of absentee ballot applications; (2) require the audit of same-day election registrations and subsequent confirmation notices of such registrations; (3) require registrars of voters to verify that any elector who votes by absentee ballot actually resides at the address associated with such elector's absentee ballot application and absentee ballot; (4) (A) require photo identification for voting in person or by absentee ballot, (B) afford electors means of obtaining, free of charge, such photo identification for purposes of so voting, and (C) afford electors means of obtaining from

public libraries, free of charge, a photocopy of such photo identification for purposes of so voting by absentee ballot, the costs of which are to be reimbursable by the State Treasurer; (5) impose mandatory minimum sentences for certain felony violations of election laws; and (6) require the Secretary of the State to develop and implement a process for verifying the signatures upon returned absentee ballots against the signatures upon the corresponding absentee ballot applications.

Statement of Purpose:

To implement multiple revisions to the election laws relating to absentee voting, same-day election registration, in-person voting and criminal penalties.