

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
OF
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania General Assembly recently enacted and Governor Wolf signed into law legislation known as Act 12 of 2020 that rescheduled the 2020 Primary Election to June 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Act 12 also authorizes counties, among other things, to consolidate up to 60% of its polling place locations without court approval and to obtain approval from the Department of State to further consolidate polling place locations in excess of 60% based upon necessitous circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County currently has 1323 polling place locations; and

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Board of Elections finds as follows:

A large majority of the members of the local election boards within Allegheny County are senior citizens, the segment of the population most susceptible to the COVID-19 virus. Due to their fear of being exposed to the virus, many members of the local election boards have stated either that they will not serve or are reluctant to serve on Primary Election Day. Accordingly, there is a strong likelihood that many local polling districts will not have local election board members sufficient to properly conduct the June 2 Primary Election; and

Many owners and operators of polling place locations also have indicated that they will not permit local boards of election to operate out of their building due to concerns regarding exposure to and contamination from the COVID-19 virus; and

The County has undertaken extraordinary efforts, including unprecedented marketing efforts, to urge voters to participate in the June 2 Primary Election by utilizing the available mail-in ballot option.

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Board of Elections is of the considered opinion that a consolidation of polling place locations within Allegheny County by

an amount greater than the 60% authorized by Act 12 is warranted based upon these findings.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Elections of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, acting a duly authorized public meeting, hereby resolves as follows:

1. In order to make in-person voting as efficient as possible, Allegheny County respectfully requests that the Department of State authorize the County to proceed with a consolidation of its polling places beyond the 60% limit allowed in Act 12 for the June 2, 2020 Primary Election only based upon the following plan:

a. One polling place for each of the County's 129 municipalities except for the City of Pittsburgh. Each polling place in a municipality shall be located, if possible, at the respective municipal building.

b. One polling place located in each of the City of Pittsburgh's nine council districts. Each polling place within the City of Pittsburgh shall be located, if possible, at a City or County owned or operated building or facility.

c. The number of polling places indicated above may be modified as is deemed necessary by the Manager of the County's Elections Division to maximize the safety and efficiency of the electoral process and voter participation.

d. The County Elections Division is directed to take steps to ensure that all polling place locations are accessible and compliant with all applicable laws. If the County Elections Division determined that a municipal building or facility is not suitable for use as a polling place location, then the Elections Division shall determine and secure a suitable alternative location within that municipality.

2. The authorized representatives of the Allegheny County Board of Elections are hereby directed to immediately transmit this Resolution and all necessary accompanying information to the Pennsylvania Department of State to obtain all required approvals as required by law.

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this _____ day of __ April 2020.

ATTEST:

**ALLEGHENY COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

Assistant County Solicitor

Chairperson