

Election Law Reform

Issue	Description	Bill Numbers
Early Voting	The League supports enacting early voting in New York State. Currently 37 states allow for some form of early voting. Early voting should be implemented in a manner that will allow equivalent access to the polls for all voters.	S.7400A (Kavanagh) Relates to establishing early voting and the New York state early voting fund
Voter Registration	The League supports Election Day registration, on the same day, as a proven method of increasing voter participation. The League supports reducing the voter registration deadline to 10 days before an election. The League supports pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds.	A.9609 (Lavine) / S.1661 (Carlucci) Allows for pre-registration of 16 and 17 year olds. S.2478A (Gianaris) Amends Constitution to remove requirement of registering to vote 10 days before an election.
Automatic Voter Registration	Currently 10 states and DC have automatic voter registration (AVR) The League supports an opt-in AVR system that would not require voters to duplicate information. The League supports all state agencies participating in an AVR program.	S.3304A (Gianaris) Enacts the "voter empowerment act of New York" to streamline the process for registering to vote. Allows state agencies to automatically register voters.
No-Excuse Absentee	The League supports a constitutional amendment to allow for no-excuse absentee voting. Currently 27 states and the District of Columbia allow for no-excuse absentee voting.	 A. 7623 (Vanel) / S.0840 (Comrie) Amends the State Constitution to authorize ballot by mail by removing cause for absentee ballot voting.
Ballot Design	The League supports improvements to ballot design that would make have a clear delineation between offices with a bold vertical bar between offices and a fine line between the candidates, a larger font with an absolute minimum size, and fill-in circles in black instead of gray.	S.1512 (Avella) Creates the Voter Friendly Ballot Act which would create a ballot layout that is easy for voters to read and use.
Single June Primary	The League supports legislation that would create a single combined congressional and state June primary date and would bring New York State into compliance with the Military Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act.	 A.9925 (Lavine)/ S.3562 (Stewart-Cousins) Allows for the consolidation of state and congressional primaries to create a single June primary.
Electronic Poll Books	The League strongly supports replacing printed poll books with electronic poll books to eliminate time and resources spent producing paper poll books and updating voter information, and to speed up processing voters at the polls on Election Day.	A.5547 (Cusick)/S.2788 (Akshar) Authorizes counties to employ computer generated registration lists; updates the list of supplies to be delivered to poll sites.