

Poll Manager's Handbook Supplement – May 2022

Legislation enacted in May has changed a few rules for election day polling places. Use this supplement along with the April 2022 edition of the Poll Manager's Handbook.

New for the June Primaries:

- Absentee Ballot Issued: Options for voters have changed
- Campaign Material: Prohibition extended to 500 feet
- Some election crimes are now felonies, must post sign "Voting more than once is a felony"
- Voter education: Must provide information about early voting and absentee changes
- New EPB procedures for opening polls and selecting voter's primary

Absentee Ballot Issued (p.31)

- A voter's options now depend on whether their absentee ballot was issued or returned.
- Absentee Issued or Absentee Returned will be shown on the EPB screen.
- Before proceeding, double-check that the correct record is selected on the EPB.

Absentee Issued (but not returned):

- Voter votes a provisional ballot. This ballot will count if the voter has not returned an absentee ballot and is otherwise qualified.
- On the provisional ballot envelope, complete the Voter Information Section and Section B, Voter Qualification Challenge, checking the box "Issued an absentee ballot."
- It is no longer necessary to select the box next to the question "Did voter receive ballot?"
- Continue with "Voting a Provisional Ballot" section of the Poll Manager's Handbook (p.33).

Absentee Returned:

- First inform voter, "You have already voted absentee and are not eligible to vote again."
- If voter says they did not return an absentee ballot, inform voter that attempting to vote twice is a felony. If the voter insists the record is not correct, allow voter to vote a provisional ballot. The county board will determine the issue at the provisional ballot hearing.

Paper Voter Registration List (p.48)

If you must use the paper voter registration list in an emergency, be aware of two changes:

- To determine whether an absentee ballot was issued or returned, you will have to use a separate absentee voter list provided by the county office. The paper list will only show "ABS."
- No "D" or "R" ballot style indicator will appear on the paper list.
 - For example, the paper list will show "B001."
 - On the BMD, choose the style based on the voter's primary choice that corresponds with the ballot style number on the list.
 - Example: Paper list shows ballot style B001, and voter is voting in the Democratic Primary. On the BMD, choose D001.

Campaign Literature at Polls (p. 40)

On election day, it is unlawful for any person to distribute or display any type of campaign literature or place any political posters **within 500 feet** of any entrance used by voters (previously 200 feet).

Candidates may campaign verbally **within 500 feet** of the entrance to the polling place if it does not interfere with the election process.

The county office will provide a poster stating the limit has been expanded to 500 feet.

Felony Charges for Election Misconduct

The General Assembly has upgraded some election crimes to felonies and increased the penalties.

- Fraudulent voting or attempt to fraudulently vote, aiding in fraudulent voting or attempt to fraudulently vote, voting more than once, or impersonating a voter.
 - Penalty: Felony, up to \$5,000 fine and 5 years prison.

The county office will provide a poster stating “VOTING MORE THAN ONCE IS A FELONY...” You must display the poster in the polling place.

- Willful violation of duties by a poll manager.
 - Penalty: Felony, up to \$5,000 fine and 5 years prison.
- Fraud or corruption by a poll manager in the management of an election.
 - Penalty: Felony, up to \$5,000 fine and 5 years prison.
- Willful neglect of duties or corruption in conduct of duties by any election official.
 - Penalty: Felony, up to \$5,000 fine and 5 years prison.
- Accepting anything of value in exchange for requesting, collecting, or delivering an absentee ballot.
 - Penalty: Felony, up to \$5,000 fine and 5 years prison.

Voter Education

Poll managers must provide information and be prepared to answer questions concerning changes in recent legislation. The changes that have the most direct effect on voters are early voting and changes to the rules for voting absentee by mail. Poll managers will be provided a fact sheet to distribute to voters that will also serve as a guide to answering questions.

New EPB Procedures (p.7 & p.20)

Opening the Polls on the EPB

If your EPB is not preset for your polling place, you will need to select “Election Day” on the screen (not “Early Vote”). Search for and select your location.

Selecting Voter’s Primary

During the sign-in process, you will ask each voter, “In which party’s primary do you wish to vote today?” After the voter signs the oath, a screen will pop up with two options for each party, one for early voting and one for election day. (Ex: Democratic election day, Democratic early voting). On election day, it is very important that you choose the “election day” option as the BMD will not read a ballot that is coded for early voting.