



97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2011 and 2012

SB3812

Introduced 2/10/2012, by Sen. Don Harmon

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/4-50
10 ILCS 5/5-50
10 ILCS 5/6-100

Amends the Election Code. Provides that nursing homes shall be designated grace period registration sites for nursing home residents. Provides that a deputy registrar employed by each nursing home shall be designated to conduct all grace period registrations and address changes for that nursing home in the absence of an employee of the election authority. Effective immediately.

LRB097 16976 PJG 62167 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT
MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 4-50, 5-50, and 6-100 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/4-50)

7 Sec. 4-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other
8 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority
9 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and
10 for change of address during the period from the close of
11 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day
12 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an
13 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a
14 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person
15 in the office of the election authority or at a voter
16 registration location specifically designated for this purpose
17 by the election authority. The election authority shall
18 register that individual, or change a registered voter's
19 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this
20 Article for registration and change of address. To provide
21 nursing home residents an equal opportunity to exercise their
22 right to vote, each nursing home shall be designated a grace
23 period registration site solely for purposes of registering and

1 completing address changes for residents of that nursing home.
2 A deputy registrar employed by each nursing home shall be
3 designated to conduct all grace period registrations and
4 address changes for that nursing home in the absence of an
5 employee of the election authority. Upon completion of a grace
6 period registration or address change, the deputy registrar
7 shall deliver to the election authority within 24 hours all
8 completed forms, and the election authority receiving the forms
9 shall add the names of residents who have completed the forms
10 to the list of residents entitled to vote during the regular
11 nursing home voting period.

12 If a voter who registers or changes address during this
13 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary
14 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace
15 period voting, either in person in the office of the election
16 authority or at a location specifically designated for this
17 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the
18 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall
19 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article
20 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address
21 during the grace period shall be permitted to vote during the
22 regular nursing home voting period and shall not be required to
23 have submitted an absentee ballot request in advance.

24 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,
25 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street
26 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as

1 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall
2 maintain those names and that information in an electronic
3 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to
4 State and local political committees. The name of each person
5 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the
6 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early
7 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9
8 and 18-5.

9 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be
10 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with
11 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons
12 who register or change address during the grace period must be
13 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central
14 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and
15 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots
16 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for
17 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which
18 the ballots were opened.

19 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

20 (10 ILCS 5/5-50)

21 Sec. 5-50. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other
22 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority
23 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and
24 for change of address during the period from the close of
25 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day

1 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an
2 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a
3 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person
4 in the office of the election authority or at a voter
5 registration location specifically designated for this purpose
6 by the election authority. The election authority shall
7 register that individual, or change a registered voter's
8 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this
9 Article for registration and change of address. To permit
10 nursing home residents equitable access to grace period
11 registration, nursing homes shall be designated grace period
12 registration sites for nursing home residents. A deputy
13 registrar employed by each nursing home shall be designated to
14 conduct all grace period registrations and address changes for
15 that nursing home in the absence of an employee of the election
16 authority. Upon completion of a grace period registration or
17 address change, the deputy registrar shall deliver to the
18 election authority within 24 hours all completed forms, and the
19 election authority receiving the forms shall add the names of
20 residents who have completed the forms to the list of residents
21 entitled to vote during the regular nursing home voting period.

22 If a voter who registers or changes address during this
23 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary
24 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace
25 period voting, either in person in the office of the election
26 authority or at a location specifically designated for this

1 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the
2 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall
3 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article
4 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address
5 during the grace period may vote during the regular nursing
6 home voting period.

7 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,
8 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street
9 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as
10 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall
11 maintain those names and that information in an electronic
12 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to
13 State and local political committees. The name of each person
14 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the
15 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early
16 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9
17 and 18-5.

18 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be
19 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with
20 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons
21 who register or change address during the grace period must be
22 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central
23 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and
24 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots
25 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for
26 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which

1 the ballots were opened.

2 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

3 (10 ILCS 5/6-100)

4 Sec. 6-100. Grace period. Notwithstanding any other
5 provision of this Code to the contrary, each election authority
6 shall establish procedures for the registration of voters and
7 for change of address during the period from the close of
8 registration for a primary or election and until the 7th day
9 before the primary or election. During this grace period, an
10 unregistered qualified elector may register to vote, and a
11 registered voter may submit a change of address form, in person
12 in the office of the election authority or at a voter
13 registration location specifically designated for this purpose
14 by the election authority. The election authority shall
15 register that individual, or change a registered voter's
16 address, in the same manner as otherwise provided by this
17 Article for registration and change of address. To permit
18 nursing home residents equitable access to grace period
19 registration, nursing homes shall be designated grace period
20 registration sites for nursing home residents. A deputy
21 registrar employed by each nursing home shall be designated to
22 conduct all grace period registrations and address changes for
23 that nursing home in the absence of an employee of the election
24 authority. Upon completion of a grace period registration or
25 address change, the deputy registrar shall deliver to the

1 election authority within 24 hours all completed forms, and the
2 election authority receiving the forms shall add the names of
3 residents who have completed the forms to the list of residents
4 entitled to vote during the regular nursing home voting period.

5 If a voter who registers or changes address during this
6 grace period wishes to vote at the first election or primary
7 occurring after the grace period, he or she must do so by grace
8 period voting, either in person in the office of the election
9 authority or at a location specifically designated for this
10 purpose by the election authority, or by mail, at the
11 discretion of the election authority. Grace period voting shall
12 be in a manner substantially similar to voting under Article
13 19. Nursing home residents who register or change their address
14 during the grace period may vote during the regular nursing
15 home voting period.

16 Within one day after a voter casts a grace period ballot,
17 the election authority shall transmit the voter's name, street
18 address, and precinct, ward, township, and district numbers, as
19 the case may be, to the State Board of Elections, which shall
20 maintain those names and that information in an electronic
21 format on its website, arranged by county and accessible to
22 State and local political committees. The name of each person
23 issued a grace period ballot shall also be placed on the
24 appropriate precinct list of persons to whom absentee and early
25 ballots have been issued, for use as provided in Sections 17-9
26 and 18-5.

1 A person who casts a grace period ballot shall not be
2 permitted to revoke that ballot and vote another ballot with
3 respect to that primary or election. Ballots cast by persons
4 who register or change address during the grace period must be
5 transmitted to and counted at the election authority's central
6 ballot counting location and shall not be transmitted to and
7 counted at precinct polling places. The grace period ballots
8 determined to be valid shall be added to the vote totals for
9 the precincts for which they were cast in the order in which
10 the ballots were opened.

11 (Source: P.A. 96-441, eff. 1-1-10.)

12 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
13 becoming law.