

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 James Monroe Building Conference Room C, D, & E

<u>Due to the closure of State Office</u> <u>Buildings on August 4, the Board</u> <u>meeting will be conducted via</u> <u>Video & Teleconference ONLY.</u>

Video and Teleconference Videoconference:

https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/j.php? MTID=mel3c27466eed6e94cd32190cb8537703 Meeting password: JDm2TKrt3H5 <u>Teleconference:</u> 1-517-466-2023 US Toll 1-866-692-4530 US Toll-Free Access Code: 161 830 3157 **Richmond, VA**

1:00 P.M.

SBE Board Working Papers



STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS AGENDA

<u>DATE</u>: Tuesday, August 4, 2020 <u>TELECONFERENCE</u>: +1-517-466-2023 US Toll +1-866-692-4530 US Toll Free Access code: 161 830 3157 <u>VIDEO CONFERENCE</u>: <u>https://covaconf.webex.com/covaconf/j.php?MTID=me13c2</u> <u>7466eed6e94cd32190cb8537703</u> Password: JDm2TKrt3H5 <u>TIME</u>: 1:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES A. July 7, 2020 Minutes

III. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

IV. PARTY ABBREVIATIONS

Robert Brink, Chairman

Jamilah LeCruise, Secretary

Christopher E. Piper Commissioner

Paul Saunders Elections Administration Supervisor

Samantha Buckley ELECT Policy Analyst

VI. REGULATORY ACTIONS: VOTER REGISTRATION B. Amendments to 1VAC20-40-90

V. REGULATORY ACTIONS: VOTER REGISTRATION

A. Repeal of 1VAC20-40-90

Samantha Buckley ELECT Policy Analyst

VII. REGULATORY ACTIONS:

Danny Davenport ELECT Policy Analyst

- A. Intelligent Mail Barcodes (IMBs) on Absentee Return Envelopes
- B. Processing Absentee Ballots with Missing or No Postmark
- C. Mandatory Logic and Accuracy Testing for Electronic Pollbooks
- D. (Amendment) Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Container

VIII. CLOSED SESSION

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

X. ADJOURNMENT



Approval of Minutes

BOARD WORKING PAPERS Secretary LeCruise

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2	The State Board of Elections ("the Board") meeting was held on
3	Tuesday, July 7, 2020, in Conference Room C, D, and E of the James Monroe
4	Building. The meeting was also conducted electronically so the public could
5	view and hear the meeting. In attendance: Robert Brink, Chairman, John
6	O'Bannon, Vice Chairman, and Jamilah LeCruise, Secretary, represented the
7	State Board of Elections ("the Board"). Christopher E. "Chris" Piper,
8	Commissioner, and Jessica Bowman, Deputy Commissioner, represented
9	the Department of Elections ("ELECT"). Carol Lewis represented the Office of
10	the Attorney General ("OAG"). Chairman Brink called the meeting to order
11	at 1:01 P.M.
12	Chairman Brink informed the Board that on March 12, 2020, Governor
13	Ralph S. Northam declared that a state of emergency exists in the
14	Commonwealth as the result of the potential spread of COVID-19, a
15	communicable disease presenting a threat to public health. On March 30,

16 2020, the Governor issued an executive order requiring all individuals in

Virginia to remain at their place of residence, with certain enumeratedexceptions.

19	This meeting was conducted consistent with the requirements for
20	electronic meetings by public bodies set forth in Items 4-0.01 of House Bills
21	29 and 30, as passed by the General Assembly ("GA") and signed by the
22	Governor in April of this year. The purpose of the meeting is to transact the
23	statutorily required business of the Board. There will be an opportunity for
24	public comment following each item of the agenda.
25	The first item of business was the approval of minutes from previous
26	Board meetings, presented by Secretary LeCruise. Vice Chair O'Bannon
27	moved that the Board approve the minutes from the January 28, 2020 Board
28	meeting. Chairman Brink seconded the motion, and the motion passed
29	unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
30	Chairman Brink – Aye
31	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye

32 Secretary LeCruise – Aye

- 33 Chairman Brink moved *that the Board approve the minutes from the March*
- 17, 2020 Board meeting. Vice Chair O'Bannon seconded the motion, and the
- ³⁵ motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 36 Chairman Brink Aye
- 37 Vice Chair O'Bannon Aye
- 38 Secretary LeCruise Aye
- 39 Chairman Brink moved that the Board approve the minutes from the April 3,
- 40 2020 Board meeting. Vice Chair O'Bannon seconded the motion, and the
- 41 motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 42 Chairman Brink Aye
- 43 Vice Chair O'Bannon Aye
- 44 Secretary LeCruise Aye
- 45 Vice Chair O'Bannon moved that the Board approve the minutes from the
- 46 April 13, 2020 Board meeting. Chairman Brink seconded the motion, and the
- 47 motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 48 Chairman Brink Aye
- 49 Vice Chair O'Bannon Aye

- 50 Secretary LeCruise Aye
- 51 Chairman Brink moved *that the Board approve the minutes from the April*
- 52 21, 2020 Board meeting. Vice Chair O'Bannon seconded the motion, and the
- ⁵³ motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 54 Chairman Brink Aye
- 55 Vice Chair O'Bannon Aye
- 56 Secretary LeCruise Aye
- 57 Vice Chair O'Bannon moved that the Board approve the minutes from the

58 May 15, 2020 Board meeting. Chairman Brink seconded the motion, and the

- ⁵⁹ motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 60 Chairman Brink Aye
- 61 Vice Chair O'Bannon Aye
- 62 Secretary LeCruise Aye
- 63 Chairman Brink moved that the Board approve the minutes from the May 26,
- 64 2020 Board meeting. Vice Chair O'Bannon seconded the motion, and the
- ⁶⁵ motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
- 66 Chairman Brink Aye

67	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye
68	Secretary LeCruise – Aye.
69	The next item of business was the Commissioner's Report, presented
70	by Commissioner Piper. The Commissioner expressed his appreciation to
71	the ELECT staff for conducting multiple elections during the COVID-19
72	pandemic. Commissioner Piper explained to the Board that Virginia
73	operates primarily for in-person voting; therefore, a pandemic which
74	happens to require social distancing, requires extensive maneuvering.
75	Commissioner Piper explained that the ELECT team converted to
76	teleworking and have been able to provide the services that are expected
77	of ELECT even under the difficult circumstances.
78	The Commissioner advised the Board that ELECT has conducted three
79	elections during the pandemic, including the Special Election in Arlington,
80	VA, that was occurring the same day. Commissioner Piper commended the
81	General Registrars ("GR") and Electoral Boards ("EB") for a smooth and
82	successful March Presidential Primary Election. The Commissioner informed
83	the Board that the May Election occurred in 56 localities and over 100 cities

84	and towns. Commissioner Piper explained to the Board that the Governor
85	proposed changes to the May Election, but the GA declined to accept those
86	proposed changes so the Governor postponed the election from May 3 to
87	May 19. The Commissioner informed the Board that the May 19, 2020
88	Election went well without many incidents. Commissioner Piper stated that
89	some localities had over 90 percent of ballots cast via absentee ballots by
90	mail, and some localities had more than 60 percent of ballots cast via
91	absentee ballots by mail.
92	The Commissioner stated that ELECT has worked to secure personal
93	protective equipment (PPE) and safe conditions for the officers of election
94	by collaborating with the Department of Health and other entities to ensure
95	clean polling places. Commissioner Piper informed the Board that ELECT
96	has partnered with the Medical Reserve Corps, a group of volunteer
97	medical professionals, who volunteer at various polling places to ensure
98	sanitary practices were in place. The Commissioner informed the Board that
99	the Medical Reserve Corps assisted election officers by ensuring social

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distancing was respected and allowing the election officers to concentrateon conducting the election.

Commissioner Piper informed the Board that there was a massive 102 increase of absentee ballots for the June Primary. The Commissioner stated 103 that ELECT provided protective equipment such as facemasks, face shields, 104 disinfectant wipes, and single-use pens and folders. Commissioner Piper 105 informed the Board that before the May Election, the Chief of Staff for 106 Governor Northam sent a request to state employees to sign up to be 107 officers of election. The Commissioner stated that the Secretary of 108 Education sent letters to the Superintendents of various localities 109 requesting teachers and professors to sign up to be election officers. NASA 110 and the National Guard also sent out letters to their service members, 111 encouraging them to sign up to be election officers as off duty civilians. 112 Commissioner Piper stated that since the request was sent, 1,500 113 individuals have signed up to volunteer as election officers. The 114 Commissioner noted that many of the situations that have made the news 115 from other states were due to a shortage of election officers. Commissioner 116

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117	Piper informed the Board that with the November Election approaching,
118	ELECT is working on several fronts that would be presented in today's
119	meeting. The Commissioner stated that Tammy Patrick, with the United
120	States Postal Service, would be presenting on what ELECT will do about the
121	long-anticipated increase of absentee ballots.
122	Commissioner Piper informed the Board that the Congress in the
123	CAREs Act dedicated four hundred million dollars to the states specifically
124	for election preparation. The Commissioner advised the Board that ELECT
125	received about ten million dollars from the CAREs Act, and used a portion
126	of that to purchase personal protective equipment. Commissioner Piper
127	informed the Board that ELECT has also provided some of the funds to the
128	localities so that they can prepare their offices for the upcoming November
129	Election. The Commissioner informed the Board that ELECT has provided
130	guidance and information to the localities as to how the funds should be
131	spent.
127	Commissioner Piner stated that FLECT predicts a significant increase

Commissioner Piper stated that ELECT predicts a significant increasein the number of absentee ballots that will be received by mail. The

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134	Commissioner informed the Board that as of July 1, 2020, there is no excuse
135	required to vote absentee in Virginia. Commissioner Piper informed the
136	Board that ELECT anticipates an increase in absentee ballots by mail and in-
137	person due to the pandemic. The Commissioner explained that due to the
138	expected increase in absentee ballots, ELECT is making the necessary
139	adjustments to ensure all localities are prepared for the increase of
140	absentee ballots. Commissioner Piper stated that cybersecurity is still an
141	ELECT priority for the November Election.
142	The Commissioner informed the Board that the ELECT website had
143	been adjusted to reflect the no-excuse absentee ballot request for the
144	upcoming November election. Commissioner Piper informed the Board that
145	ELECT's website also provides you the option to request an annual absentee
146	ballot. The Commissioner informed the Board that starting next year,
147	registered voters can request to be placed on a permanent list to receive
148	absentee ballots. Chairman Brink expressed his appreciation to the ELECT
149	staff and the Election community for conducting the May and June
150	elections under extraordinary conditions.

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The next item of business was the Discussion of Virginia Beach 151 Primary Election, presented by Chairman Brink. Chairman Brink requested 152 Commissioner Piper to explain the situation that occurred in Virginia Beach 153 during the June Primary Election. Commissioner Piper informed the Board 154 that ELECT received a report about 7:30 A.M. from Virginia Beach stating 155 that all polling places were unable to check voters in due to an issue with 156 their electronic pollbooks. The Commissioner explained to the Board that 157 the City of Virginia Beach did not have backup paper pollbooks. 158 Commissioner Piper informed the Board that due to Virginia Beach 159 not having paper pollbooks, they provided a provisional ballot to each 160 individual that arrived at the polling places. The Commissioner advised the 161 Board that a little after 8:00 A.M., the vendors ascertained the issue; 162 however, the editing had to be delivered to each polling place individually 163 and updated on the electronic pollbook. Commissioner informed the Board 164 that a little before 2:00 P.M., all polling places were back up and running. 165 The Commissioner stated that as of July 1, the law requires that every 166

primary and general election in all counties must have paper pollbook
backups available at each polling place.

Chairman Brink asked Commissioner Piper about delays during voter 169 check-in in case of a widespread failure requiring the transition to paper 170 pollbooks. Commissioner Piper informed the Chairman that although 171 slower, using a paper pollbook guarantees a voter can be checked in and 172 cast the regular ballot to which a properly registered voter is entitled, 173 without going through the provisional ballot process. Donna Patterson, the 174 GR for Virginia Beach, addressed the Board. Chairman Brink expressed his 175 appreciation for the efforts Ms. Patterson and her staff put into covering 176 the June 23 primary election. 177

The next item of business was the Post-Election Report, presented by Commissioner Piper. Commissioner Piper informed the Board that the report is from the November 5, 2019 Election. The Commissioner stated that the election was a success with minimal problems. *This report is in the Working Papers for the July 7, 2020 meeting.* Chairman Brink asked the Commissioner whether absentee ballots are counted as a separate precinct,

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184	and whether ELECT will inform voters that election night reporting may take
185	longer to complete as a result of an anticipated increase in absentee ballots
186	which require more time to process than a ballot voted in person and
187	immediately scanned. Commissioner Piper explained that when conducting
188	in-person voting, election officers can print out the unofficial results,
189	whereas absentee ballots must be verified before being opened and
190	scanned.
191	The Commissioner advised the Board that on July 1, Virginia law
192	provides that an absentee ballot must be accepted if postmarked by
193	Election day or received up to three days after the election in the GR's
194	office. Commissioner Piper stated that in 2018, 3000 ballots were sent in
195	three days after the election. The Commissioner stated that with the
196	upcoming November election, it is possible that counting the absentee
197	ballots may be constant throughout the week. Secretary LeCruise
198	referenced page 46 of the Post Election Report, and asked Commissioner
199	Piper whether the voter intimidation complaints are broken down into
200	different, more specific categories. Commissioner Piper stated that the

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201 complaints are provided without being further divided into specific202 categories.

203	The next order of business was the Certification of June 23 Primary
204	Results, presented by Paul Saunders, Elections Administration Supervisor.
205	This report is in the Working Papers for the July 7, 2020 meeting. Vice Chair
206	O'Bannon moved that the Board certify the results of the June 23, 2020
207	Democratic and Republican Party Primaries as presented and declare the
208	winners of each primary to be that party's nominee for the November 3, 2020
209	election. Secretary LeCruise seconded the motion, and the motion passed
210	unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
211	Chairman Brink – Aye
212	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye
213	Secretary LeCruise – Aye
214	The next item of business was the Consideration of Filing Extension
215	under Va. Code §24.2-503, presented by Dave Nichols, Director of Elections
216	Services. Mr. Nichols advised the Board that candidates who failed to file
217	specific paperwork required for ballot access for the November 2020

218	General Election requested an extension of the deadline provided in the
219	Code of Virginia. This report is in the Working Papers for the July 7, 2020
220	meeting. Mr. Nichols explained that the filing deadline for the Certificate of
221	Candidate Qualification and Statement of Economic Interest for candidates
222	nominated other than by a primary was June 9, 2020, at 7:00 P.M.
223	Mr. Nichols informed the Board that the deadline would usually
224	coincide with the closing of polling places on primary election day;
225	however, due to the Governor's amended Executive Order 56, the primary
226	election was delayed from June 9, 2020, to June 23, 2020. He explained that
227	the Executive Order did not mention the June 9, 2020 filing deadline and
228	Va. Code §24.2-503 sets a specific date for 7 P.M. for the second Tuesday in
229	June. Mr. Nichols informed the Board that ELECT publishes a Candidate
230	Bulletin titled How to Run for Office that provides all this essential
231	information for candidates in one convenient document.
232	The bulletin provides guidance to candidates on what paperwork
233	needs to be filed, with whom to file and the deadlines for filing those
234	documents. He explained to the Board that due to the Executive Order,

ELECT revised the *How to Run for Office* guidance materials to include any 235 dates that were changed by the Executive Order. Mr. Nichols informed the 236 Board that the deadline for Certificate of Candidate Qualification and 237 Statement of Economic Interest did not change. He informed the Board that 238 after the June 9, 2020 deadline, ELECT received requests from candidates, 239 political parties, and general registrars for the Board to consider granting 240 an extension to file the documents under their authority in Va. Code §24.2-241 502. 242 Chairman Brink asked Mr. Nichols if any candidate contact the Board 243 inquiring about the date of the deadlines. Mr. Nichols informed the Board 244 that ELECT had been contacted by candidates requesting the Board extend 245 the deadline to file petitions. The Chairman asked if the ELECT staff had 246 instructions on responding to inquiries about the deadlines. Mr. Nichols 247 informed the Board that the ELECT staff was prepared for questions 248 regarding deadlines. 249

250 Chairman Brink expressed his frustration due to this being the second 251 year that candidates have failed to file the required forms with ELECT by the

252	deadline specified in the code. The Chairman advised that he and the other
253	members of the Board understand the process requirements of filing
254	specific forms by specific deadlines. Chairman Brink explained that these
255	requirements give certainty to the elections calendar and confer legitimacy
256	on the process. The Chairman explained that after the deadline, candidates,
257	their opponents, the political parties, and the voters would know who the
258	candidates will be and can act based on that information.
259	Chairman Brink opened the floor to public comment. Tyler Adams, of
260	Harrisonburg, VA asked Mr. Nichols to provide the names of the eight
261	candidates seeking an extension. Mr. Nichols stated the names for the
262	candidates for House of Representatives includes Robert Good, Nick Freitas,
263	Nicholas Betts, Aliscia Andrews, Peter Greenwald, Andrew Knaggs, Jason
264	Roberge, and Robert Jones. Nicholas Bates, Democratic candidate for
265	Virginia's 6th congressional district, Aria. Branch, Democratic Congressional
266	Campaign Committee, an individual who provided his Virginia Bar #7139,
267	Alan Harned, Chairman of Harrisonburg Democratic Committee, Bob Good,
268	Republican candidate for Virginia's 5th congressional district, Andrea Epps,

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270	Perrin, Registered Voter, Clara Bell Wheeler, a former member of the State
271	Board of Elections, and Peter Greenwald, 7th district US Congress candidate
272	addressed the Board. Vice Chair O'Bannon moved that the Board grant an
273	extension pursuant to Virginia Code § 24.2-503 for candidates to file the
274	Certificate of Candidate Qualification or Statement of Economic Interest in
275	relation to the November General elections. Chairman Brink seconded the
276	motion, and the motion passed 2-1, Secretary LeCruise having voted no. A
277	roll call vote was taken:
278	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye
278 279	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye Secretary LeCruise – Nay
279	Secretary LeCruise – Nay
279 280	Secretary LeCruise – Nay Chairman Brink – Aye
279 280 281	Secretary LeCruise – Nay Chairman Brink – Aye The next item of business was the Drawing for Party Ballot Order for
279 280 281 282	Secretary LeCruise – Nay Chairman Brink – Aye The next item of business was the Drawing for Party Ballot Order for General and Special Elections from October 1, 2020, through April 21, 2021,

resident of New Kent, Matt Walden, resident of Henrico County Tyler

286	The last item of business was the United States Postal Service
287	("USPS") Elections Mail Presentation, presented by James Heo, Confidential
288	Policy Advisor. Mr. Heo informed the Board that Lisa Adams, Capital Metro
289	Area Marketing Manager, would be presenting the steps USPS is taking to
290	prepare for the anticipated expansion of absentee by mail ballots. This
291	report is in the Working Papers for the July 7, 2020 meeting. Mr. Heo
292	informed the Board that Tammy Patrick, Senior Advisor to the Democracy
293	Fund, would be discussing what is happening across the country in
294	preparation for an increase in absentee volume for the November 2020
295	Election. This report is in the Working Papers for the July 7, 2020 meeting.
296	Mr. Heo expressed his appreciation to USPS representatives Daniel
297	Bentley, National Mail Program Manager, Ben Farmer, Richmond District
298	Marketing Manager, and Donald Parham, Northern Virginia District
299	Marketing Manager.
300	Chairman Brink asked Ms. Adams, in reference to Va. Code § 24.2-
301	709(b) what kind of additional indicia can the postal service provide. Ms.
302	Adams advised the Board that if the Post office receives a return ballot that

303	has a date contained within the postage stamp, it qualifies as a
304	postmark/cancelation. If it has a first-class stamp on the return ballot, the
305	cancelation machine will place the date and facility of where it was
306	processed. She explained that if, for any reason, a return ballot did not
307	process through the cancelation machine, it will be hand stamped before
308	being sent to ELECT. Vice Chair O'Bannon asked Ms. Patrick, how many
309	states have prepaid postage for absentee ballots. Ms. Patrick informed the
310	Board that 16 states have provided prepaid postage for return absentee
311	ballots.
312	Chairman Brink referred back to the Ballot Drawing Order for the
313	General and Special elections from October 1, 2020, to April 21, 2021.
314	Commissioner Piper facilitated the drawing of the political party order on
315	behalf of the Board through video conference. The ballot order is as
316	follows:
317	1. Democratic

318 2. Republican

319	Secretary LeCruise moved that the Board certify the determination by lot of
320	the ballot order for all general and special elections being held October 1,
321	2020, through April 30, 2021. Vice Chair O'Bannon seconded the motion,
322	and the motion passed unanimously. A roll call vote was taken:
323	Chairman Brink – Aye
324	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye
325	Secretary LeCruise – Aye
326	Chairman Brink opened the floor for public comment.
327	Vice Chair O'Bannon moved to adjourn the meeting. Secretary
328	LeCruise seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. A roll
329	call vote was taken:
330	Chairman Brink – Aye
331	Vice Chair O'Bannon – Aye
332	Secretary LeCruise – Aye
333	The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:27 P.M.
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337	Chairman
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340	Vice Chairman
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343	Secretary



Commissioner's Report

BOARD WORKING PAPERS Christopher E. Piper Commissioner



Party Abbreviations

BOARD WORKING PAPERS Paul Saunders Elections Administration Supervisor



Memorandum

То:	Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruise
From:	Paul G. Saunders, III, Elections Administration Supervisor
Date:	August 4, 2020
Re:	Political Party Abbreviations for General and Special Elections Ballots

Suggested motion for a Board member to make:

"I move that the Board approve the party abbreviations as presented by staff for general and special elections being held April 30, 2021."

Applicable Code Section:

Va. Code § 24.2-613 A – "The ballots shall comply with...the standards prescribed by the State Board."

Applicable Board Ballot Standards Section:

Page 33 – Party abbreviations must be accurate in accordance with the SBE determination made at the time of the party order drawing.

Attachment:

SBE Ballot Standards rev. 07/2019 – Page 33

Background:	Recognized Political Parties	Abbreviation Options
Political Parties	(with current abbrev.)	(not limited to)
(with current abbrev.)	Constitution - C	Name - D
Democratic – D	Independent – I	Name (D)
Republican – R	Green – G Independent Green – IG	Name, D

ELECT Staff Recommendation:

ELECT staff recommends that the Board vote to use the abbrevations presented for the general and special elections being held April 30, 2021.



Political Party Order and Appearance

Code requirements for political party order and appearance

Party designation	A political party name must identify candidates that have been nominated for federal, statewide, and General Assembly offices. Party identification is only present on ballots in federal, statewide, and General Assembly elections (Va. code § 24.2-613).
Order of parties	General and Special Elections
	The State Board determines by lot the order of the political parties, and the names of all candidates for a particular office shall appear together in the order determined for their parties.
	Independent candidates always appear last and in the order they filed all required paperwork (Va. code § 24.2-613).

Board requirements for political party order and appearance

Appearance of political	Party abbreviations must be in accordance with the SBE determination made at
party names	the time of the party order drawing.

Best practice recommendations for political party order and appearance

Party name format	If the SBE determines party names are to be spelled out, then the names of the
	parties should be mixed case, regular (non-bold) type, following candidate
	names in mixed case, bold type.

Emphasis of party
abbreviationIf you abbreviate the party name, it should appear in regular (non-bold) type,
following the candidate name in mixed case, bold type.



Regulatory Actions: Voter Registration Repeal of 1VAC20-40-90

BOARD WORKING PAPERS Samantha Buckley ELECT Policy Analyst



Memorandum

To:Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruiseFrom:Samantha Buckley, Policy AnalystDate:August 4, 2020Re:Repeal of 1VAC20-40-90

Suggested motion for the Board to make:

Move that the Board repeal 1VAC20-40-90.

Applicable Code Sections: Va. Code § 24.2-404

Attachments:

- Repeal of 1VAC20-40-10

Background: HB19, passed by the General Assembly during the 2020 legislative session and signed by the Governor (effective July 1, 2020), expands the list of acceptable IDs to include IDs without photos. Further, this bill repeals ELECT's requirement to print photo voter IDs for the public. 1VAC20-40-90 outlines the rules and process for a voter to apply for and receive a free valid voter photo ID.

As ELECT is no longer required to print photo voter IDs, 1VAC20-40-90 is obsolete.

Agency: State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation: Repeal of existing regulatory action 1VAC20-40-90.

Regulation Title: Voter Photo Identification Cards

Date before State Board of Elections: August 4, 2020

Brief Summary: HB19, passed by the General Assembly during the 2020 legislative session and signed by the Governor (effective July 1, 2020), expands the list of acceptable IDs to include IDs without photos. Further, this bill repeals ELECT's requirement to print photo voter IDs for the public. 1VAC20-40-90 outlines the rules and process for a voter to apply for and receive a free valid voter photo ID.

As ELECT is no longer required to print photo voter IDs, 1VAC20-40-90 is obsolete.

Regulation Text:

1VAC20 40 90. Voter Photo Identification Cards.

A. Pursuant to the requirements of § <u>24.2_404</u> of the Code of Virginia, a voter who does not have an acceptable form of identification listed in § <u>24.2_643</u> of the Code of Virginia may obtain a voter photo identification card free of charge through any general registrar's office or the Department of Elections if:

1. The voter signs a completed Voter Photo Identification Card Application;

- 2. The voter's information is correct in the voter registration system;
- 3. A photograph of the voter is taken by a general registrar or authorized personnel; and
- 4. The voter's signature is captured by a general registrar or authorized personnel.

B. Any voter applying for the voter photo identification card whose record in the voter registration system is materially inaccurate or incomplete will be issued a card after the information has been corrected and updated within the system.

C. A general registrar's office shall provide a temporary identification document to any eligible voter whose application for the voter photo identification card is made after the deadline for registering to vote in the next most proximate election in which the voter is eligible to vote. A temporary identification document may only be issued by the general registrar's office in the locality where the voter is registered for any voter whose Voter Photo Identification Card Application is received after election day and through the conclusion of the period to submit a copy of an identification card provided within § 24.2 653 A of the Code of Virginia. The temporary identification document shall be considered an acceptable form of identification and is valid for 30 days after its issuance.

D. A person who is unregistered may apply for a voter photo identification card and will be provided with the card upon approval of the submitted application for voter registration. A person who is unregistered shall not be provided with a temporary identification document.

E. General registrars and the Department of Elections may solicit applicants for voter photo identification cards at locations other than their offices. General registrars shall accept applications and produce temporary identification documents at all permanent satellite offices established within their locality.

F. A voter's inclusion in the Department of Motor Vehicle's database will not exclude such person from being eligible to receive a voter photo identification card so long as the person affirms he is not in possession of the identification document or the identification document could not otherwise be considered valid. A voter's signature upon the Voter Photo Identification Card Application shall be considered sufficient affirmation.

G. A voter may request a replacement voter photo identification card if (i) the original card is damaged, lost, or stolen; (ii) the voter's appearance has changed substantially; or (iii) eight years have elapsed since the issuance date upon the card.

H. Applications for voter photo identification cards shall be (i) considered "registration records," as defined in § 24.2 101 of the Code of Virginia; (ii) only available for public inspection as provided in § 24.2 444 C of the Code of Virginia after redaction of the social security number and day and month of the birth date; and (iii) retained by the registrar as provided by subdivision 8 of § 24.2 114 of the Code of Virginia and the applicable Library of Virginia retention schedule for local election records.

Statutory Authority:

Va. Code § 24.2-404



Regulatory Actions: Voter Registration Amendments to IVAC20-40-10

BOARD WORKING PAPERS Samantha Buckley ELECT Policy Analyst



Memorandum

To:Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruiseFrom:Samantha Buckley, Policy AnalystDate:August 4, 2020Re:Amendment of 1VAC20-40-10

Suggested motion for the Board to make:

Move that the Board approve the amendments to 1VAC20-40-10.

Applicable Code Sections: Va. Code § 24.2-404 and 24.2-643

Attachments:

- Amendments to 1VAC20-40-10

Background: HB19, passed by the General Assembly during the 2020 legislative session and signed by the Governor (effective July 1, 2020), expands the list of acceptable IDs to include IDs without photos. This bill also extends the validity of all Virginia driver's licenses for voting purposes by permitting all driver's licenses, regardless of expiration, to be valid.

1VAC20-40-10 provides definitions which impact the election check in procedure for voting. Currently, 1VAC20-40-10 provides a definition to "valid" voter identification and acceptable ID that conflicts with new legislation. Amendments to 1VAC20-40-10 will bring it into compliance with 2020 legislation.

Agency: State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation: Amendment to existing regulatory action 1VAC20-40-10.

Regulation Title: Definitions

Date before State Board of Elections: August 4, 2020

Brief Summary: HB19, passed by the General Assembly during the 2020 legislative session and signed by the Governor (effective July 1, 2020), expands the list of acceptable IDs to include IDs without photos. This bill also extends the validity of all Virginia driver's licenses for voting purposes by permitting all driver's licenses, regardless of expiration, to be valid.

1VAC20-40-10 provides definitions which impact the election check in procedure for voting. Currently, 1VAC20-40-10 provides a definition to "valid" voter identification and acceptable ID that conflicts with new legislation. Amendments to 1VAC20-40-10 will bring it into compliance with 2020 legislation.

Regulation Text:

1VAC20-40-10. Definitions.

Article 1

General Provisions

The following words and terms when used in this chapter shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Abode" or "place of abode" means a physical place where a person dwells. One may have multiple places of abode, such as a second home.

"Address" or "residence address" for purposes of voter registration and address confirmation means the address of residence in the precinct required for voter registration. An alternative mailing address may be included on a voter registration application when: (i) the residence address of the applicant cannot receive mail; or (ii) the voter is otherwise eligible by law to provide an alternative mailing address. Alternative mailing addresses must be sufficient to enable the delivery of mail by the United States Postal Service. The post office box for published lists may be provided either by the United States Postal Service or a commercial mail receiving agency (CMRA) described in the United States Postal Service Domestic Mail Manual.

"Authorized personnel" means the designated individuals of a general registrar's office or the Department of Elections who are permitted to access the voter registration database and capture information necessary to generate photo identification cards.

"Domicile" means a person's primary home, the place where a person dwells and which he considers to be the center of his domestic, social, and civil life. Domicile is primarily a matter of intention, supported by an individual's factual circumstances. Once a person has established domicile, establishing a new domicile requires that he intentionally abandon his old domicile. For any applicant, the registrar shall presume that domicile is at the address of residence given by the person on the application. The registrar shall not solicit evidence to rebut this presumption if the application appears to be legitimate, except as provided in 1VAC20-40-40 B and C.

"Permanent satellite location" means an office managed, maintained, and operated under the control of the general registrar for the locality that is consistently operational throughout the year and is not the principal office of the general registrar. Offices of other agencies where registration takes place pursuant to § 24.2-412 B of the Code of Virginia are not considered permanent satellite locations.

"Residence," "residency," or "resident" for all purposes of qualification to register and vote means and requires both domicile and a place of abode.

"Valid" for all purposes related to voter identification means (i) the document appears to be genuinely issued by the agency or issuing entity appearing upon the document, (ii) the bearer of the document reasonably appears to be the person whose photograph is contained thereon, and (iii)- (ii) the document shall be current or have expired within the preceding 12 months. The expiration date on a Virginia driver's license shall not be considered when determining the validity of the driver's license offered for voting purposes. The officer of election shall determine whether the document is officially acceptable based on its face.

"Voter photo identification card" means the official voter registration card containing the voter's photograph and signature referenced in §-24.2-404 A 3 of the Code of Virginia.

Statutory Authority:

Va. Code § 24.2-103



Regulatory Actions: Intelligent Mail Barcodes (IMBs) on Absentee Return Envelopes



Memorandum

To: Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruise
From: Daniel Davenport, Policy Analyst
Date: August 4, 2020
Re: Regulatory Action to Require Intelligent Mail Barcodes on Absentee Ballots and Return
Envelopes

Suggested motion for a Board member to make:

"I move that the Board approve the Department's proposal for regulatory action requiring intelligent mail barcodes on absentee ballot envelopes and absentee ballot return envelopes"

Applicable Code Section: § 24.2-103

Attachments:

Proposed regulation 1VAC20-70-xx

Background:

Pursuant to § 24.2-103 of the Code of Virginia "The State Board, through the Department of Elections, shall supervise and coordinate the work of the county and city electoral boards and of the registrars to obtain uniformity in their practices and proceedings and legality and purity in all elections. It shall make rules and regulations and issue instructions and provide information consistent with the election laws to the electoral boards and registrars to promote the proper administration of election laws."

This proposed regulatory action would mandate the inclusion of Intelligent Mail Barcodes (IMBs) on the absentee ballot outer envelope as well as absentee ballot return envelopes. The IMB is a 65-bar Postal Service barcode used to sort and track letters. It allows registrars to track absentee ballots as they make their way to voters, and it allows voters to track their completed ballots as they make their way back to registrar's offices.

All localities are currently capable of printing IMBs on the absentee ballot outer envelopes and return envelopes. However, not all localities currently opt to print IMBs on absentee return envelopes. Mandating the use of IMBs on both the absentee outer envelopes and return envelopes will increase voter confidence in the secure transfer of their voted ballots. This is especially important as the volume of mail-in absentee ballots in Virginia are likely to increase due both to no-excuse absentee voting and public health concerns raised by COVID-19.

This regulatory requirement would also require the absentee ballot outer envelope to contain a special Election Mail Insignia furnished to the registrars by the Department of Elections. This insignia is critical



to increasing the visibility of absentee ballots and other election mail for the United States Postal Service.

When the insignia appears on a mailpiece, voters recognize the mail as important and distinct from partisan political mailings. Additionally, the insignia serves to identify Official Election Mail for Postal Service workers and distinguish it from the thousands of other mailpieces that are processed daily. An image of that Special Insignia is included below for the State Board's consideration.

Image 1. Special Insignia to identify Official Election Mail





Agency: The State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s): 1VAC20-70-xx

Regulation Title(s): Mandatory Intelligent Mail Barcodes on Absentee Ballot Envelopes

Date before State Board of Elections: August 4, 2020

Brief Summary: The purpose of this regulation is to guarantee that all absentee ballot envelopes and absentee ballot mail envelopes contain Intelligent Mail Barcodes (IMBs), which allow the registrar and the absentee voter to both track the absentee ballot as it moves to the voter and eventually back to the registrar.

Regulation Text:

All general registrars must print Intelligent Mail Barcodes (IMBs) on both the outer absentee envelope (the envelope containing the materials laid out in § 24.2-706 subdivisions B 1 through 4 of the Code of Virginia) and on the return envelope described in § 24.2-706 subdivision B 3 of the Code of Virginia. Additionally, both the outer absentee envelope and return envelope must include a Special Insignia to identify Official Election Mail. The Department of Elections will distribute this insignia to the general registrars and electoral boards of each county and city.



Regulatory Actions: Processing Absentee Ballots with Missing or No Postmark



Memorandum

To:	Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruise
From:	Daniel Davenport, Policy Analyst
Date:	August 4, 2020
Re:	Regulatory Action Related to Processing Absentee Ballots with Missing or No Postmark

Suggested motion for a Board member to make:

"I move that the Board approve the Department's proposal for regulatory action related to processing absentee ballots with missing or no postmark"

Applicable Code Section: § 24.2-709

Attachments:

- Proposed regulation 1VAC20-70-xx

Background:

The purpose of this regulation is to provide further guidance regarding a recent legal change to § 24.2-709 of the Code of Virginia. Prior to July 1, 2020, absentee ballots had to be received by the general registrar's office before the close of polls on Election Day, in order to count toward that election's result. Now, "[A]ny absentee ballot (i) returned to the general registrar after the closing of the polls on election day but before noon on the third day after the election and postmarked on or before the date of the election shall be counted [pursuant to the election code] if the voter is found entitled to vote."

This regulation clarifies what happens in the event that an absentee ballot is received before noon on the third day after an election with a missing postmark or no postmark. The regulatory action treats the absence of a postmark on an absentee ballot as an immaterial omission. This means that a ballot with a missing postmark that is received by the general registrar's office by noon on the third day after the election will still count toward the election's result.



Agency: State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s): Amendment to existing regulatory action 1VAC20-70-20.

Regulation title(s): Material Omissions from Absentee Ballots.

Date before State Board of Elections: August 4, 2020

Brief Summary: The purpose of this regulatory action is to provide further guidance regarding what to do when a returned absentee ballot is missing a postmark or the postmark is illegible. This guidance is especially important in light of recent legal changes to § 24.2-709 of the Code of Virginia. Prior to July 1, 2020, absentee ballots had to be received by the general registrar's office before the close of polls on Election Day, in order to count toward that election's result. Now, "[A]ny absentee ballot (i) returned to the general registrar after the closing of the polls on election day but before noon on the third day after the election and postmarked on or before the date of the election shall be counted [pursuant to the election code] if the voter is found entitled to vote."

This regulation adds subsection (C) (11) to this regulatory action. The new subsection clarifies that a missing postmark is an immaterial omission, and that a ballot received by noon on the third day after an election with no postmark will still count toward that election's result. Pursuant to § 24.2-709 of the Code of Virginia, ballots postmarked after Election Day will not count toward the election's result.

Regulation Text:

1VAC20-70-20. Material Omissions from Absentee Ballots.

A. Pursuant to the requirements of § 24.2-706 of the Code of Virginia, a timely received absentee ballot contained in an Envelope B shall not be rendered invalid if it contains an error or omission not material to its proper processing.

B. The following omissions are always material and any Envelope B containing such omissions shall be rendered invalid if any of the following exists:

1. Except as provided in subdivisions C 2 and 3 of this section, the voter did not include his full first name;

2. The voter did not provide his last name;

3. The voter omitted his generational suffix when one or more individuals with the same name are registered at the same address, and it is impossible to determine the identity of the voter;



- 4. The voter did not provide his house number and street name or his rural route address;
- 5. The voter did not provide either his city or zip code;
- 6. The voter did not sign Envelope B; or
- 7. The voter's witness did not sign Envelope B.
- C. The ballot shall not be rendered invalid if on the Envelope B:

1. The voter included his full name in an order other than "last, first, middle";

2. The voter used his first initial instead of his first full name, so long as the voter provided his full middle name;

3. The voter provided a derivative of his legal name as his first or middle name (e.g., "Bob" instead of "Robert");

4. If the voter provided his first name and last name, the voter did not provide a middle name or a middle initial;

5. The voter did not provide his residential street identifier (Street, Drive, etc.);

6. The voter did not provide a zip code, so long as the voter provided his city;

7. The voter did not provide his city, so long as the voter provided his zip code;

8. The voter omitted the date, or provided an incorrect or incomplete date on which he signed Envelope B; or

9. The ballot is imperfectly sealed within Envelope B, provided that the outer envelope with Envelope B and the ballot arrived sealed.

10. The illegibility of a voter's or witness' signature on an Envelope B shall not be considered an omission or error.

<u>11. The ballot is received by the general registrar's office by noon on the third day after the election</u> pursuant to § 24.2-709 of the Code of Virginia but does not have a postmark, or the postmark is missing or illegible.

D. For the purposes of this regulation, "city" may include the voter's locality, town, or any acceptable mailing name for the five-digit zip code of the voter's residence.



E. Whether an error or omission on an Envelope B not specifically addressed by this regulation is material and shall render the absentee ballot invalid shall be determined by a majority of the officers of the election present.

Statutory Authority

§ 24.2-103 of the Code of Virginia.



Regulatory Actions: Mandatory Logic and Accuracy Testing for Electronic Pollbooks



Memorandum

To:	Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruise
From:	Daniel Davenport, Policy Analyst
Date:	August 4, 2020
Re:	Regulatory Action: Mandatory Logic and Accuracy Testing for Electronic Pollbooks

Suggested motion for a Board member to make:

"I move that the Board approve the Department's proposal for regulatory action to require mandatory logic and accuracy testing for electronic pollbooks."

Applicable Code Section(s): § 24.2-103; and § 24.2-611

Attachments:

- Proposed regulation 1VAC20-60-70

Background:

Virginia Code § 24.2-611(C) states that "The Department [of Elections] shall incorporate safeguards to assure that the records of the election, including the pollbook...will provide promptly an accurate and secure record of those who have voted."

Virginia Code § 24.2-611(D) states, "Any locality may expends its own funds to purchase electronic pollbooks *that have been approved for use in elections by the State Board.*" (Emphasis added).

Under the authority in those code sections, the Department of Elections proposes taking regulatory action to make Logic and Accuracy (L&A) testing mandatory for electronic pollbooks. L&A testing is a collection of pre-election procedures that insure that the voting equipment and ballots used in an upcoming election are accurate and function correctly for the needs of that election. The use of electronic pollbooks has become an integral part of election administration, and this regulatory action requires that L&A testing be performed for all electronic pollbooks with results confirmed for the Department of Elections at least two days prior to Election Day.



Agency: The State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s): 1VAC20-60-70

Regulation Title(s): Mandatory Logic and Accuracy Testing for Electronic Pollbooks

Brief Summary: The purpose of this regulation is to guarantee that logic and accuracy testing is conducted on electronic pollbooks prior to the elections for which those pollbooks are used. This will guarantee that the electronic pollbooks are accurate and secure on Election Day, preventing disruptions to voting on Election Day.

Regulation Text:

All localities must perform logic and accuracy testing on their electronic pollbooks (EPBs) at least two (2) days prior to the next general, special, or primary election. This testing must confirm that the EPBs will provide promptly an accurate and secure record of those who have voted, pursuant to § 24.2-611 of the Code of Virginia. Specifically, the logic and accuracy testing must do the following:

A. The logic and accuracy testing must confirm that the appropriate election-specific data files were downloaded to the electronic pollbook. In dual primary elections, localities must show that voter registration files were downloaded from both political parties so that the combined data files contain all the voters and all absentee ballot information for those voters.

B. The logic and accuracy testing must confirm that the electronic pollbooks for each election are set to the correct type of election being held in that jurisdiction. For example, the type on the electronic pollbook must correlate with whether the upcoming election is a primary or general election.

C. The logic and accuracy testing must show that all precincts will provide the correct ballot style(s) to voters in the precinct(s). The locality must provide an electronic record to the Department of Elections that all precincts holding an election have been tested.

If a locality repeatedly fails to perform logic and accuracy testing on their electronic pollbooks, then the Department of Elections and State Board of Elections may not authorize the locality's use of electronic pollbooks in subsequent elections.



Regulatory Actions: (Amendment) Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Container



Memorandum

- To: Chairman Brink, Vice Chair O'Bannon, and Secretary LeCruise
- From: Daniel Davenport, Policy Analyst
- Date: August 4, 2020

Re: Regulatory Action Related to Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Containers

Suggested motion for a Board member to make:

"I move that the Board approve the Department's proposal for regulatory action related to 1VAC20-60-50, Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Containers"

Applicable Code Section: § 24.2-623

Attachments:

Proposed amendments to regulation 1VAC20-60-50

Background:

The purpose of this regulatory action is to address an issue raised to the Department of Elections by the General Registrar community. Registrars face special issues regarding overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office, where voting is conducted for forty-five days rather than just Election Day itself and at satellite locations. Registrars have requested that the Department of Elections provide an alternative process for dealing with overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office and satellite locations. This regulatory action provides an alternative process that will continue to keep the overflow ballots safe and secure.

This regulation adds subsection 4 and subdivisions 4(i) through 4(iv) to this regulation. The new subsection amends our previous regulatory action and provides that overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office and satellite locations can be deposited into a secure ballot storage container other than as described in Va. Code § 24.2-623, so long as the containers meets the security requirements and chain-of-custody requirements outlined in this amended regulatory action.



Agency: State Board of Elections

Virginia Administrative Code (VAC) citation(s): Amendment to existing regulatory action 1VAC20-60-50.

Regulation title(s): Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Container.

Date before State Board of Elections: August 4, 2020

Brief Summary: The purpose of this regulatory action is to address an issue raised to the Department of Elections by the General Registrar community. Registrars face special issues regarding overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office satellite offices, and central absentee precinct, where voting is conducted for forty-five days rather than just Election Day itself, and in satellite locations used for in-person absentee voting. Registrars have requested that the Department of Elections provide an alternative process for dealing with overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office and satellite locations. This regulatory action provides an alternative process that will continue to keep the overflow ballots safe and secure.

This regulation adds subsection 4 and subdivisions 4(i) through 4(iv) to this regulation. The new subsection amends our previous regulatory action and provides that overfull optical scan ballot containers at the general registrar's office or satellite location can be deposited into a secure ballot storage container as described in Va. Code § 24.2-623, so long as the containers meet the security requirements and chain-of-custody requirements outlined in this amended regulatory action.

Regulation Text:

1VAC20-60-50. Overfull Optical Scan Ballot Container.

<u>A.</u> If an optical scan reader in use in a registrar's office or a polling place <u>or a central absentee</u> <u>precinct</u> malfunctions because the connected ballot container includes too many ballots, election officials may open the ballot container and empty the ballots with the following safeguards:

1. The optical scan ballot container shall be opened in plain sight of any authorized party representatives or other observers and, once the ballots have been deposited into an auxiliary ballot container, both ballot containers shall remain in plain sight in the polling place.

2. Any such auxiliary ballot container used shall meet the requirements of § 24.2-623 of the Code of Virginia.



3. In a general, special, or dual-party primary election, a minimum of two officers of election, not representing the same political party, shall execute such a transfer of ballots. In a single-party primary election, the transfer shall be conducted by a minimum of two officers of election who may represent the same party.

<u>B. In the event that an optical scan reader in a general registrar's office or satellite location</u> malfunctions because the connected ballot container includes too many ballots or there is no storage for ballots, election officials may follow either the process outlined above or the following alternative procedure:

<u>1. The general registrar, assistant registrar(s), or officers of election may remove the overflow ballots from the connected ballot container and place them in a secure container.</u>

<u>2. That container will be sealed or locked by the registrar, assistant registrar(s) or</u> officers of election with their signatures, the date, and a record of the number of ballots that have been secured in the container

<u>3. The sealed or locked container shall be immediately transported to the general</u> <u>registrar's office by either the officers of election, the general registrar, or an assistant general</u> <u>registrar.</u>

<u>4. At the general registrar's office, the container shall be stored in a secure, locked</u> <u>location that is away from the access or view of the public and that is accessible only to the</u> <u>general registrar or assistant registrar(s).</u>

Statutory Authority

§ 24.2-103 of the Code of Virginia.



Closed Session

BOARD WORKING PAPERS



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