

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 535 entitled “An act relating to approval of amendments to the charter
4 of the Town of Brattleboro” respectfully reports that it has considered the same
5 and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out all after the enacting
6 clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROVAL

8 The General Assembly approves the amendments to the charter of the Town
9 of Brattleboro as set forth in this act. Voters approved proposals of
10 amendment on March 5, 2019.

11 Sec. 2. 24 App. V.S.A. chapter 107 is amended to read:

12 CHAPTER 107. TOWN OF BRATTLEBORO

13 * * *

14 § 2.1. DEFINITIONS

15 * * *

16 (c) “Youth voter” shall mean any person who is 16 to 18 years of age and is
17 otherwise qualified to vote in Town elections pursuant to 17 V.S.A. chapter 43,
18 subchapter 1.

19 § 2.2. ELECTED OFFICERS

20 On the first Tuesday in March, the voters and youth voters of the Town
21 shall elect by Australian ballot the following:

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(3) ~~A Board of five school directors, elected at large, of whom two shall serve for one year and three shall serve for three years. [Repealed.]~~

(4) ~~Union High School directors, who shall be elected for terms and in numbers as required by State law. [Repealed.]~~

* * *

§ 2.3. MANNER OF ELECTION

(a) Representative Town Meeting members: Representative Town Meeting members shall be elected by Australian ballot on the first Tuesday in March of each year. Voters and youth voters in each district shall elect, for staggered terms, three members for every 180 voters or major fraction thereof. Members shall serve for three years, except that a member elected to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term. The manner of elections is fully prescribed in 1959 Acts and Resolves No. 302 ~~of the Acts of 1959.~~

* * *

§ 2.4. REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

(a) Description:

* * *

(2) The Representative Town Meeting consists of up to 140 elected voters and youth voters. It is a guiding body for the Town and a source of ideas, proposals, and comments, elected by district as defined by the Board of

1 Civil Authority. It exercises exclusively all powers vested in the voters of the
2 Town. In addition to the elected members, the following shall be members ex
3 officio: the members of the Selectboard, the School Directors, the Treasurer,
4 the Clerk, the Moderator, and those State Senators and State Representatives
5 who reside in Brattleboro. Representative Town Meeting shall act upon all
6 articles on the Town meeting warning except those ~~which~~ that relate to the
7 election of officers, referenda, and other matters voted upon by Australian
8 ballot.

9 * * *

10 § 2.5. SELECTBOARD

11 The Selectboard is a legislative body of five persons elected at large by the
12 voters and youth voters of the Town. The Selectboard directs the affairs of the
13 Town within areas specified in subchapter 4 of this charter.

14 * * *

15 § 4.1. COMPOSITION; ELIGIBILITY; ELECTIONS; TERMS

16 (a) The Selectboard shall be elected at large by the voters and youth voters
17 of the Town from among their number, and newly elected Selectboard
18 members' terms shall begin on the first Monday following the final
19 adjournment of the annual Representative Town Meeting.

20 * * *

1 § 10.3. ELECTION OF TOWN MEETING MEMBERS; CERTIFICATION
2 OF VOTERS; TOWN MEETING MEMBERSHIP; NOTICE;
3 QUALIFICATION; RESPONSIBILITIES

4 (a)(1) At the first election of Town Meeting members to be held on the first
5 Tuesday in March after the acceptance of this subchapter, the qualified voters
6 of each district shall elect three Town Meeting members for every 180 voters
7 or major fraction thereof, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this
8 section. The first one-third elected in each district, in order of the number of
9 votes received, shall serve for three years; the second one-third in ~~such~~ the
10 order of election shall serve for two years; and the remaining one-third in ~~such~~
11 the order of election shall be elected to serve for one year. In the event of a tie
12 vote the term of such members shall be designated by lot, and the presiding
13 officer of the district shall certify ~~such~~ the designation. All Town Meeting
14 members shall serve for terms commencing on the day of their election.

15 (2) Annually thereafter, on the first Tuesday in March, the voters and
16 youth voters of each district shall in like manner elect for the term of three
17 years one Town Meeting member for every 180 voters or major fraction
18 thereof, and shall also in like manner fill for the unexpired term or terms any
19 vacancy or vacancies then existing in the number of Town Meeting members
20 in such district, subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section.

21 * * *

1 (e) Every Town Meeting member shall be a qualified voter or youth voter
2 in the Town and living in the district from which he or she is chosen at the time
3 of his or her election.

4 * * *

5 § 2.3a. EARLY VOTING

6 (a)(1) A voter choosing to vote early by Australian ballot in the Town
7 Clerk's office shall vote in the same manner as those voting on election day
8 provided that the voter completes a "Request for Early Voter Absentee Ballot
9 and Certification" form stating the following:

10 * * *

11 (4) As authorized for certain Town elections pursuant to this charter, a
12 youth voter choosing to vote early shall vote in the same manner as a youth
13 voter on election day provided that the voter completes an early voting form
14 required by the Town Clerk.

15 * * *

16 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on passage.

18

19 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE