
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 70 (H.474). An act relating to miscellaneous changes to election law

Subjects: Campaign finance; elections; nominations; ranked-choice voting; write-in candidates; electronic ballot return; recounts

This act prohibits candidates who lose a major party primary election from running in the general election under another party or as an independent candidate. It requires write-in candidates to file with either the Secretary of State or relevant clerks before an election in order to have their votes counted. This act modifies monetary thresholds for when candidates, parties, and committees must register and file campaign finance information with the Secretary of State. It redefines the term “independent expenditure-only committee” and inserts this term alongside the term “political committees” so that the two entities comply with the same laws (excluding contributions). This act requires town clerks and boards of civil authority to perform audits of voter checklists for Representative districts and Senatorial districts that split municipal boundaries. It clarifies the prohibition on casting more than one ballot. This act modifies various State and local election deadlines and procedures. It expressly exempts annual meetings from the Vermont Open Meeting Law. This act also modifies automatic voter registration at the Department of Motor Vehicles so that an applicant for a driver’s license is automatically registered to vote if the applicant attests to having U.S. citizenship or if the Department has proof of U.S. citizenship for the applicant, unless the applicant opts out.

Effective Date: June 25, 2025