CCAP ELECTION REFORM COMMITTEE

REPORT TO THE CCAP MEMBERSHIP

April 10, 2014
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Pennsylvania counties are proud of the role they play in securing our most fundamental democratic right, the ability to vote. Counties have responsibility for conducting and maintaining voter registration and for conduct of the elections. They carry out these responsibilities under requirements of the federal and state constitutions, federal statutes, and the state Election Code.

The CCAP Election Reform Committee is an ad hoc committee first created in 2013 by then-President Christian Leinbach, based on comments he had regularly received from CCAP members on recurring issues with registration administration and with the conduct of elections. CCAP’s 2014 President Jeff Haste, recognizing the significant work the committee had underway, continued it for his term. Committee members include commissioners and home rule counterparts, county election directors, and representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of State.

The issues raised by the counties vary in size and scope, and touch on both administrative and philosophical issues. At their heart, they represent counties’ cumulative experience in practice under statute, regulation, and judicial decisions, and represent counties’ interest in providing fair, efficient, and open elections.

The committee reviewed issues submitted by the membership and election directors, and developed the list further based on the experience and observations of committee members. The committee also consulted the work of Governor Ridge’s Voting Modernization Task Force, Governor Rendell’s Election Reform Task Force, and President Obama’s Commission on Election Administration.

This report, presented for consideration by the CCAP membership at the 2014 Spring Conference, includes recommendations on a number of changes in statute and practice. Each of the recommendations also contains a note whether the changes are already a part of the Pennsylvania County Platform, or are recommended for adoption by the CCAP membership for inclusion in the Platform. Many of the changes will require statutory amendment, while some may be accomplished by directive of the Department of State.

The report prioritizes the recommendations, focusing first on those the committee believes should be taken to the Administration and General Assembly this session, followed by others that warrant consideration but will take additional time to develop. The report also lists issues that the committee and others have raised but which require further deliberations before a recommendation can be made to the CCAP membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Singer, Philadelphia City Commissioner, Co-chair
Robert Thomas, Franklin County Commissioner, Co-chair
SHORT TERM LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. **Require write in candidates to register with the County Board of Elections.** Frivolous write-ins should not need to be recorded or counted during the official count. *Resolution recommended.*

2. **Eliminate the requirement to have constables in the polling places on election day.** *Pennsylvania County Platform, Article VI, Section C.1.*

3. **Eliminate the requirement of newspaper advertising for the Election Proclamation.** The Election Code requires print advertising of the Election Proclamation, to include every candidate for every office on the election ballot. Given that the majority of the population now gathers its information electronically, counties should be permitted to forego the newspaper advertisement and place the Election Proclamation on the county website or other electronic advertising. A companion requirement, if necessary, would be to place a summary ad in the newspaper, directing voters to the electronic publication. *Resolution recommended.*

4. **Clarify or correct the definition of "separate ballot" for judicial retentions, to allow printing the retention ballot on the face (as space permits) or back side of the regular ballot.** The PA constitution requires a separate ballot (or separate column on voting machines) for judicial retention elections. For counties that use paper ballots (including optical scan), and for all counties’ absentee and provisional ballots, the provision in law that judicial retention races must be on a separate ballot should be clarified. Absent a constitutional amendment, the statute should be amended if possible to permit printing the judicial retention ballot on the back side of the ballot. Doing so would be more cost-effective than printing the ballots on separate pieces of paper. Any concerns about voters not voting for races/questions on the reverse of the ballot can be mitigated by requiring the in-precinct scanners to be programmed to prompt the voter for an opportunity to re-vote if there are no votes for any of the races/questions on what is deemed to be the back side. Some counties already are doing a single page with the assent of the local court, while others do it on the reverse side of the same ballot. *Resolution recommended.*

5. **Set an extended and uniform 90 day standard for the deadline for referenda and for special elections for vacancies in municipal office.** Many referendum statutes have a deadline of 60 days in advance of the election for the question to be filed with the county election office, and some have no deadline at all (some that require a petition are also indeterminate on the length of time the petition can be circulated). Similarly, the vacancy provisions for most municipal offices provide that, if a vacancy occurs at least 60 days before the next municipal election, the position is to appear on the ballot for the remainder of the unexpired term. A 60 day deadline is too late for remote military and overseas ballots, and leaves no margin for error to certify the question or candidate, deal with challenges, and meet the mailing deadline for regular military and overseas ballots. Setting the process and deadline uniformly, and extending the deadline to 90 days, gives the additional time needed to assure that all issues and processes are addressed, including challenges, and that military and overseas ballots are prepared on a timely basis. *Resolution recommended.*
OTHER LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

1. **Revise the Election Code to match current practice and case law.** For example, a literal reading of the code indicates that absentee ballots must be counted at the precinct, while in practice counties may legally, at their discretion, count absentee ballots centrally. *Pennsylvania County Platform, Article VI, Section A.1.*

2. **Full rewrite of the Election Code.** While the committee has engaged in a discussion of a rewrite of the code, the consensus is that it is more practical to deal with it one section/issue at a time as outlined in (1) above. During this process, CCAP should have a conversation with the Department of State and with legislative leadership about developing a parallel 35 Pa.C.S.A. comparable to the manner in which municipal law in 53 P.L. is being recodified into 53 Pa.C.S.A. *Pennsylvania County Platform, Article VI, Section A.1.*

3. **Reduce or eliminate petition requirements for some offices.** Allow easier ballot access for some local and minor offices, at least for smaller municipalities, by reducing or eliminating the petition requirement (if eliminated, allow simple registration of candidacy). In the alternative, consider deleting the fee requirement. Allowing easier ballot access could also help reduce write-ins, and yield a more representative result where write-ins win office based on ballot positions that are open due to lack of candidate interest in qualifying. *Resolution recommended.*

4. **Make the overseer provision workable in Philadelphia.** Currently 25 P.S. Section 2685 is unworkable in Philadelphia because it requires all the law judges of the Court of Common Pleas to act concurrently. The section should be revised in a way that will make it possible for electors in Philadelphia divisions to successfully petition for election overseers. *Resolution recommended.*

5. **Allow the county board of elections to make appointments to vacancies on local election boards.** Appointment would be by the commissioners or board of elections rather than by judicial appointment. Already in many counties the president judge simply gives pro forma approval. *Resolution recommended.*

6. **Reinforce capacity to use schools as polling places.** The Election Code already requires public schools to allow counties to use their facilities as polling places, if requested. Still, while counties prefer to uses schools based on accessibility, central location, and other factors, many have ceded to schools’ security concerns and have relocated polling places. To address school concerns about security, the PA County Platform already calls for making election day an in-service day. The committee supports that provision, and recommends extending the mandate provision to all schools, including charter schools. *Pennsylvania County Platform, Article VI, Section A.8.d. Amendment recommended.*

ADMINISTRATIVE PRIORITIES

1. **Give county election boards discretion to print fewer ballot cards than 100% of registered voters.** For counties with paper ballots, the local election boards should be given the discretion to determine how many ballots to print. The 100% of voter registration requirement is overkill, particularly in municipal primaries, and results in wasted resources.
and unnecessary cost. Local election boards have historical voter turnout percentage data (especially in municipal elections), as well as local knowledge of issues that might drive unusually high turnout in otherwise low-turnout elections (particularly primaries), that make it possible for them to determine the right amount of ballots to print. A standard should be set, perhaps a minimum of 20% over the highest percent turnout in a defined number of prior cycles of the same election. Note as well that many counties now have ballot-on-demand printers that could be used if they run short. Explore administrative remedy with the Department of State.

2. **Create and circulate election to-do lists.** Most election directors have informal to-do lists with timelines and legal citations, building on information furnished by the Department of State. A more formal process could yield better uniformity among election directors and county boards of election. Pursue development cooperatively with the Department of State and the county election director associations.

3. **Review scheduling of equipment for certification.** Given the pace of technological change, equipment certification schedules should be updated and expedited, particularly to assure access to new systems and features. Review timetable and recommendations with the Department of State.

4. **Consider new election equipment features.** Anticipate and incorporate the capacity of technology to aid in administration of elections, including broadband and wireless access, ballot-on-demand, electronic poll books, interfaces between optical and direct recording electronic, and additional security. Review with Department of State, national vendors, and election directors.

5. **Review COSTARS renewal of the joint election equipment contracts.** Much of the voting equipment that is currently in use will need to be replaced in the next 6 to 10 years. The procurement process that expedited bringing Pennsylvania into HAVA compliance in 2006 is a model that can be built on to help counties save time and cost as they head into a replacement cycle. The process should recognize lessons learned, including involvement of county practitioners in development of bid specifications, and more careful attention to service, supply, and maintenance costs. Review with the Department of State and the Department of General Services; also review with NACo’s US Communities.

6. **Create a resource for technology assessment independent of vendors.** Counties do not have an impartial source to evaluate vendor claims on equipment features, operation, and durability, nor do they have capacity to do clear side-by-side comparisons. Equipment certification processes speak only to the suitability of equipment to meet statutory operational and security requirements. Review with Department of State, and with national peer groups.

7. **Ensure uniform treatment by SURE of records transferred by PennDOT.** Treatment of PennDOT registration and change of address records in the Statewide Uniform Registry of Electors (SURE) system can be different if the voter moves within county, from county to county, or into or out of state. Additionally, for some transfers the record is sent to the new county, others not. PennDOT and SURE systems need to be modified to assure that records are treated uniformly; failure to do so can result in inaccurate poll books, and frustration for affected voters. Review with the Department of State and PennDOT.
OUTREACH PRIORITIES

1. **Provide realistic and adequate ramp-up time for new laws, procedures and systems.** Educate lawmakers on the interrelatedness of statute to the timing and conduct of elections, so they will incorporate realistic effective dates into statutory changes. A reasonable amount of time is needed between enactment and the implementation date of new laws or system changes, to give time for equipment acquisition or modification, software development and installation, and worker and voter training. A recommended standard implementation date is January 1, which can be a better target than, for example, 12 months after enactment inasmuch as the January date falls neatly between election cycles. Congress has typically given two years for implementation of election and registration requirements. **Resolution recommended.** Review with the Department of State, House and Senate leadership, and House and Senate State Government committees.

TOPICS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND EVALUATION

1. **Eliminate the requirement to complete two numbered lists of voters at the polls, or reduce the list to one.** Questions for study include:
   - What other purposes do the two numbered lists serve?
   - Do electronic poll books provide an adequate alternative?
   - How would the minority inspector be assured access to a full record of the election in case of dispute?

2. **Find ways to encourage more people in our communities to give back to the community by working at the polls.** Questions and suggestions for consideration include:
   - Employer incentives, such as an “employer election day forgiveness program” whereby an employer would permit employees to work on election days without having to use charged time. This could be crafted after “jury duty” provisions on excusing employees to serve jury duty.
   - Provide that judges of election and other poll workers are excused from jury duty for the duration of their term.
   - Make election posts appointive rather than elective offices (PA is one of only three states where they are elected).
   - Clarify position on allowing half-day work at the polls (creates pay questions, shift change questions, challenges in recruitment, heavier training load).
   - Excuse work of government employees as poll workers from Hatch Act and Election Code violation, and develop a policy on allowing/encouraging county employees to serve.

3. **Provide for election director accreditation and training.** Amend the County Code or Election Code to require training and accreditation of county directors of election. Questions and policy matters for consideration include:
   - Include current as well as new, or grandfather or phase-in for incumbents.
   - Does it mean a pay increase?
   - Allow assistants to attend.
• Determinations on governance and determination of course content. The election directors should be involved in determining and providing the training.
• Number of hours required, initially and for continuing education.
• Check with other states and the Election Center. Sources such as the PEW trusts and the National Association of Secretaries of State may know what other states are doing.
• Consider including some on-line and webex resources.
• Determine the level and manner of state involvement (the DOS already provides poll worker training web pages, school at conferences, and anticipates having SURE training online soon).
• Formalized training (as opposed to certification) could be undertaken now, preceding statutory recognition of accreditation.
• Training also aids in standardization.
• We need to be mindful of cost – perhaps the Department of State could be involved in both course work and funding, and if so it could be tied in to the existing election conferences, maybe as an add-on.

4. **Provide timely resolution of ballot challenges.** Counties face frequent problems with certification of the ballot, often requiring military and overseas ballots to be sent with a special absentee insert and sometimes delaying programming and printing for the election. The question is how to manage the process so that justice can be rendered, election administrators have adequate time for election preparation, and voters’ rights are respected.

Ideas under consideration:
• Move up deadlines at least a month for circulation of petitions.
• Find a mechanism to require the courts to adhere to deadlines in state election law.
• Incorporate a “deemer clause” that if the issues are not resolved by the statutory date, the candidate goes on the ballot (noting the risk of encouraging challenged candidates to “run out the clock”).

5. **Amend Act 18 list of acceptable IDs to allow photo IDs issued by a county board of elections to a registered elector of that county.** Act 18 as written does not allow an agency of a county to issue voting-eligible IDs, except to employees of the county. Consideration by the committee of the matter is on hold while the overall matter of voter ID is being litigated. If brought back for consideration, issues under review include:
• Allow carry permits.
• How does the county verify the information a prospective registrant presents in order for the county to issue an ID? Note that the DOS ID is not rigorously vetted either, but justified in that, unlike the PA drivers license, it is a single-use (single-purpose) ID.
• Would permission for a county-issued ID increase county costs in equipment and staffing?
• A county-issued ID should be the ID of last resort.
• The committee does not understand the importance of an ID carrying an expiration date, given that the picture does not change materially based on the date.
• There is the potential for an equal protection claim if the provision is not written carefully.

6. **Place limits on the prerogatives of a substitute board of elections.** The law should be clear on what substitute boards of elections (appointed when commissioners are on the ballot) can and cannot do, for example relative to budget, election systems certification, and independent
legal counsel. It was noted that Venango County had intended that this be a proposed CCAP resolution, based on their specific experience. The Venango issue dealt with an audit of election equipment, which some felt went beyond a reasonable scope of duties for a substitute board; by extension, the question can be raised on their prerogatives in supervising or even terminating election staff. It was noted, on the other hand, that if there is just one substitute (e.g. when a commissioner is on the ballot for a different office) it is less material.

7. Develop a list of pros and cons for early voting, and compare to the strategies of consolidating polling places and mail-in/no-fault absentee. Considerations (See current PA County Platform Article VI, Section A.9):
   - Early voting is often recommended as a means to reduce waiting lines.
   - Lines can also be a function of when people show up at the polls, too large a voting precinct, and how well the county trains poll workers in line management.
   - CCAP already supports no-fault absentee, a form of early voting. Pennsylvania County Platform, Article VI, Section A.8.c.
   - Early in-person voting requires additional equipment to accommodate all of the ballot faces and to meet the requirement to lock the machines down until the regular polls close.
   - Early in-person voting requires additional staffing and longer duration for polling places, including consolidated polling places.
   - The committee notes that Ohio does early voting, and a comparison of Allegheny County to Cuyahoga County OH (Cleveland) elections shows Cuyahoga costs twice as much.

8. Develop a list of pros and cons of all-mail ballots. Issues under review include:
   - Loss of “community” value of voting at polling places.
   - Eliminates securing and managing precincts and poll workers.
   - Could be more problematic and more expensive; no-fault absentee is considered at best cost-neutral because of printing, postage, and tabulation costs.
   - Can work only if mailing lists are accurate.
   - Privacy and security concerns; no guarantee that the voter will not be intimidated or will have the capacity to cast the vote in private.

9. Develop a list of pros and cons of internet balloting. Internet balloting shares many of the same pros and cons as all-mail ballots, plus some unique to the technology:
   - Loss of “community” value of voting at polling places.
   - Eliminates securing and managing precincts and poll workers.
   - Could be more problematic and more expensive; incurs costs for software, programming, security, bandwidth capacity, and maintenance.
   - SURE and all voter records would need to be updated to accommodate email addresses.
   - Privacy and security concerns; no guarantee that the voter will not be intimidated or will have the capacity to cast the vote in private.
   - Real or perceived cyber-security threats.
APPENDIX I: PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were offered to the CCAP membership and were considered at the business meeting at the 2014 CCAP Spring Conference (March 23 to 25 at the Hilton Harrisburg) and subsequently submitted to electronic ballot, with balloting closing on April 10, 2014. The results of the balloting are indicated for each, and those approved have been added to the Pennsylvania County Platform, available on the Government Relations page of the CCAP website, www.pacounties.org.

Resolution No. 1
Submitted by the CCAP Election Reform Committee
Approved 135 – 4, 2 abstentions

Amend Article VI, Section A by adding a subsection to read (and renumbering remaining subsections):

2. The Association supports provisions in all amendments to the Election Code to provide realistic and adequate implementation time for new laws, procedures, and systems.

Resolution No. 2
Submitted by the CCAP Election Reform Committee
Amended by the CCAP County Governance Committee
Approved 130 – 10, 1 abstention

Amend Article VI, Section A, subsection 8 to read:

8. The Association supports changes in election law and practice that would:
   a. Improve administration of absentee balloting to provide greater convenience and accountability, including ease in application and submission of absentee ballots while maintaining the integrity, security, and secrecy of the process.
   b. Maintain the schedule for uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting but find a mechanism to assure court resolution of disputed ballots timely for preparation of absentee ballots, and provide that the federal write-in absentee ballot can be used in all elections for all offices. The Association also supports exploration of processes and technologies that will facilitate, with proper security, the registration, absentee application, and balloting processes for uniformed and overseas citizens.
   c. Reduce restrictions on the application for and use of absentee ballots, in particular by amending the Pennsylvania Constitution, if necessary, to eliminate all reasons or conditions necessary to qualify for an absentee ballot and permit any qualified elector to vote by absentee ballot without excuse.
   d. Include in the polling place school-use mandate all schools that receive state instructional funding, and designate the date of the primary and general election
as school in-service days and to support the closing of schools that are used as polling places.

e. Improve administration of elections within the provisions of the Help America Vote Act, including clarity on provisional ballot procedures and tabulation, standards and enforcement of accessibility, alternative language accessibility, and what constitutes a vote.

f. Defer questions of electoral college reform to the national level but provide for greater access to the ballot for minor political parties and political bodies, and

g. Provide uniform standards for submission and placement of referendum questions, including a 90 day deadline for submission to the county board of elections.

h. Make the requirement of newspaper advertising for the Election Proclamation discretionary, allowing counties instead to place the notice on the county website or other electronic publication.

i. Clarify or correct the definition of "separate ballot" for judicial retentions, to allow printing the retention ballot on the face (as space permits) or back side of the regular ballot.

j. Set an extended and uniform 90 day standard for the deadline for special elections for vacancies in municipal office.

k. Allow the county board of elections to make appointments to vacancies on local election boards; and

l. Make the overseer petition provision workable in Philadelphia by eliminating the requirement for concurrent assent by all law judges.

**Resolution No. 3**  
*Submitted by the CCAP Election Reform Committee*  
*Amended by the CCAP Resolutions Committee*  
*Approved 116 – 24, 1 abstention*

Amend Article VI, Section B by adding a subsection to read:

3. The Association supports an amendment to the Election Code to reduce or eliminate petition requirements for judge of election and inspector of elections.

**Resolution No. 4**  
*Submitted by the CCAP Election Reform Committee*  
*Rejected 57 – 82, 2 abstentions*

Amend Article VI, Section B by adding a subsection to read:

3. The Association supports an amendment to the Election Code to require write in candidates to register with the county Board of Elections.
VI ELECTIONS

A. General

1. The Association believes that the Pennsylvania Election Code contains many conflicting and antiquated provisions and, as a result, supports a complete rewrite or codification of the law. (Readopted 2012)

2. The Association supports federal and state reimbursement to counties for the expense of conducting federal and state elections, on the basis of a percentage of the cost of preparing the ballots. (Amended 2010, readopted 2012)

3. The Association opposes any change in the date for primary election unless all other necessary changes in the Registration Laws and Election Code are also made at the same time. (Readopted 2012)

4. The Association opposes any legislation that would authorize initiative and referendum where the referendum would be binding on local officials. (Readopted 2012)

5. The Association supports the elimination of the “yes” retention question for judges, requiring judges to stand for re-election. (Readopted 2012, amended 2013)

6. The Association supports an amendment to the Election Code to require the Commonwealth to reimburse counties, in the same manner as is done for special elections for Pennsylvania House and Senate seats, for the cost of special elections for Congressional races. (Added 2002, readopted 2012)

7. The Association supports implementation of voter identification requirements in a manner which results in the greatest possible access for qualified electors, which will require close cooperation with the Department of State, clear and detailed information for county election directors and voters on requirements and rights, prompt and uniform response to legal and practical questions, broad multimedia dissemination of information on ID requirements and how to obtain ID, uniform rules on what qualifies as ID, uniform and detailed training of poll workers, and access to data to assist county election offices in identifying registered voters who lack ID. (Amended and readopted, 2012)

8. The Association supports changes in election law and practice that would:
   a. Improve administration of absentee balloting to provide greater convenience and accountability, including ease in application and submission of absentee ballots while maintaining the integrity, security, and secrecy of the process.
   b. Maintain the schedule for uniformed and overseas citizens absentee voting but find a mechanism to assure court resolution of disputed ballots timely for preparation of absentee ballots, and provide that the federal write-in absentee ballot can be used in all elections for all offices. The Association also supports
exploration of processes and technologies that will facilitate, with proper security, the registration, absentee application, and balloting processes for uniformed and overseas citizens.

c. Reduce restrictions on the application for and use of absentee ballots, in particular by amending the Pennsylvania Constitution, if necessary, to eliminate all reasons or conditions necessary to qualify for an absentee ballot and permit any qualified elector to vote by absentee ballot without excuse.

d. Designate the date of the primary and general election as school in-service days and support the closing of schools that are used as polling places.

e. Improve administration of elections within the provisions of the Help America Vote Act, including clarity on provisional ballot procedures and tabulation, standards and enforcement of accessibility, alternative language accessibility, and what constitutes a vote.

f. Defer questions of electoral college reform to the national level but provide for greater access to the ballot for minor political parties and political bodies, and


9. The Association opposes early voting that relies on establishing and operating single or multiple polling places, and instead supports a mail-in early ballot system comparable to no-fault absentee voting. (Added 2011, readopted 2012)

B. Qualifications and Petitions
1. The Association supports the standardization of petitions used for all elective positions, availability and permissibility for downloadable petitions, and reformatting petitions to 8.5 X 11 size. (Amended and readopted, 2012)

2. The Association supports legislation to improve the validity of the petition circulation process, including better clarity and training on petition content and circulation rules and increased penalties for fraudulent practices. (Added 2013)

C. Polling Places
1. The Association believes that constables should no longer be required to be present at each polling place in every election district, and the decision to eliminate or maintain their presence should be at the option of the local election board. (Readopted 2012)

D. Ballots and Election Systems
1. The Association supports full federal funding, or in absence of full federal funding full Commonwealth funding, of the equipment, registration, accessibility, and related provisions of the Help America Vote Act, including alterations of or additions to any requirements under that act or any successor federal or state act. (Added 2003, amended 2009, readopted 2012)

2. The Association supports election system certifications based on objective criteria, including the quality of the equipment, its utility to the electors, and its compliance with Pennsylvania statute and practice, and supports legislation to allow expedited consideration of new and updated technologies. (Added 2001, readopted 2012)
3. The Association opposes the use of voting systems, such as internet voting, that do not afford the privacy of the polling place. (Added 2001; amended 2006, readopted 2012)

4. The Association opposes state or federal legislation mandating the implementation of a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail for use on Direct Recording Electronic voting systems in Pennsylvania, although not prohibiting the optional use of a Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail system for those counties that choose to do so. (Added 2004, readopted 2012)

E. Voter Registration

1. The Association supports on-line voter registration, provided that:
   a. It includes provisions for obtaining a voter signature image, originating either from a signature on paper filed at a Pennsylvania County Board of Elections or from a signature collected in a secure fashion by a government agency (such as PennDOT) and transferred securely to a county board of elections;
   b. Final decisions about acceptance of the voter registration application remain with the County Board of Elections;
   c. County election staff are included in development of the on-line system; and
   d. The roll-out allows adequate time for verification of technology, process, protocols, security and facility for end users. (Added 2013)

2. The Association opposes legislation permitting same day voter registration, with the exception of dual use of the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) for registration purposes by a member of the uniformed services or merchant marine on active duty, or an eligible spouse or dependent at the time the absentee ballot is cast. (Amended 2011, readopted 2012)
APPENDIX III: MEMBERS, CCAP ELECTION REFORM COMMITTEE

ELECTION REFORM COMMITTEE

Ad hoc committee created in 2013 for the purpose of review and recommendations on changes relating to statute and practice for elections and voter registration. No limits or restrictions on membership.

Committee Members

Stephanie Singer, City Commissioner, Philadelphia, Co-chair
Robert Thomas, Commissioner, Franklin County, Co-chair
Ed Allison, Director of Elections, Lawrence County
Charles Anderson, Commissioner, Westmoreland County
Barbara Cross, Commissioner, Cumberland County
Monica Dutko, Director of Elections and Voter Registration, Adams County
Patricia Evanko, Commissioner, Indiana County
Jeff Greenburg, Director of Registration and Elections, Mercer County
Denise Jones, Chief Clerk and Election Director, Venango County
Janis Kemmer, Commissioner, Elk County
Christian Leinbach, Commissioner, Berks County
Robert Loughery, Commissioner, Bucks County
Joseph Passarella, Former Election Director, Montgomery County
Michael Pipe, Commissioner, Centre County
Douglas Smith, County Clerk, Erie County
John Stoffa, County Executive, Northampton County (2013)

Non-Voting, Ex Officio

Jonathan Marks, Commissioner, Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation, Pennsylvania Department of State

Staff Liaison

Douglas Hill, Executive Director
Brinda Carroll Penyak, Deputy Director