



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3511

Introduced 2/5/2026, by Sen. Julie A. Morrison

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1d new	
10 ILCS 5/19-3	from Ch. 46, par. 19-3
10 ILCS 5/19-25 new	
10 ILCS 5/19A-15	
30 ILCS 500/15-45	
105 ILCS 5/24-2	
110 ILCS 70/45a	from Ch. 24 1/2, par. 381.1

Amends the Election Code. Provides that the date of the general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in even-numbered years shall be a State holiday known as General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the State. Requires the State Board of Elections, in conjunction with election authorities, to implement a secure, free access system available to voters by January 1, 2026. Provides that the system shall allow a voter to track receipt of the voter's vote by mail ballot and check the ballot's status with the election authority. Provides that an election authority shall allow any voter who is in line to vote at the time an early voting polling place closes to cast a ballot. Makes other changes. Amends the Illinois Procurement Code, School Code, and State Universities Civil Service Act making conforming changes. Effective immediately.

LRB104 19395 SPS 32843 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

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

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing
5 Sections 19-3 and 19A-15 and by adding Sections 2A-1.1d and
6 19-25 as follows:

7 (10 ILCS 5/2A-1.1d new)

8 Sec. 2A-1.1d. General Election Day State holiday.
9 Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the
10 contrary, the date of the general election on the first
11 Tuesday after the first Monday of November in even-numbered
12 years shall be a State holiday known as General Election Day
13 and shall be observed throughout the State. General Election
14 Day is a legal school holiday for purposes of the School Code
15 and State Universities Civil Service Act. Any school closed
16 for General Election Day shall be made available to an
17 election authority as a polling place for General Election
18 Day.

19 (10 ILCS 5/19-3) (from Ch. 46, par. 19-3)

20 Sec. 19-3. Application for a vote by mail ballot.

21 (a) The application for a vote by mail ballot for a single
22 election shall be substantially in the following form:

1 APPLICATION FOR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT

2 To be voted at the election in the County of and
3 State of Illinois.

4 I state that I am a resident of in the municipality of
5 in the county of; that I have resided at such address
6 for at least 30 days; that I am lawfully entitled to vote at
7 the election to be held on; and that I wish to vote
8 by mail.

9 I hereby make application for an official ballot or
10 ballots to be voted by me at such election, and I agree that I
11 shall return such ballot or ballots to the official issuing
12 the same prior to the closing of the polls on the date of the
13 election or, if returned by mail, postmarked no later than
14 election day, for counting no later than during the period for
15 counting provisional ballots, the last day of which is the
16 14th day following election day.

17 I understand that this application is made for an official
18 vote by mail ballot or ballots to be voted by me at the
19 election specified in this application and that I must submit
20 a separate application for an official vote by mail ballot or
21 ballots to be voted by me at any subsequent election.

22 Under penalties as provided by law pursuant to Section
23 29-10 of the Election Code, the undersigned certifies that the
24 statements set forth in this application are true and correct.

25

26 *fill in either (1), (2) or (3).

1 Post office address to which ballot is mailed:

2

3 (a-5) The application for a single vote by mail ballot
4 transmitted electronically pursuant to Section 19-2.6 shall be
5 substantively similar to the application for a vote by mail
6 ballot for a single election and shall include:

7 I swear or affirm that I am a voter with a print
8 disability, and, as a result of this disability, I am
9 making a request to receive a vote by mail ballot
10 electronically so that I may privately and independently
11 mark, verify, and print my vote by mail ballot.

12 (b) The application for permanent vote by mail status
13 shall be substantially in the following form:

14 APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT VOTE BY MAIL STATUS

15 I am currently a registered voter and wish to apply for
16 permanent vote by mail status.

17 I state that I am a resident of in the municipality of
18 in the county of; that I have resided at such address
19 for at least 30 days; that I am lawfully entitled to vote at
20 the election to be held on; and that I wish to vote
21 by mail in:

22 all subsequent elections that do not require a party
23 designation.

24 all subsequent elections, and I wish to receive a
25 Party vote by mail ballot in
26 elections that require a party designation.

1 I hereby make application for an official ballot or
 2 ballots to be voted by me at such election, and I agree that I
 3 shall return such ballot or ballots to the official issuing
 4 the same prior to the closing of the polls on the date of the
 5 election or, if returned by mail, postmarked no later than
 6 election day, for counting no later than during the period for
 7 counting provisional ballots, the last day of which is the
 8 14th day following election day.

9 Under penalties as provided by law under Section 29-10 of
 10 the Election Code, the undersigned certifies that the
 11 statements set forth in this application are true and correct.

12

13 Post office address to which ballot is mailed:

14

15 (b-5) The application for permanent vote by mail ballots
 16 transmitted electronically pursuant to Section 19-2.6 shall be
 17 substantively similar to the application for permanent vote by
 18 mail status and shall include:

19 I swear or affirm that I am a voter with a
 20 non-temporary print disability, and as a result of this
 21 disability, I am making a request to receive vote by mail
 22 ballots electronically so that I may privately and
 23 independently mark, verify, and print my vote by mail
 24 ballots.

25 (c) However, if application is made for a primary election
 26 ballot, such application shall require the applicant to

1 designate the name of the political party with which the
2 applicant is affiliated. The election authority shall allow
3 any voter on permanent vote by mail status to change his or her
4 party affiliation for a primary election ballot by a method
5 and deadline published and selected by the election authority.

6 (d) If application is made electronically, the applicant
7 shall mark the box associated with the above described
8 statement included as part of the online application
9 certifying that the statements set forth in the application
10 under subsection (a) or (b) are true and correct, and a
11 signature is not required.

12 (e) Any person may produce, reproduce, distribute, or
13 return to an election authority an application under this
14 Section. If applications are sent to a post office box
15 controlled by any individual or organization that is not an
16 election authority, those applications shall (i) include a
17 valid and current phone number for the individual or
18 organization controlling the post office box and (ii) be
19 turned over to the appropriate election authority within 7
20 days of receipt or, if received within 2 weeks of the election
21 in which an applicant intends to vote, within 2 days of
22 receipt. Failure to turn over the applications in compliance
23 with this paragraph shall constitute a violation of this Code
24 and shall be punishable as a petty offense with a fine of \$100
25 per application. Removing, tampering with, or otherwise
26 knowingly making the postmark on the application unreadable by

1 the election authority shall establish a rebuttable
2 presumption of a violation of this paragraph. Upon receipt,
3 the appropriate election authority shall accept and promptly
4 process any application under this Section submitted in a form
5 substantially similar to that required by this Section,
6 including any substantially similar production or reproduction
7 generated by the applicant.

8 (f) An election authority shall ~~may~~ combine the
9 applications in subsections (a) and (b) onto one form, but the
10 distinction between the applications must be clear and the
11 form must provide check boxes for an applicant to indicate
12 whether he or she is applying for a single election vote by
13 mail ballot or for permanent vote by mail status.

14 (Source: P.A. 102-15, eff. 6-17-21; 102-819, eff. 5-13-22;
15 103-467, eff. 8-4-23.)

16 (10 ILCS 5/19-25 new)

17 Sec. 19-25. Vote by mail tracking. In conjunction with
18 election authorities, the State Board of Elections shall
19 implement by January 1, 2026 a secure, free access system
20 available to voters in each election authority that allows
21 each vote by mail voter to:

22 (1) track the delivery and receipt of the voter's vote
23 by mail ballot by the election authority; and

24 (2) learn if the voter's vote by mail ballot was
25 accepted for counting and, if not, the reason why the

1 ballot was rejected.

2 For each election, the election authority shall make the
3 secure, free access system available to vote by mail voters
4 from the first day that vote by mail ballots are accepted until
5 30 days after completion of the official canvass.

6 (10 ILCS 5/19A-15)

7 Sec. 19A-15. Period for early voting; hours.

8 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this Code, the period
9 for early voting by personal appearance begins the 40th day
10 preceding a general primary, consolidated primary,
11 consolidated, or general election and extends through the end
12 of the day before election day.

13 (b) Except as otherwise provided by this Section, a
14 permanent polling place for early voting must remain open
15 beginning the 15th day before an election through the end of
16 the day before election day during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to
17 4:30 p.m., or 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., on weekdays, except that
18 beginning 8 days before election day, a permanent polling
19 place for early voting must remain open during the hours of
20 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., or 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and 9:00
21 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays and holidays, and 10:00 a.m. to
22 4 p.m. on Sundays; except that, in addition to the hours
23 required by this subsection, a permanent polling place
24 designated by an election authority under subsections (c),
25 (d), and (e) of Section 19A-10 must remain open for a total of

1 at least 8 hours on any holiday during the early voting period
2 and a total of at least 14 hours on the final weekend during
3 the early voting period.

4 (c) Notwithstanding subsection (b), an election authority
5 may close an early voting polling place if the building in
6 which the polling place is located has been closed by the State
7 or unit of local government in response to a severe weather
8 emergency or other force majeure. The election authority shall
9 notify the State Board of Elections of any closure and shall
10 make reasonable efforts to provide notice to the public of an
11 alternative location for early voting.

12 (d) (Blank).

13 (e) Except as otherwise provided in this Code, an election
14 authority shall allow any voter who is in line to vote at the
15 time an early voting polling place closes to cast a ballot.

16 (Source: P.A. 102-15, eff. 6-17-21.)

17 Section 10. The Illinois Procurement Code is amended by
18 changing Section 15-45 as follows:

19 (30 ILCS 500/15-45)

20 Sec. 15-45. Computation of days. The time within which any
21 act provided in this Code is to be done shall be computed by
22 excluding the first day and including the last, unless the
23 last day is Saturday or Sunday or is a holiday, and then it
24 shall also be excluded. If the day succeeding a Saturday,

1 Sunday, or holiday is also a holiday, a Saturday, or a Sunday,
2 then that succeeding day shall also be excluded. For the
3 purposes of this Code, "holiday" means: New Year's Day; Dr.
4 Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday; Lincoln's Birthday;
5 President's Day; Memorial Day; Juneteenth National Freedom
6 Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Columbus Day; General
7 Election Day; Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving Day; Christmas Day;
8 and any other day from time to time declared by the President
9 of the United States or the Governor of Illinois to be a day
10 during which the agencies of the State of Illinois that are
11 ordinarily open to do business with the public shall be closed
12 for business.

13 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the~~
14 ~~contrary, November 3, 2020 shall be a State holiday known as~~
15 ~~2020 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the~~
16 ~~State pursuant to this amendatory Act of the 101st General~~
17 ~~Assembly.~~

18 (Source: P.A. 101-642, eff. 6-16-20; 102-14, eff. 1-1-22;
19 102-334, eff. 8-9-21.)

20 Section 15. The School Code is amended by changing Section
21 24-2 as follows:

22 (105 ILCS 5/24-2)

23 Sec. 24-2. Holidays.

24 (a) Teachers shall not be required to teach on Saturdays,

1 nor, except as provided in subsection (b) of this Section,
2 shall teachers, educational support personnel employees, or
3 other school employees, other than noncertificated school
4 employees whose presence is necessary because of an emergency
5 or for the continued operation and maintenance of school
6 facilities or property, be required to work on legal school
7 holidays, which are January 1, New Year's Day; the third
8 Monday in January, the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King,
9 Jr.; February 12, the Birthday of President Abraham Lincoln;
10 the first Monday in March (to be known as Casimir Pulaski's
11 birthday); Good Friday; the day designated as Memorial Day by
12 federal law; June 19, Juneteenth National Freedom Day; July 4,
13 Independence Day; the first Monday in September, Labor Day;
14 the second Monday in October, Columbus Day; the first Tuesday
15 after the first Monday of November in even-numbered years,
16 General Election Day; November 11, Veterans' Day; the Thursday
17 in November commonly called Thanksgiving Day; and December 25,
18 Christmas Day. School boards may grant special holidays
19 whenever in their judgment such action is advisable. No
20 deduction shall be made from the time or compensation of a
21 school employee, including an educational support personnel
22 employee, on account of any legal or special holiday in which
23 that employee would have otherwise been scheduled to work but
24 for the legal or special holiday.

25 (b) A school board or other entity eligible to apply for
26 waivers and modifications under Section 2-3.25g of this Code

1 is authorized to hold school or schedule teachers' institutes,
2 parent-teacher conferences, or staff development on the third
3 Monday in January (the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King,
4 Jr.); February 12 (the Birthday of President Abraham Lincoln);
5 the first Monday in March (known as Casimir Pulaski's
6 birthday); the second Monday in October (Columbus Day); and
7 November 11 (Veterans' Day), provided that:

8 (1) the person or persons honored by the holiday are
9 recognized through instructional activities conducted on
10 that day or, if the day is not used for student attendance,
11 on the first school day preceding or following that day;
12 and

13 (2) the entity that chooses to exercise this authority
14 first holds a public hearing about the proposal. The
15 entity shall provide notice preceding the public hearing
16 to both educators and parents. The notice shall set forth
17 the time, date, and place of the hearing, describe the
18 proposal, and indicate that the entity will take testimony
19 from educators and parents about the proposal.

20 (c) Commemorative holidays, which recognize specified
21 patriotic, civic, cultural or historical persons, activities,
22 or events, are regular school days. Commemorative holidays
23 are: January 17 (the birthday of Muhammad Ali), January 28 (to
24 be known as Christa McAuliffe Day and observed as a
25 commemoration of space exploration), February 15 (the birthday
26 of Susan B. Anthony), March 29 (Viet Nam War Veterans' Day),

1 the last Friday in April (Arbor and Bird Day), September 11
2 (September 11th Day of Remembrance), September 17
3 (Constitution Day), the school day immediately preceding
4 Veterans' Day (Korean War Veterans' Day), October 1 (Recycling
5 Day), October 7 (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Remembrance
6 Day), October 9 (Leif Erikson Day), the day immediately after
7 Thanksgiving (Native American Heritage Day), December 7 (Pearl
8 Harbor Veterans' Day), and any day so appointed by the
9 President or Governor. School boards may establish
10 commemorative holidays whenever in their judgment such action
11 is advisable. School boards may include instruction relative
12 to commemorated persons, activities, or events on the
13 commemorative holiday or at any other time during the school
14 year and at any point in the curriculum when such instruction
15 may be deemed appropriate. The State Board of Education may
16 prepare and make available to school boards instructional
17 materials relative to commemorated persons, activities, or
18 events which may be used by school boards in conjunction with
19 any instruction provided pursuant to this paragraph.

20 (d) City of Chicago School District 299 shall observe
21 March 4 of each year as a commemorative holiday. This holiday
22 shall be known as Mayors' Day which shall be a day to
23 commemorate and be reminded of the past Chief Executive
24 Officers of the City of Chicago, and in particular the late
25 Mayor Richard J. Daley and the late Mayor Harold Washington.
26 If March 4 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, Mayors' Day shall be

1 observed on the following Monday.

2 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to
3 the contrary, the date of the general election on the first
4 Tuesday after the first Monday of November in even-numbered
5 years ~~November 3, 2020~~ shall be a State holiday known as ~~2020~~
6 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the
7 State ~~pursuant to Public Act 101-642~~. All government offices,
8 with the exception of election authorities, shall be closed
9 unless authorized to be used as a location for election day
10 services or as a polling place.

11 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the~~
12 ~~contrary, November 8, 2022 shall be a State holiday known as~~
13 ~~2022 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the~~
14 ~~State under Public Act 102-15.~~

15 Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the
16 contrary, November 5, 2024 shall be a State holiday known as
17 2024 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout
18 this State pursuant to Public Act 103-467.

19 (Source: P.A. 103-15, eff. 7-1-23; 103-395, eff. 1-1-24;
20 103-467, eff. 8-4-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24; 104-391, eff.
21 8-15-25.)

22 Section 20. The State Universities Civil Service Act is
23 amended by changing Section 45a as follows:

24 (110 ILCS 70/45a) (from Ch. 24 1/2, par. 381.1)

1 Sec. 45a. Except as provided in the second sentence of
2 this Section, all officers and employees subject to this Act,
3 shall have the following days as holidays, for which they
4 shall receive their usual compensation: New Year's Day,
5 January 1, Memorial Day, as determined by the law of the State
6 of Illinois, Juneteenth National Freedom Day, as determined by
7 the law of the State of Illinois, Independence Day, July 4,
8 Labor Day, the first Monday in September, General Election
9 Day, the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in
10 even-numbered years, Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday of
11 November, Christmas Day, December 25, and five holidays to be
12 designated by each college, university, or agency subject to
13 this Act. Craft and trade employees subject to this Act shall
14 be paid for all paid holidays included in their area
15 agreement, and will be paid for all five holidays designated
16 by their employer pursuant to this Section.

17 College, university, agency, and community college offices
18 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the~~
19 ~~contrary, November 3, 2020 shall be a State holiday known as~~
20 ~~2020 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the~~
21 ~~State pursuant to this amendatory Act of the 101st General~~
22 ~~Assembly. All government offices, with the exception of~~
23 ~~election authorities,~~ shall be closed on General Election Day
24 unless authorized to be used as a location for election day
25 services or as a polling place.

26 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the~~

1 ~~contrary, November 8, 2022 shall be a State holiday known as~~
2 ~~2022 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the~~
3 ~~State under this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly.~~
4 (Source: P.A. 101-642, eff. 6-16-20; 102-15, eff. 6-17-21;
5 102-1075, eff. 6-10-22.)

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
7 becoming law.