

# Allowing Employees Time Off to Vote

By Senator Lisa Boscola

Legislative Spotlight  
Employees in Pennsylvania have protections against retaliation - such as threats or termination - for voting, not voting, or for the selection of their vote under current state law. However, there is no requirement to provide leave to employees during a workday that falls on an election day. I introduced SB443 to allow employees up to 2 successive

## LEGISLATIVE Spotlight

'We need to make voting more convenient and inclusive to strengthen our representative democracy - reform measures, such as Senate Bill 443, remove any unnecessary roadblocks and make it easier for all Pennsylvanians to vote.'

**LISA M. BOSCOLA**  
State Senator - 18<sup>th</sup> District



hours of time off to vote on an election day in the Commonwealth. Employers must be notified in advance and the individual must be registered to vote.

Long voting lines on election days are common in both urban and suburban communities. As registered voters schedule their voting time within their workday, they factor in commutes, public transportation schedules and other unforeseen delays such as a broken voting machine at their location.

There are currently 29 states with laws allowing some form of employee time off to vote on election days.



# Voter Registration Eligibility Notification for Younger Pennsylvanians

By Senator Lisa Boscola

Establishing a notification program for younger Pennsylvanians on their eligibility to register to vote is a win-win, commonsense approach to engage the younger generations in the Commonwealth in our election processes.

Current law allows for voter registration requests to be done in conjunction with driver's license applications through coordinated efforts between the PA Department of Transportation and Department of State. This option is not available to Pennsylvanians that will not reach age 18 by the date of the next election.

I have introduced SB445 which, if enacted, would amend Title 25 (Elections) to require PennDOT to keep record of such individuals - and follow up with them. PennDOT would send voter registration materials, along with a notice, to individuals once they reach the age of eligibility to vote in the next election. The intent of these efforts is to promote and encourage voting among the 18 - 29 age group that consistently displays the lowest turnout rates in elections.

Throughout the United States, people ages 45 - 60 have performed much more consistently as voters for decades. SB445 aims to target and inform Gen-Z voters about their eligibility, and further incentivize them to engage in the political process.

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