

SPONSOR: Sen. Lavelle & Rep. D. Short Sens. Hocker, Simpson; Reps. Briggs King, Collins, Dukes, Hensley, Hudson, Miro, Spiegelman, Wilson, Yearick

DELAWARE STATE SENATE 149th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE BILL NO. 94

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 15 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO ELECTIONS. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE:

Section 1. Amend § 1701, Title 15 of the Delaware Code by making deletions as shown by strikethrough and
insertions as shown by underline as follows:

3 § 1701. Qualifications for registration as qualified voter.

(a) Every applicant for registration shall be a qualified voter if such applicant is a citizen of this State of the age of 4 5 18 years and upwards, or who will be 18 years old on or before the day of the general election next succeeding the 6 applicant's registration election in which the applicant's vote will be cast, and is a bona fide resident of this State. No person 7 in the military, naval or marine service of the United States shall become a resident of this State by being stationed in any 8 garrison, barrack or military or naval place or station within this State; and no person adjudged mentally incompetent, 9 person convicted of a crime deemed by law a felony, or person who shall have been rendered incapable of voting by reason 10 of violating § 7 of Article V of the Constitution of this State for 10 years next following that person's conviction and 11 sentence thereunder, shall be a qualified voter. For purposes of this chapter, the term "adjudged mentally incompetent" 12 refers to a specific finding in a judicial guardianship or equivalent proceeding, based on clear and convincing evidence that 13 the individual has a severe cognitive impairment which precludes exercise of basic voting judgment.

(b) The Department shall permit registration of any citizen and bona fide resident of this State 16 years of age or older through the Division of Motor Vehicles as set forth in § 2050(a) of this title, provided that such applicant shall not be a qualified voter unless the person will be 18 years of age or older on or before the day of the general election next succeeding the applicant's registration election in which the person's vote will be cast.

SYNOPSIS

This Act inserts additional language to clarify that a qualified voter must be 18 years of age on or before the date of the election a vote is to be cast.

Author: Senator Lavelle