NEW JERSEY’S ELECTIONS: COVID-19 RESPONSE

EXECUTIVE ORDER #105
EFFECTIVE MARCH 19, 2020

Governor Murphy signed Executive Order #105 on March 19, 2020 postponing certain elections and authorizing rule changes in order for voters to exercise their constitutional right to vote without jeopardizing their health and safety, or the health and safety of poll workers and other election officials. Below are the changes authorized by Executive Order #105. Questions? Contact the League of Women Voters of New Jersey at jburns@lwvnj.org.

POSTPONING ALL ELECTIONS UNTIL MAY 12, 2020
No elections may be held or proceed prior to May 12, 2020. Any election in New Jersey that was scheduled prior to this date is postponed until May 12, 2020. This includes March special elections and April school board elections.

VOTING EXCLUSIVELY BY MAIL
All elections that will take place on May 12, 2020 - including those elections rescheduled for May 12, 2020 - will be conducted solely via vote-by-mail ballots. There will be no polling places in the May 12, 2020 elections. Vote-by-mail ballots will be automatically sent to all registered voters with a return envelope with prepaid postage. No application to request a vote-by-mail ballot is needed.

SECRETARY OF STATE WILL PREPARE NEW TIMELINE
Vote-by-mail ballots will be mailed to all registered voters in compliance with a schedule that will be prepared by the Secretary of State to ensure the timely receipt and return of ballots for counting in the May 12, 2020 elections. There will be no sample ballots sent to voters.

SUBMITTING CANDIDATE & DELEGATE PETITIONS
In addition to accepting hand delivery of candidate and delegate petitions that are due by 4pm on March 30, 2020, these petitions will also be accepted electronically. The Secretary of State and county & municipal clerks shall also accept petitions with signatures collected via a newly-created online form. Requirements for a notarized oath of allegiance are suspended.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINES
The voter registration deadline for all elections is 21 days before that election. For all elections scheduled on May 12, 2020, the voter registration deadline is Tuesday, April 21, 2020. Citizens on probation and parole can register to vote in the elections being held on May 12.