

SUBSTITUTE ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE TO INCREASE ACCESS TO VOTER REGISTRATION IN THE CITY OF BROCKTON

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Brockton as follows:

Section (1) Purpose and Intent.

The ability for all citizens to participate in elections is a fundamental civil right and a central principle of our democracy. Massachusetts currently has a voter registration cutoff law that requires voters to register at least 20 days prior to participating in an election. Restrictions on registration disenfranchise voters and have a disproportionate impact on low-income and minority residents. The City of Brockton deems it necessary and beneficial to the City and its residents to increase access to voter registration during routine interactions with city officials, employees, and departments.

Section (2) Availability of Voter Registration Forms

All applicable City Departments and employees shall ensure that the following is enforced to allow residents of Brockton easy access to voter registration forms:

A. The Brockton Public Library shall make voter registration forms available in conspicuous locations at all branch libraries. Voter registration forms shall be offered to individuals when applying for library cards.

B. Youth and family centers and other institution, including but not limited to the Brockton Housing Authority and educational institutions which partner with and/or receive under from the City of Brockton shall make vote registration forms available at conspicuous locations.

C. All Brockton Public High Schools and Brockton Public Schools Welcome Centers shall provide pre-registration information and forms to all students eligible to pre-register. Voter registration forms shall also be provided to parents or legal guardians when registering children for school. Brockton Public Schools shall ensure as many eligible students as possible have the opportunity to vote on Election Day. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, there shall be the re-establishment of having designated Brockton High School employees appointed by and sworn-in by the Brockton City Clerk as volunteer voter registrars within the confines of Brockton High School in order to help foster registering any eligible student.

D. The Brockton Area Transit Authority shall provide registration materials to individuals purchasing parking permits and Smart Cards on site.

Jean Bradley Darencourt, Councilor at Large

In City Council May 14, 2018

Read and referred to standing committee on Ordinance

Anthony J. Zeoli

City Clerk

In City Council July 23, 2018

Amendment passed by a hand vote passed to a third
Reading as amended by a hand vote.

Anthony J. Zeoli

City Clerk

In City Council August 27, 2018

Ordained as amended by a roll call vote
taken by “yeas” and “nays”; eleven members
present and all voting in the affirmative.
Councillor Derenoncourt motioned to
file for reconsideration with the wish it not
prevail and was properly seconded.
Reconsideration failed by a hand vote.

Anthony J. Zeoli

City Clerk

Sent to Mayor for Approval
August 30 , 2018
Signed August 31, 2018

Bill Carpenter, Mayor

K21

AMENDMENT

I Motion to strike “Whereas” Provisions, and to Strike “hereinafter” provision.

Councillor Timothy J. Cruise

AMENDMENT

I Motion to add provision to section for “including by not limited to...”, and to add provision to section for reestablishment of voter registrars at the high school.

Councillor Robert F. Sullivan