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William Hamilton, President & Eastern PA Legislative Coordinator – Tim O'Neill, Consultant – Dan Grace, Trustee & Legislative Advisor – Robert Baptiste, Esq. Legal Advisor – Tom Felice, Staff

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT



Pennsylvania pushes back its primary to June 2, 2020

March 27, 2020

Pennsylvania voters will now go to the polls on June 2, 2020 to pick their Republican or Democratic nominee for president as well as choices for congressional and a number of state offices.

Gov. Tom Wolf on March 27, 2020 announced he signed legislation that delays the April 28 primary due to overriding concerns about the health and safety of voters, poll workers and election workers amid the coronavirus outbreak.

“Delaying this year’s primary election as several other states have done is in the best interests of voters, poll workers and county election officials,” Wolf said in a statement announcing the signing of this bill and other coronavirus-related legislation. “I commend the General Assembly for acting quickly on this critical legislation. The Department of State will continue to work with local election officials to ensure Pennsylvania has a fair and accessible election.”

Along with changing the date of the election to as late as it possibly could go to avoid interfering with the national party conventions, the legislation also:

- Allows polling places to be consolidated.
- Permits polls to be located in places that serve alcoholic beverages provided voting not take place in the same room where those beverages are served and where voters don’t have to pass through an area where alcoholic beverages are served.
- Allows county elections officials to begin processing mail-in and absentee ballots at 7 a.m. on Election Day.

Voters who want to vote by mail-in ballot rather than going to a polling place on Election Day and sign up for either a mail-in or absentee ballot using the commonwealth’s [new online application](#).

<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/OnlineAbsenteeApplication/#/OnlineAbsenteeBegin>