



MEMO OF SUPPORT

S6253-A (Skoufis) / A6741-A (Simone)

Requires State Board of Elections to post sample ballots

May 8, 2026

TITLE OF BILL

An act to amend the election law, in relation to requiring state and county boards of elections to post sample ballots.

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT

Reinvent Albany supports this bill because it will help voters know who will be on their ballot on election day.

Though NY elections have made great leaps forward over the past few years, it can still be difficult to locate sample ballots. As of 2026, there appears to be no one-stop shop where New Yorkers can see what their ballot will look like. Establishing the database required under this bill will make it easier for New Yorkers to know who they can vote for on Election Day. We urge the Legislature to pass the bill, and the Governor to sign it.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

Section 1 amends Election Law §7-118(3) to provide that the county board of elections may send sample ballots to voters at least three days before the first day of early voting. Each county board shall transmit the sample ballot for every election district within the county to the State Board of Elections. This section also makes a technical removal.

Section 2 adds two new subdivisions 3-a to Election Law §7-118 providing that the State Board shall post a sample ballot for each election district 12 days before early voting begins. Such ballots shall be available in a searchable database that contains other information (such as poll sites), and contain a security tool to prevent ballot tampering. A new subdivision 3-b says that counties may (but are not required to) do the same.

Section 3 states that the bill takes effect 90 days after becoming law.