

(S.B. 53)

(No. 135)

(Approved November 2, 2005)

AN ACT

To amend Section 5.035 of Act No. 4 of December 20, 1977, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Electoral Act,” in order to extend to the members of the Corps of Juvenile Services Officials of the Juvenile Institutions Administration the right to vote through the absentee voting procedure in any polling place besides their own.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

Act No. 4 of December 20, 1977, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Electoral Act,” grants the Corps of Custody Officials of the Corrections Administration, among others, the right to vote through the absentee voting procedure in polling places besides their own, provided they are in active service and that during voting hours on election day are not enjoying regular leave, sick leave or disability leave and who find it impossible to vote in their respective polling places because of their work.

However, this provision does not include the members of the Corps of Juvenile Services Officials of the Juvenile Institutions Administration under the same conditions.

The Legislature of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico deems that in order to safeguard the right to vote of the members of the Corps of Juvenile Services Officials of the Juvenile Institutions Administration who are duly qualified to vote, the provisions relative to the right to absentee vote from

should be extended to them as enjoyed by the Corps of Custody Officials of the Corrections Administration.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.-Section 5.035 of Act No. 4 of December 20, 1977, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Electoral Act,” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 5.035.-Persons Entitled to Absentee Vote.-

The duly qualified electors who are entitled to vote through the absentee voting procedure are those:

- (a) ...
- (b) ...
- (c) ...
- (d) ...
- (e) ...
- (f) ...
- (g) Members of the Puerto Rico Police, up to a maximum of two thousand five hundred (2,500) electors, the members of the Corps of Custody Officials of the Corrections Administration and the members of the Corps of Juvenile Services Officials of the Juvenile Institutions Administration who are in active service and who during voting hours on election day are not enjoying regular leave, sick leave or disability leave and who find it impossible to vote in their respective polling places because of their work. The application must be accompanied by a certificate from the superior officer attesting to their being members of their corresponding

bodies. Juvenile Services Officials must present their identification card as employees of the Juvenile Institutions Administration as a means of additional identification. In the case of Special Operations Unit Officials, these may also give evidence of their identity through the presentation of their card, including their badge number in the attesting certificate that accompanies the application.

(h) ...

(i)

The Commission shall develop an affirmative orientation program for those persons entitled to absentee vote and shall take the steps needed to obtain the lists of Puerto Rican military personnel outside of our jurisdiction, which it shall submit to the political parties.”

Section 2.-This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 135 (S.B. 53) of the 2nd Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to amend Section 5.035 of Act No. 4 of December 20, 1977, as amended, known as the “Puerto Rico Electoral Act,” in order to extend to the members of the Corps of Juvenile Services Officials of the Juvenile Institutions Administration the right to vote through the absentee voting procedure in any polling place besides their own,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 6th of February of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director