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Senate Bill 91 – State Board of Elections - Address Confidentiality Program - Designation of Contact Person

April 1, 2026

House Government Operations, Labor, and Elections Committee

Favorable – Joint Departmental Bill with SBE

Senate Bill 91 is a joint departmental bill for the Office of the Secretary of State, which runs the Address Confidentiality Program (ACP), and the State Board of Elections (SBE). The purpose of this legislation is to streamline communication between ACP participants and election officials.

Like many voters, ACP participants sometimes wait until late in the registration or voting process to ask for assistance, and this legislation will help to ensure that they are not inadvertently disenfranchised due to the extra hurdles of protection built into our mail forwarding service. When the Office of the Secretary of State communicates with local boards of elections, we usually work through the State Board of Elections. Secrecy is paramount, and participants want assurance that their communications with election officials will not disclose their actual address to their abusers. Due to employee turnover, it is necessary to institutionalize this best practice for predictability, adequate training, and participant assurance.

In past elections, when issues arose with registrations or a mail-in ballot, participants were too often forced to vote with a provisional ballot. This practice may discourage participants from voting and triggers concerns that their address will become part of a searchable record. We are meticulous at ensuring that addresses are shielded, but untrained officials may not take adequate precautions. There will be peace of mind if we can tell participants that there is a specially trained official at the SBE. Senate Bill 91 serves to protect the voting rights of ACP participants while keeping them safe.