



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Michael Gianaris

Senate Passes Gianaris' Bills Improving Absentee Voting Process

MICHAEL GIANARIS January 11, 2021

| ISSUE: **ABSENTEE BALLOTS, VOTING RIGHTS, ELECTIONS, ELECTION REFORM, BOARD OF ELECTIONS**



ALBANY – Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris passed two bills as part of the Senate Democratic Majority's efforts to improve New York State's electoral system and empower voters, part of their tradition of kicking off the legislative session by passing major pro-voter, anti-disenfranchisement, pro-democracy legislation. The bills passed provided greater access to using absentee ballots and ensuring they are counted, no-excuse absentee voting, and an absentee ballot tracking system.

Senate Deputy Leader Michael Gianaris said, "As our Democratic supermajority continues to reform the way elections are run, fixing our latest-in-the-nation vote counting status will go a long way towards restoring faith in election results. I am proud to have authored this important legislation so we are never again still counting votes into the new year."

The bills authored by Senator Gianaris passed today are:

Earlier Counting of Absentee Ballots: [S.1027](#) which would require absentee ballots to be canvassed prior to Election Day with results to be announced after polls close on election night.

Earlier Processing of Absentee Ballot Applications: [S.516](#), which would require absentee ballot applications to be processed and approved faster pursuant to a specific rolling calendar.

The bills that will be passed by the Senate Majority build on the historic reforms passed during the [2019](#) and [2020](#) Legislative Session.

To watch Senator Gianaris' floor speech, click [here](#).

RELATED LEGISLATION

2021-S1027

- Introduced
- - In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate
- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor

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Relates to the canvassing of absentee, military and special ballots and ballots cast in affidavit envelopes; repealer

January 06, 2021

Signed by Governor

Sponsored by Michael Gianaris

Do you support this bill?

2021-S516

- Introduced
- ○ In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate

- ○ On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate
- ○ Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate
- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor

- Relates to the time period during which absentee ballots shall be mailed or delivered after an application for such ballot is received by the board of elections

January 04, 2021

In Senate Committee **Elections**

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Do you support this bill?