



**Support of the New York Amendment to Allow for Same-Day Voter Registration 2021
Prepared by the Columbia County Democratic Committee's (CCDC) Issues Committee
Approved and Adopted by the CCDC on September 23, 2021**

Background:

New York Proposal 3, the Allow for Same-Day Voter Registration Amendment is on the ballot on November 2, 2021.

- A **YES** vote supports removing the requirement that persons must register to vote at least ten days before an election, thus authorizing the state legislature to pass a statute for same-day voter registration.
- A **NO** vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thus continuing to require that persons must register ten days before an election.

The same-day voter registration proposal was part of a seven-bill legislative package to change election policies, which were passed by the 203rd (2019-2020) and 204th (2021-2022) Legislatures.

What would the ballot measure change about voting in New York?

The ballot measure would remove the requirement that persons must register to vote at least ten days before an election, thus authorizing the New York State Legislature to pass legislation allowing for same-day voter registration. Citizens would be allowed to register and vote at the same time and is sometimes referred to as “Election Day registration.”

How does New York State compare to other states?

As of 2021 New York State is one of 30 states that does not provide for same-day voter registration. The remaining states and the District of Columbia allow election day registration.

How would the wording of the New York State Constitution change?

Section 5 of Article 2 of the state’s Constitution currently requires that a citizen be registered to vote at least ten days before an election. This measure would delete this language and authorize the Legislature to enact laws permitting election day registration.

Do voters support same-day voter registration?

A June 2021 Siena Poll of 803 registered voters indicated that 52 percent of voters support this proposal compared to 30 percent who oppose this measure.

How would same-day registration work?

In those states that permit same-day registration, voters must generally provide proof of residency (e.g., utility bill, pay stub) and identity (e.g., driver’s license) at the time of registration.

Reasons to Support:

- Provides convenience for voters and increases turnout
- Allows for updating and correcting voter rolls
- Ensures all eligible voters with appropriate ID who wish to vote can
- Aligns with the goal of election security

Reasons to Oppose:

- Potential for fraud that threatens election security
- Increases cost and creates administrative burdens
- Encourages ill-informed voting

The CCDC fully supports this Amendment and urges its adoption this November.

References:

- [https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_3,_Allow_for_Same-Day_Voter_Registration_Amendment_\(2021\)](https://ballotpedia.org/New_York_Proposal_3,_Allow_for_Same-Day_Voter_Registration_Amendment_(2021))
- https://ballotpedia.org/Same-day_voter_registration