

**CITY OF TORONTO**

**Bill 557**

**BY-LAW- 2025**

**To amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 190, Polling and Notification to lower the polling age and make other amendments.**

The Council of the City of Toronto enacts:

1. City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 190, Polling and Notification is amended as follows:
  - (A) by adding the following words to the definition of Holiday in section 1:
    - (1) Family Day; and
    - (2) Remembrance Day.
  - (B) by adding the following as a new definition section 1:

SPOILED BALLOT – A ballot that is blank or marked in such a way that the voter's intent is unclear, in the sole determination of the City Clerk.
  - (C) by amending section 2 by adding the words "or Community Council" directly after the words "or Council".
  - (D) by amending section 4 as follows:
    - (1) by adding the words "or databases" immediately after the words "the following documents"; and
    - (2) by deleting subsection 4C and replacing it with the following:

Proof of ownership or tenancy delivered to the City Clerk during the polling period in a form prescribed by the City Clerk and asserting that the resident is an owner, resident or tenant of property located wholly or partially within the polling area.
  - (E) by deleting the word "mail" from subsection 5A and replacing it with the word "provide".
  - (F) by deleting the word "mailed" from subsection 6A and replacing it with the word "provided".

(G) by deleting subsection 7 and replacing it with the following:

§ 190-7. Accepted ballots.

A. Ballots will only be accepted if they are:

- (1) Official ballots issued by the City Clerk's Office;
- (2) Signed by only one person whose name appears on the polling list;  
and
- (3) Received by the Office of the City Clerk by mail, courier, fax, email, or hand-delivered by 4:30 p.m. on or before the last day of the polling period.

B. At the end of the polling period, the City Clerk shall do the following:

- (1) record all accepted ballots;
- (2) certify, in writing, the results of the poll;
- (3) provide ward Councillors with a copy of the results as soon as they are available;
- (4) provide the requesting division with the results of the poll; and
- (5) post the results of the poll on the City of Toronto internet website for Polling.

(H) by deleting the word "mailed" in subsection 8A and replacing it with the word "provided".

(I) by adding the following as a new subsection 8E:

E. Spoiled Ballots

- (1) A Spoiled Ballot shall be counted only for the purpose of determining whether the requirement in subsection 8A has been met;
- (2) A Spoiled Ballot shall not be counted as a response in the affirmative or negative for the purposes of subsections 8B or 8C.

(J) by deleting "18" from section 9 and replacing it with "16".

(K) by adding the following as a new subsection 9B:

B. Despite subsection A, for a poll conducted in accordance with Chapter 19, Business Improvement Areas, no person shall be eligible to vote in a poll unless the person's name appears on the polling list and the person is 18 years of age or over, and meets the eligibility requirements in Chapter 19, Business Improvement Areas.

(L) by adding the words ", revisions to the polling list," immediately after the words "maintained, and all polling lists" to section 10.

2. This by-law shall come into force on November 1, 2025.

Enacted and passed on June , 2025.

Frances Nunziata,  
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,  
City Clerk

(Seal of the City)