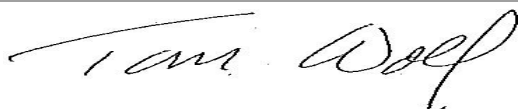


Executive Order

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's Office

Subject:
Extension of Deadline for Objections to
Nomination Petitions

Number:
2017-01



By Direction of: Tom Wolf, Governor

Date: March 13, 2017

Whereas, a severe winter weather event, a historic East Coast snowstorm, is forecast to strike Pennsylvania and other States of the Northeastern United States on March 13 and 14, 2017, with prolific amounts of snow accumulation in many counties across the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, the potential effects of the snowstorm have caused the closure of the Commonwealth Capitol Complex in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, which includes the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, on Tuesday, March 14, 2017; and

Whereas, the potential effects of the snowstorm will likely also cause the closure of many county offices, which include the sixty-seven county boards of election, on Tuesday, March 14, 2017; and

Whereas, the potential effects of the snowstorm will likely also cause the closure of the Commonwealth Court and numerous courts of common pleas on Tuesday, March 14, 2017; and

Whereas, the Municipal Primary Election is scheduled by law to occur throughout the Commonwealth on Tuesday, May 16, 2017; and

Whereas, under the provisions of *Section 977 of the Pennsylvania Election Code (25 P.S. § 2937)*, the deadline by which objections to nomination petitions filed by candidates for nomination at the Municipal Primary Election must be filed with the Commonwealth Court and served on the Secretary of the Commonwealth, or filed with the court of common pleas and served on the county board of elections, is Tuesday, March 14, 2017; and

Whereas, the weather-related closure of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, and of the county boards of elections, and of the courts, during the last day on which objections to nomination petitions for the

Municipal Primary Election by law may be filed with the courts and received by the Secretary of the Commonwealth and by the county boards of elections makes it necessary and proper to extend the statutory deadline by which objections may be filed with the courts, and by which the Secretary of the Commonwealth and/or the county boards of elections may be served with objections; and

Whereas, on Monday, March 13, 2017, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to the provisions of *Section 7301(c) of the Emergency Management Services Code, (35 Pa. C.S. §§ 7101 et seq., as amended)* proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency in the Commonwealth in anticipation of a severe winter weather event expected to impact the Commonwealth.

Now, Therefore, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the *Emergency Management Services Code*, and other laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby issue this Executive Order as follows:

1. The deadline prescribed by *Section 977 of the Pennsylvania Election Code (25 P.S. § 2937)* by which objections to nomination petitions filed by candidates for nomination at the Municipal Primary Election must be filed with the Commonwealth Court and served on the Secretary of the Commonwealth, shall be extended by one additional day for each business day during the week of March 13, 2017, on which the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, or the Commonwealth Court, is closed for business as a consequence of weather conditions.
2. The deadline prescribed by *Section 977 of the Pennsylvania Election Code (25 P.S. § 2937)* by which objections to nomination petitions filed by candidates for nomination at the Municipal Primary Election must be filed with the court of common pleas and served on the county board of elections, shall be extended by one additional day for each business day during the week of March 13, 2017, on which the office of the county board of elections, or the court of common pleas, is closed for business as a consequence of weather conditions.
3. No deadline may be extended pursuant to this Executive Order beyond 5:00 p.m. EDT on Thursday, March 16, 2017, unless otherwise extended by a superseding Executive Order.
4. The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall post this Executive Order in the Department of State's Bureau of Commissions, Elections and Legislation and in all other appropriate places, and shall communicate its contents to the county boards of election, the Administrative Office of the Pennsylvania Courts, the courts of common pleas, and the Commonwealth Court, and shall take all necessary action to provide notice of this Executive Order to the general public.
5. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately and remain in effect only until 5:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, March 17, 2017.