



## Promote Election Integrity

Counties take their responsibility for the fair, efficient and accurate administration of Pennsylvania's elections very seriously, and need clear rules that enable consistent implementation across the commonwealth. Reforms to Pennsylvania's Election Code are needed to resolve ambiguities and help counties continue to promote the integrity of our elections.

Since the enactment of Act 77 of 2019, it has become clear that additional adjustments to the Election Code are critical to assist counties in providing smooth election administration and efficient results. The current law remains ambiguous on matters such as drop boxes, signatures, curing ballots, and other areas related to Act 77, which implemented mail-in ballots for all Pennsylvanians for the first time. Counties continue to pursue changes and clarifications recommended in CCAP's January 2021 elections reform report. Overall, counties must have clear rules to help restore the public's confidence in the integrity of our elections.

For counties, needed reforms also include continuing to seek expanded pre-canvassing time and moving back the deadline for mail-in ballot applications. These two changes alone would resolve a significant portion of the challenges counties experienced implementing mail-in ballots in 2020 and 2021, and would significantly improve the voter experience as well as the likelihood that results could be provided in a more timely manner.

To make sure any new rules are clear and that counties can properly and uniformly implement them, counties continue to seek a partnership with the General Assembly and administration in drafting all elections-related legislation. Counties must be at the table with the General Assembly and administration to help develop solutions that can be implemented clearly and consistently, and to assure appropriate resources and time to implement are available to do so.

### COUNTIES SUPPORT:

- Promoting election integrity by clarifying elements of Act 77 recommended by counties, including drop boxes, permanent voter lists, ballot signatures and other fatal flaws.
- Extending the pre-canvassing period for mail-in and absentee ballots to allow ample time for counties to prepare ballots for tabulation so that accurate results can be provided as soon as possible.
- Moving back the deadline for absentee and mail-in ballot applications to 15 days prior to an election to allow sufficient time for the county to process the application and for the ballot to be mailed from county to voter and back again.
- Ensuring that counties are involved in the development of any election law reforms to create positive, meaningful and effective election policy clarifications moving forward.