

Melinda Small

Brooklyn

Hi,

I'm writing to share my experience with casting a ballot for the NY 6/23 primary. I mailed in my ballot weeks before the deadline so personally, I had no issue. I was lucky.

On Tuesday the 23rd, a friend received their ballot and texted me with dismay that the language on the ballot stipulated that it must be postmarked the day prior to the election. The friend was upset he received it too late and could not send it in and have his vote count. I told him that it was incorrect, that it can be postmarked the day OF the election and that he should still send it in. If we did not have this conversation, he would not have sent it in.

Additionally, I participated in a Get Out the Vote text bank for NY-27 and received many responses from voters expressing the same concern as my friend did. Each time, it was very hard and frustrating to hear.

My guess is the same copy & language is used on the general election ballots and primary ballots when clearly they need to be different. I'm sure many voters did not send in their ballot because it said it was too late. This is devastating to democracy. The ballots need to be updated and the primary ballots must have the appropriate language! This is a BIG DEAL.

Thank you for listening. I hope this gets resolved for the future.