



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 673

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1516

Senate, April 14, 2025

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. FLEXER of the 29th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO VOTING AND ELECTIONS IN
THIS STATE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 9-322a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

3 (a) Not later than forty-eight hours following each regular election,
4 the registrars of voters shall provide the results of the votes cast at such
5 election to the town clerk. Not later than nine o'clock a.m. on the third
6 day following each regular election, the head moderator, registrars of
7 voters and town clerk for each town [divided into voting districts] shall
8 meet to identify any error in the returns. Not later than one o'clock p.m.
9 on the third day following each regular election, the head moderator
10 shall correct any error identified and file an amended return with the
11 Secretary of the State, the town clerk and the registrars of voters.

12 (b) Not later than twenty-one days following each regular state

13 election, the town clerk of each town [divided into voting districts] shall
14 file with the Secretary of the State a consolidated listing, in tabular
15 format, as prescribed by the Secretary of the State, of the official returns
16 [of each such voting district] for all offices voted on at such election,
17 including the total number of votes cast for each candidate, the total
18 number of names on the registry list, and the total number of names
19 checked as having voted. [, in each such district.] The town clerk of such
20 town shall certify that he or she has examined the lists transmitted under
21 this section to determine whether there are any discrepancies between
22 the total number of votes cast for a candidate at such election in such
23 town, including for any recanvass conducted pursuant to section 9-311
24 or 9-311a, and the sum of the votes cast for the same candidate in all
25 voting districts in such town if such town has been divided into voting
26 districts. In the case of any such discrepancy, the town clerk shall notify
27 the head moderator and certify that such discrepancy has been rectified.
28 Each listing filed under this section shall be retained by the Secretary of
29 the State not less than ten years after the date of the election for which it
30 was filed.

31 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section,
32 "municipality", "government enforcement action", "federal Voting
33 Rights Act" and "protected class" have the same meanings as provided
34 in section 9-368i of the general statutes.

35 (b) The corporation counsel of any municipality that has been subject
36 to any court order or government enforcement action described in
37 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of section 9-368m
38 of the general statutes shall provide to the office of the Secretary of the
39 State all details pertaining to such matter not later than one month after
40 the effective date of this section, the issuance of such court order or the
41 commencement of such government enforcement action, whichever is
42 latest.

43 (c) If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that any action filed
44 therein alleges a violation of the provisions of sections 9-368j to 9-368q,
45 inclusive, of the general statutes, the federal Voting Rights Act, any state

46 or federal civil rights law, the fifteenth amendment to the United States
47 Constitution or the fourteenth amendment to the United States
48 Constitution, which violation concerns the right to vote or a pattern,
49 practice of policy of discrimination against any protected class, such
50 court shall cause notice of the hearing on such action to be given to the
51 Secretary of the State.

52 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 9-261 of the general statutes is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
54 *1, 2026*):

55 (b) In the event that an elector is present at the polling place but is
56 unable to gain access to the polling place due to [a temporary] an
57 incapacity, the elector may request that the ballot be brought to him or
58 her in the area designated pursuant to subsection (c) of section 9-236, as
59 amended by this act, for curbside voting. The registrars of voters or the
60 assistant registrars of voters, as the case may be, shall take such ballot,
61 along with a privacy sleeve to such elector. The elector shall show
62 identification, in accordance with the provisions of this section. The
63 elector shall forthwith mark the ballot in the presence of the election
64 officials in such manner that the election officials shall not know how
65 the ballot is marked. The elector shall place the ballot in the privacy
66 sleeve. The election officials shall mark the elector's name on the official
67 voter list, manually on paper or electronically, as having voted in person
68 and deliver such ballot and privacy sleeve to the voting tabulator where
69 such ballot shall be placed into the tabulator, by the election official, for
70 counting. The moderator shall record such activity in the moderator's
71 diary.

72 Sec. 4. Section 9-236 of the general statutes is repealed and the
73 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

74 (a) On the day of any primary, referendum or election, no person
75 shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to the candidacy of another or
76 himself or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being submitted
77 at the election or referendum, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising
78 matter, ballot or circular to another person within a radius of seventy-

79 five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any polling place
80 or in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading from any such
81 outside entrance to such polling place or in any room opening upon any
82 such corridor, passageway or approach. Nothing contained in this
83 section shall be construed to prohibit (1) parent-teacher associations or
84 parent-teacher organizations from holding bake sales or other fund-
85 raising activities on the day of any primary, referendum or election in
86 any school used as a polling place, provided such sales or activities shall
87 not be held in the room in which the election booths are located, (2) the
88 registrars of voters from directing the officials at a primary, referendum
89 or election to distribute, within the restricted area, adhesive labels on
90 which are imprinted the words "I Voted Today", or (3) the registrars of
91 voters in a primary, election or referendum from jointly permitting
92 nonpartisan activities to be conducted in a room other than the room in
93 which the election booths are located. The registrars may jointly impose
94 such conditions and limitations on such nonpartisan activity as deemed
95 necessary to ensure the orderly process of voting. The moderator shall
96 evict any person who in any way interferes with the orderly process of
97 voting.

98 (b) (1) The selectmen shall provide suitable markers to indicate the
99 seventy-five-foot distance from such entrance. Such markers shall
100 consist of a board resting on an iron rod, which board shall be not less
101 than twelve inches square and painted a bright color and shall bear the
102 figures and letters "75 feet" and the following words: "On the day of any
103 primary, referendum or election no person shall solicit in behalf of or in
104 opposition to another or himself or peddle or offer any ballot,
105 advertising matter or circular to another person or loiter within a radius
106 of seventy-five feet of any outside entrance in use as an entry to any
107 polling place or in any corridor, passageway or other approach leading
108 from any such outside entrance to such polling place or in any room
109 opening upon any such corridor, passageway or approach."

110 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subdivision (1) of this
111 subsection, the selectmen may provide the markers required by the
112 provisions of this subsection in effect prior to October 1, 1983, except

113 that in the case of a referendum which is not held in conjunction with
114 an election or a primary, the selectmen shall provide the markers
115 required by subdivision (1) of this subsection.

116 (3) The moderator and the moderator's assistants shall meet at least
117 twenty minutes before the opening of a primary, referendum or an
118 election in the voting district, and shall cause to be placed by a police
119 officer or constable, or such other primary or election official as they
120 select, a suitable number of distance markers. Such moderator or any
121 police officer or constable shall prohibit loitering and peddling of tickets
122 within that distance.

123 (c) (1) The registrars of voters shall designate at each polling place an
124 area for curbside voting where any elector who is present at the polling
125 place, but is unable to gain access to the polling place due to an
126 incapacity, may request that the ballot be brought to such elector as
127 provided in subsection (b) of section 9-261, as amended by this act.

128 (2) On the day of any primary, referendum or election, no person
129 shall solicit on behalf of or in opposition to the candidacy of another or
130 himself or on behalf of or in opposition to any question being submitted
131 at the election or referendum, or loiter or peddle or offer any advertising
132 matter, ballot or circular to another person within a marked radius of
133 twenty feet of any elector who is brought a ballot in the area designated
134 for curbside voting pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

135 (3) (A) While an elector is casting his or her ballot in the area
136 designated for curbside voting pursuant to subdivision (1) of this
137 subsection, no person shall be allowed in any vehicle being used by such
138 elector to cast such ballot for any purpose other than casting such ballot
139 or driving such elector to cast such ballot.

140 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this
141 subdivision, no candidate shall be allowed in any vehicle used for the
142 casting of a ballot under this subsection unless for purposes of casting
143 the candidate's own ballot.

144 (4) The Secretary of the State shall adopt regulations, in accordance
145 with the provisions of chapter 54, to carry out the provisions of this
146 subsection. Such regulations shall include, but not be limited to, a model
147 plan that municipalities may implement for curbside voting.

148 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) No person shall be allowed within any polling place for any
149 purpose other than casting his or her vote, except (1) those permitted or
150 exempt under this section or section 9-236a, (2) primary officials under
151 section 9-436, (3) election officials under section 9-258, including (A) a
152 municipal clerk or registrar of voters, who is a candidate for the same
153 office, performing his or her official duties, and (B) a deputy registrar of
154 voters, who is a candidate for the office of registrar of voters, performing
155 his or her official duties, or (4) unofficial checkers under section 9-235.
156 Representatives of the news media shall be allowed to enter, remain
157 within and leave any polling place or restricted area surrounding any
158 polling place to observe the election, provided any such representative
159 who in any way interferes with the orderly process of voting shall be
160 evicted by the moderator. A number of students in grades four to
161 twelve, inclusive, not to exceed four at any one time in any one polling
162 place, may enter any polling place between twelve o'clock noon and
163 three o'clock p.m. for the purpose of observing the activities taking place
164 in the polling place, provided there is proper parental or teacher
165 supervision present, and provided further, any such student who in any
166 way interferes with the orderly process of voting shall be evicted by the
167 moderator. An elector may be accompanied into any polling place by
168 one or more children who are fifteen years of age or younger and
169 supervised by the elector if the elector is the parent or legal guardian of
170 such children.

171 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) Any person who violates any provision of this section or,
172 while the polls are open for voting, removes or injures any such distance
173 marker, shall be guilty of a class C misdemeanor.

174 Sec. 5. Section 9-388 of the general statutes is repealed and the
175 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

176 (a) Whenever a convention of a political party is held for the

177 endorsement of candidates for nomination to state or district office, each
178 candidate endorsed at such convention shall file with the Secretary of
179 the State a certificate, signed by him, stating that he was endorsed by
180 such convention, his name as he authorizes it to appear on the ballot, his
181 full residence address and the title and district, if applicable, of the office
182 for which he was endorsed. Such certificate shall be attested by either
183 (1) the chairman or presiding officer, or (2) the secretary of such
184 convention and shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
185 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of such
186 convention. Such certificate shall either be mailed to the Secretary of the
187 State by certified mail, return receipt requested, or delivered in person,
188 in which case a receipt indicating the date and time of delivery shall be
189 provided by the Secretary of the State to the person making delivery. If
190 a certificate of a party's endorsement for a particular state or district
191 office is not received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such
192 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of [section 9-
193 416 and section 9-416a] sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to
194 have made no endorsement of any candidate for such office. If
195 applicable, the chairman of a party's state convention shall, forthwith
196 upon the close of such convention, file with the Secretary of the State the
197 names and full residence addresses of persons selected by such
198 convention as the nominees of such party for electors of President and
199 Vice-President of the United States in accordance with the provisions of
200 section 9-175.

201 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
202 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
203 omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the
204 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
205 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
206 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
207 p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district
208 convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such
209 correction. If such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend
210 such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such
211 party, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be deemed to

212 have made no such endorsement.

213 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
214 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of a
215 party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
216 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
217 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
218 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
219 in any such certificate.

220 Sec. 6. Subsection (c) of section 9-391 of the general statutes is
221 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
222 *1, 2026*):

223 (c) (1) Each endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the
224 nomination of candidates for a municipal office to be voted upon at a
225 state election shall be made under the provisions of section 9-390 not
226 earlier than the eighty-fourth day or later than the seventy-seventh day
227 preceding the day of such primary. Each certification to be filed under
228 this subsection shall be received by the Secretary of the State not later
229 than four o'clock p.m. on the fourteenth day after the close of the town
230 committee meeting, caucus or convention, as the case may be. If such a
231 certificate of a party's endorsement is not received by the Secretary of
232 the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
233 for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-418, shall be deemed to have
234 neither made nor certified any endorsement of any candidate for such
235 office. The candidate so endorsed for a municipal office to be voted upon
236 at a state election, other than the office of justice of the peace, shall file
237 with the Secretary of the State a certificate, signed by that candidate,
238 stating that such candidate was so endorsed, the candidate's name as
239 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
240 street address and the title and district of the office for which the
241 candidate was endorsed. Such certificate may be filed by a candidate
242 whose name appears upon the last-completed enrollment list of such
243 party within the senatorial district within which the candidate is
244 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of

245 state senator, or the assembly district within which the candidate is
246 endorsed to run for nomination in the case of the municipal office of
247 state representative, or the municipality or political subdivision within
248 which the candidate is to run for nomination for other municipal offices
249 to be voted on at a state election. Such certificate shall be attested by
250 either the chairperson or presiding officer or the secretary of the town
251 committee, caucus or convention which made such endorsement. The
252 endorsement of any candidate for the office of justice of the peace shall
253 be certified to the clerk of the municipality by either the chairperson or
254 presiding officer or the secretary of the town committee, caucus or
255 convention, and shall contain the name and street address of each
256 candidate so endorsed and the title of the office for which each such
257 candidate is endorsed. Such certification shall be made on a form
258 prescribed by the Secretary of the State or on such other form as may
259 comply with the provisions of this subsection.

260 (2) (A) In the case of a timely filed certificate of a party's endorsement
261 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection, which contains an error
262 or omission that would operate to invalidate such endorsement, the
263 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
264 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
265 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
266 p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the town committee
267 meeting, caucus or convention, as applicable, and amending such
268 certificate to make such correction. If such candidate or individual does
269 not appear to so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate
270 shall be invalid and such party, for the purposes of sections 9-417 and 9-
271 418, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified such
272 endorsement.

273 (B) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
274 subparagraph (A) of this subdivision, amend a timely filed certificate of
275 a party's endorsement to correct any such error or omission, and shall
276 keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
277 subparagraph. Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed to
278 require the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or

279 omission in any such certificate.

280 Sec. 7. Section 9-400 of the general statutes is repealed and the
281 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

282 (a) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a state office
283 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
284 the last-completed enrollment list of such party in any municipality
285 within the state and who has either (1) received at least fifteen per cent
286 of the votes of the convention delegates present and voting on any roll-
287 call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed endorsement of a
288 candidate for such state office, whether or not the party-endorsed
289 candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on the last ballot,
290 or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of at least two
291 per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the state, in accordance
292 with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive. Candidacies
293 described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed by
294 submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock p.m.
295 on the fourteenth day following the close of the state convention, a
296 certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the
297 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
298 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
299 such candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
300 such state office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
301 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
302 residence address and the title of the office for which the candidacy is
303 being filed. If such certificate for a state office is not received by the
304 Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and
305 such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be
306 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination
307 by a political party [for] to such state office. A single such certificate or
308 petition for state office may be filed on behalf of two or more candidates
309 for different state offices who consent to have their names appear on a
310 single row of the primary ballot under subsection (b) of section 9-437.
311 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
312 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-

313 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
314 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
315 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
316 Secretary of the State in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c.
317 A petition filed by or on behalf of a candidate for state office shall be
318 invalid for such candidate if such candidate is certified as the party-
319 endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act,
320 or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such
321 office pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a,
322 upon the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and
323 circulation and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or
324 more candidacies for such state office have been filed pursuant to the
325 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
326 clerks and registrars of voters in accordance with the provisions of
327 section 9-433, that a primary for such state office shall be held in each
328 municipality in accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

329 (b) A candidacy for nomination by a political party to a district office
330 may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears upon
331 the last-completed enrollment list of such party within the district the
332 person seeks to represent that is in the office of the Secretary of the State
333 at the end of the last day prior to the convention for the party from
334 which the person seeks nomination and who has either (1) received at
335 least fifteen per cent of the votes of the convention delegates present and
336 voting on any roll-call vote taken on the endorsement or proposed
337 endorsement of a candidate for such district office, whether or not the
338 party-endorsed candidate for such office received a unanimous vote on
339 the last ballot, or (2) circulated a petition and obtained the signatures of
340 at least two per cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district
341 for the district office of representative in Congress, and at least five per
342 cent of the enrolled members of such party in the district for the district
343 offices of state senator, state representative and judge of probate, in
344 accordance with the provisions of sections 9-404a to 9-404c, inclusive.
345 Candidacies described in subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be filed
346 by submitting to the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
347 p.m. on the fourteenth day following the close of the district convention,

348 a certificate, signed by such candidate and attested by either (A) the
349 chairman or presiding officer, or (B) the secretary of the convention, that
350 such candidate received at least fifteen per cent of such votes, and that
351 the candidate consents to be a candidate in a primary of such party for
352 such district office. Such certificate shall specify the candidate's name as
353 the candidate authorizes it to appear on the ballot, the candidate's full
354 residence address and the title and district of the office for which the
355 candidacy is being filed. If such certificate for a district office is not
356 received by the Secretary of the State by such time, such certificate shall
357 be invalid and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-
358 416a, shall be deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy
359 for nomination by a political party [for] to such district office.
360 Candidacies described in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be filed
361 by submitting said petition not later than four o'clock p.m. on the sixty-
362 third day preceding the day of the primary for such office to the registrar
363 of voters of the towns in which the respective petition pages were
364 circulated. Each registrar shall file each page of such petition with the
365 Secretary in accordance with the provisions of section 9-404c. A petition
366 may only be filed by or on behalf of a candidate for the district office of
367 state senator, state representative or judge of probate who is not certified
368 as the party-endorsed candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended
369 by this act, or as receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote
370 for such office pursuant to this subsection. A petition filed by or on
371 behalf of a candidate for the district office of representative in Congress
372 shall be invalid if said candidate is certified as the party-endorsed
373 candidate pursuant to section 9-388, as amended by this act, or as
374 receiving at least fifteen per cent of the convention vote for such office
375 pursuant to this subsection. Except as provided in section 9-416a, upon
376 the expiration of the time period for party endorsement and circulation
377 and tabulation of petitions and signatures, if any, if one or more
378 candidacies for such district office have been filed pursuant to the
379 provisions of this section, the Secretary of the State shall notify all town
380 clerks within the district, in accordance with the provisions of section 9-
381 433, that a primary for such district office shall be held in each
382 municipality and each part of a municipality within the district in

383 accordance with the provisions of section 9-415.

384 (c) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of candidacy for
385 nomination by a political party pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this
386 section, which contains an error or omission that would operate to
387 invalidate such candidacy for nomination, the person so certified or an
388 agent of such person may correct such error or omission by appearing
389 in person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four
390 o'clock p.m. on the nineteenth day after the close of the state or district
391 convention, as applicable, and amending such certificate to make such
392 correction, provided neither failure of such person to timely file such
393 certificate pursuant to subsection (a) or (b) of this section nor failure of
394 the chairperson, presiding officer or secretary of the convention to attest
395 such certificate shall be an error or omission that may be corrected
396 pursuant to this subsection. If such person or agent does not appear to
397 so amend such certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid
398 and such person, for the purposes of sections 9-416 and 9-416a, shall be
399 deemed to have made no valid certification of candidacy for nomination
400 by a political party. As used in this subsection, "agent" means an
401 individual authorized to act on behalf of a person.

402 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
403 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
404 candidacy for nomination to correct any such error or omission, and
405 shall keep a record of any such amendment made pursuant to this
406 subdivision. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require
407 the Secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission
408 in any such certificate.

409 ~~[(c)]~~ (d) For the purposes of this section, the number of enrolled
410 members of a party shall be determined by the latest enrollment records
411 in the office of the Secretary of the State prior to the earliest date that
412 primary petitions were available. The names of electors on the inactive
413 registry list compiled under section 9-35 shall not be counted for
414 purposes of computing the number of petition signatures required
415 under this section, as provided in section 9-35c.

416 [(d)] (e) On the last day for filing primary petition candidacies in
417 accordance with the provisions of this section, the office or office
418 facilities of the registrars of voters shall open not later than one o'clock
419 p.m., and remain open until at least four o'clock p.m., and such
420 registrars or the deputy or assistant registrars shall be present.

421 Sec. 8. Section 9-452 of the general statutes is repealed and the
422 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

423 (a) All minor parties nominating candidates for any elective office
424 shall make such nominations and certify and file a list of such
425 nominations, as required by this section, not later than the sixty-second
426 day prior to the day of the election at which such candidates are to be
427 voted for. A list of nominees in printed or typewritten form that includes
428 each candidate's name as authorized by each candidate to appear on the
429 ballot, the signature of each candidate, the full street address of each
430 candidate and the title and district of the office for which each candidate
431 is nominated shall be certified by the presiding officer of the committee,
432 meeting or other authority making such nomination and shall be filed
433 by such presiding officer with the Secretary of the State, in the case of
434 any state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election,
435 or with the clerk of the municipality, in the case of any municipal office
436 to be voted upon at a municipal election, not later than the sixty-second
437 day prior to the day of the election. The registrars of voters of such
438 municipality shall promptly verify and correct the names on any such
439 list filed with him, or the names of nominees forwarded to the clerk of
440 the municipality by the Secretary of the State, in accordance with the
441 registry list of such municipality and endorse the same as having been
442 so verified and corrected. For purposes of this section, a list of
443 nominations shall be deemed to be filed when it is received by the
444 Secretary of the State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate. If such
445 certificate of a party's nomination is not received by the Secretary of the
446 State or clerk of the municipality, as appropriate, by such time, such
447 certificate shall be invalid and such party, for purposes of sections 9-460,
448 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to have neither made nor certified any
449 nomination of any candidate for such office. A candidacy for

450 nomination by a minor party to a district or municipal office may be
451 filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed
452 registry list of the district or municipality represented by such office, as
453 the case may be. A candidacy for nomination by a minor party to a state
454 office may be filed on behalf of any person whose name appears on the
455 last-completed registry list of the state.

456 (b) (1) In the case of a timely filed certificate of nomination for any
457 state, district or municipal office to be voted upon at a state election
458 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, which contains an error or
459 omission that would operate to invalidate such nomination, the
460 candidate so certified or an individual authorized to act on behalf of
461 such candidate may correct such error or omission by appearing in
462 person at the office of the Secretary of the State not later than four o'clock
463 p.m. on the fifty-seventh day prior to the day of the election and
464 amending such certificate to make such correction, provided neither
465 failure of the presiding officer of the committee, meeting or other
466 authority to timely file such certificate pursuant to subsection (a) of this
467 section nor failure of the candidate to sign such certificate shall be an
468 error or omission that may be corrected pursuant to this subsection. If
469 such candidate or individual does not appear to so amend such
470 certificate by such time, such certificate shall be invalid and such party,
471 for the purposes of sections 9-460, 9-461 and 9-462, shall be deemed to
472 have neither made nor certified any such nomination.

473 (2) The Secretary of the State may, within the time period specified in
474 subdivision (1) of this subsection, amend a timely filed certificate of
475 nomination to correct any such error or omission, and shall keep a
476 record of any such amendment made pursuant to this subdivision.
477 Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to require the Secretary
478 to affirmatively attempt to identify any error or omission in any such
479 certificate.

480 Sec. 9. Subsection (d) of section 9-404b of the general statutes is
481 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
482 *passage*):

483 (d) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled
484 party member of a municipality in this state. Each petition page shall
485 contain a statement signed by the registrar of the municipality in which
486 the circulator is an enrolled party member attesting that the circulator is
487 an enrolled party member in the municipality. Unless such a statement
488 by the registrar of voters appears on each page so submitted, the
489 Secretary shall reject the page. Each separate page of the petition shall
490 contain a statement as to the authenticity of the signatures on the page
491 and the number of such signatures, and shall be signed under the
492 penalties of false statement by the person who circulated the page,
493 setting forth the circulator's address and the town in which the
494 circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that each person
495 whose name appears on the page signed the petition in person in the
496 presence of the circulator, that the circulator either knows each such
497 signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself or herself to the
498 circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices sought
499 and the political party involved were filled in prior to the obtaining of
500 the signatures. Each separate page of the petition shall also be
501 acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in section 1-
502 29. The Secretary shall reject any page of a petition filed with the
503 Secretary which does not contain such a statement by the circulator as
504 to the authenticity of the signatures on the page, or upon which the
505 statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect, or which does
506 not contain the certification required under this section by the registrar
507 of the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member. No
508 person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall circulate
509 any page of a primary petition during such person's period of probation
510 or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's release
511 from confinement, probation or parole, and the Secretary shall reject for
512 filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such prohibition.
513 Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary petition may
514 serve as a circulator of the pages of the petition, provided the
515 individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of this
516 section.

517 Sec. 10. Subsection (c) of section 9-410 of the general statutes is

518 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
519 *passage*):

520 (c) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be an enrolled
521 party member of a municipality in this state who is entitled to vote. Each
522 petition page shall contain a statement signed by the registrar of the
523 municipality in which such circulator is an enrolled party member
524 attesting that the circulator is an enrolled party member in such
525 municipality. Unless such a statement by the registrar appears on each
526 page so submitted, the registrar shall reject such page. No candidate for
527 the nomination of a party for a municipal office or the position of town
528 committee member shall circulate any petition for another candidate or
529 another group of candidates contained in one primary petition for the
530 nomination of such party for the same office or position, and any
531 petition page circulated in violation of this provision shall be rejected by
532 the registrar. No person shall circulate petitions for more than the
533 maximum number of candidates to be nominated by a party for the
534 same office or position, and any petition page circulated in violation of
535 this provision shall be rejected by the registrar. Each separate sheet of
536 such petition shall contain a statement as to the authenticity of the
537 signatures thereon and the number of such signatures, and shall be
538 signed under the penalties of false statement by the person who
539 circulated the same, setting forth such circulator's address and the town
540 in which such circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that
541 each person whose name appears on such sheet signed the same in
542 person in the presence of such circulator, that the circulator either knows
543 each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified the signer to
544 the circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices or
545 positions sought and the political party involved were filled in prior to
546 the obtaining of the signatures. Each separate sheet of such petition shall
547 also be acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in
548 section 1-29. Any sheet of a petition filed with the registrar which does
549 not contain such a statement by the circulator as to the authenticity of
550 the signatures thereon, or upon which the statement of the circulator is
551 incomplete in any respect, or which does not contain the certification
552 hereinbefore required by the registrar of the town in which the

553 circulator is an enrolled party member, shall be rejected by the registrar.
554 No person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall
555 circulate any page of a primary petition during such person's period of
556 probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such person's
557 release from confinement, probation or parole, and the registrar shall
558 reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation of such
559 prohibition. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary
560 petition may serve as a circulator of the pages of such petition, provided
561 such individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of
562 this section.

563 Sec. 11. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the
564 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

565 (a) Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United
566 States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and a resident of a town in
567 this state and shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony. Any
568 individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition may
569 serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.

570 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
571 no person who has been convicted of a crime under this title shall
572 circulate any page of a nominating petition during such person's period
573 of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such
574 person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The appropriate
575 town clerk or the Secretary of the State, as applicable under section 9-
576 453i, shall reject for filing any such page that was circulated in violation
577 of such prohibition.

578 Sec. 12. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the
579 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

580 Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or the
581 Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under the
582 provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216 shall
583 contain a statement as to the residency in this state and eligibility of the
584 circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon, signed under

585 penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the same. Such
586 statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence address,
587 including the town in this state in which such circulator is a resident, (2)
588 the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at least eighteen
589 years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States citizen and [not]
590 neither (A) on parole for conviction of a felony, nor (B) on probation or
591 parole for conviction of a crime under this title or within twelve years of
592 release from confinement, probation or parole due to such a conviction
593 under this subparagraph, and (4) that each person whose name appears
594 on such page signed the same in person in the presence of such
595 circulator and that either the circulator knows each such signer or that
596 the signer satisfactorily identified himself to the circulator. Any false
597 statement committed with respect to such statement shall be deemed to
598 have been committed in the town in which the petition was circulated.

599 Sec. 13. Subsection (k) of section 9-140 of the general statutes is
600 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
601 *passage*):

602 (k) (1) (A) A person shall register with the town clerk before
603 distributing five or more absentee ballot applications for an election,
604 primary or referendum, not including applications distributed to such
605 person's immediate family. Such requirement shall not apply to a person
606 who is the designee of an applicant.

607 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (A) of this
608 subdivision, no person who has been convicted of a crime under this
609 title shall distribute any absentee ballot application during such person's
610 period of probation or parole, and for a period of twelve years after such
611 person's release from confinement, probation or parole. The town clerk
612 shall reject for filing any absentee ballot application that was distributed
613 in violation of such prohibition.

614 (2) Any person who distributes absentee ballot applications shall
615 maintain a list of the names and addresses of prospective absentee ballot
616 applicants who receive such applications, and shall file such list with
617 the town clerk prior to the date of the primary, election or referendum

618 for which the applications were so distributed. Any person who
619 distributes absentee ballot applications and receives an executed
620 application shall forthwith file the application with the town clerk.

621 Sec. 14. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) There is established, within
622 the office of the Secretary of the State, a Translation Advisory
623 Committee for the purposes of (1) validating the translations of election-
624 related materials for accuracy and ensuring that such translations meet
625 the needs of the intended audience in a culturally responsive and
626 linguistically appropriate way, and (2) making recommendations to the
627 Secretary of the State and municipal officials on related matters.

628 (b) The Secretary of the State shall appoint members to serve on the
629 Translation Advisory Committee based on an application that shall
630 include the submission of a writing sample. Each member shall:

631 (1) Be a current resident of the state of Connecticut;

632 (2) Have experience in one or more of the municipalities served by
633 the translation of election-related materials;

634 (3) Be proficient in reading and writing in (A) English, and (B) one or
635 more dialects of a language, other than English, that is spoken in
636 Connecticut and in which federal or state law requires election-related
637 materials be made available; and

638 (4) Have experience in (A) election administration, including, but not
639 limited to, serving as a poll worker, or (B) bilingual educational settings
640 or community assistance programs.

641 (c) The Secretary of the State shall make initial appointments to the
642 Translation Advisory Committee not later than August 1, 2025. Each
643 member shall serve for a term of four years from such appointment, or
644 until a successor is appointed and has qualified.

645 (d) The Translation Advisory Committee shall meet as frequently as
646 necessary to timely approve election-related materials translations prior
647 to elections, primaries and referenda, but not less than quarterly each

648 year. Committee members shall serve without compensation and shall
649 not be eligible for mileage reimbursement. Not later than January 15,
650 2027, and biennially thereafter, the committee shall submit to the
651 Secretary of the State a report on the committee's proceedings, including
652 any recommendations for improvements in performing the committee's
653 duties under this section.

654 (e) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance
655 with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to carry out the
656 purposes of this section.

657 Sec. 15. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2026*) Each municipality that,
658 pursuant to federal or state law, is required to make election-related
659 materials available in a language other than English shall use
660 professional translators when translating election-related materials
661 from English into such other language. As soon as practicable, but in no
662 case later than sixty-five days prior to each election, primary or
663 referendum, such municipality shall submit its translated election-
664 related materials to the Translation Advisory Committee established
665 under section 14 of this act for review of such translations. As used in
666 this section, "professional translator" means a person who has attained
667 (1) an academic certificate or degree in translation from an accredited
668 institution of higher education, or (2) certification as a translator by a
669 professional association or other accrediting organization.

670 Sec. 16. Section 9-250 of the general statutes is repealed and the
671 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

672 (a) Ballots shall be printed in plain clear type and on material of such
673 size as will fit the tabulator, and shall be furnished by the registrar of
674 voters. The size and style of the type used to print the name of a political
675 party on a ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type
676 used to print the names of all other political parties appearing on such
677 ballot. The name of each major party candidate for a municipal office, as
678 defined in section 9-372, except for the municipal offices of state senator
679 and state representative, shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each
680 candidate. The name of each major party candidate for a state or district

681 office, as defined in section 9-372, or for the municipal office of state
682 senator or state representative shall appear on the ballot as it appears on
683 the certificate or statement of consent filed under section 9-388, as
684 amended by this act, subsection (b) of section 9-391, or section 9-400, as
685 amended by this act, or 9-409. The name of each minor party candidate
686 shall appear on the ballot as authorized by each candidate. The name of
687 each nominating petition candidate shall appear on the ballot as it is
688 verified by the town clerk on the application filed under section 9-453b.
689 The size and style of the type used to print the name of a candidate on a
690 ballot shall be identical with the size and style of the type used to print
691 the names of all other candidates appearing on such ballot. Such ballot
692 shall contain the names of the offices and the names of the candidates
693 arranged thereon. The names of the political parties and party
694 designations shall be arranged on the ballots and followed by the word
695 "party", either in columns or horizontal rows as set forth in section 9-
696 249a, immediately adjacent to the column or row occupied by the
697 candidate or candidates of such political party or organization. The
698 ballot shall be printed in such manner as to indicate how many
699 candidates the elector may vote for each office, provided in the case of a
700 town adopting the provisions of section 9-204a, such ballot shall indicate
701 the maximum number of candidates who may be elected to such office
702 from any party. If two or more candidates are to be elected to the same
703 office for different terms, the term for which each is nominated shall be
704 printed on the official ballot as a part of the title of the office. If, at any
705 election, one candidate is to be elected for a full term and another to fill
706 a vacancy, the official ballot containing the names of the candidates in
707 the foregoing order shall, as a part of the title of the office, designate the
708 term which such candidates are severally nominated to fill. No column,
709 under the name of any political party or independent organization, shall
710 be printed on any official ballot, which contains more candidates for any
711 office than the number for which an elector may vote for that office.

712 (b) Not later than ten days prior to the commencement of the period
713 of early voting at an election, the registrars of voters of each
714 municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting
715 district in such municipality, the official ballot to be used for such voting

716 district. No such official ballot shall be used at any election unless it has
717 been approved by the Secretary of the State.

718 Sec. 17. Subsection (j) of section 9-437 of the general statutes is
719 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
720 *1, 2026*):

721 (j) (1) All ballots used at a primary shall be prepared by the clerk of
722 the municipality in which such primary is held and shall be printed at
723 the expense of the municipality. Not later than ten days prior to the
724 commencement of the period of early voting at a primary, such clerk
725 shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting district in such
726 municipality at which such primary is held, the ballot to be used for
727 such voting district. No such ballot shall be used at any primary unless
728 it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

729 (2) Each municipality shall provide for all polling places:

730 [(1)] (A) At least forty-eight hours before the primary, such clerk shall
731 have sample ballots for general distribution, which shall contain the
732 offices or positions and names of candidates to be voted upon. Each such
733 sample ballot shall also include printed instructions approved by the
734 Secretary of the State concerning the use of the voting tabulator and
735 information concerning the date of the primary and the hours during
736 which polling places will be open. Such clerk shall have available for
737 distribution such number of sample ballots as such clerk deems
738 advisable, but in no event less than three which shall be posted inside
739 the polling place so as to be visible to those within the polling place
740 during the whole day of the primary. At least one of such sample ballots
741 shall be posted so as to be visible to an elector being instructed on the
742 demonstrator device, pursuant to section 9-260. If paper ballots are used
743 in any primary, such sample paper ballots shall be overprinted with the
744 word "Sample";

745 [(2)] (B) Instructions on how to cast a provisional ballot, as prescribed
746 by the Secretary of the State;

747 [(3)] (C) Instructions for mail-in registrants and first-time voters who
748 register to vote by mail on or after January 1, 2003, as prescribed by the
749 Secretary of the State;

750 [(4)] (D) General information concerning voting rights under federal
751 and Connecticut laws, including information on the right of an
752 individual to cast a provisional ballot and instructions on how to contact
753 the appropriate officials if such rights are alleged to have been violated,
754 as prescribed by the Secretary of the State; and

755 [(5)] (E) General information on federal and state laws concerning
756 prohibitions on acts of fraud and misrepresentation, as prescribed by
757 the Secretary of the State.

758 Sec. 18. Subsection (a) of section 9-135a of the general statutes is
759 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*
760 *1, 2026*):

761 (a) Each absentee ballot shall be arranged to resemble the appropriate
762 ballot and sample ballot as prescribed by law, and shall include, as
763 applicable, the offices, party designations, names of candidates and
764 questions to be voted upon and spaces for write-in votes. A replica of
765 the state seal shall be printed on the ballot. The size, type, form,
766 instructions, specifications for paper and printing and other
767 specifications shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State. Prior to
768 printing such absentee ballots pursuant to this section, the clerk of the
769 municipality shall file with the Secretary of the State, for each voting
770 district in such municipality, the absentee ballot to be used for such
771 voting district. No such absentee ballot shall be used at any election or
772 primary unless it has been approved by the Secretary of the State.

773 Sec. 19. Section 9-135b of the general statutes is repealed and the
774 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

775 (a) Immediately after the deadline for certification of all candidates
776 whose names are to appear on the ballot, and in sufficient time to begin
777 issuing absentee ballots on the day prescribed by law, the municipal

778 clerk shall prepare the absentee ballots and have them printed. Prior to
779 printing such ballots, the registrars of voters of the municipality may
780 provide comments concerning the content and form of such ballots to
781 the clerk, provided no such ballot shall be printed unless the Secretary
782 of the State has approved of such ballot in accordance with section 9-
783 135a, as amended by this act.

784 (b) A layout model of each different absentee ballot shall be available
785 for public inspection at the clerk's office prior to printing. The model
786 shall indicate the type face to be used, the spelling and placement of
787 names and other information to be printed on the ballots.

788 (c) Immediately upon receiving the printed absentee ballots, the
789 municipal clerk shall file one with the Secretary of the State or, if there
790 are different ballots for different political subdivisions, one ballot for
791 each subdivision. The clerk shall also file his affidavit with the Secretary,
792 stating the number of ballots printed. The form of affidavit shall be
793 prescribed by the Secretary. If any correction or alteration is
794 subsequently made on any absentee ballot the clerk shall immediately
795 file a corrected or altered ballot and, using the prescribed form, his
796 affidavit stating the number of such ballots printed, with the Secretary.

797 (d) If a vacancy in candidacy occurs after the ballots have been
798 printed, the clerk may either reprint the ballots or cause printed stickers
799 to be affixed to them so that the name of any candidate who has vacated
800 his candidacy is deleted and the name of any candidate chosen to fill the
801 vacancy as provided in section 9-428 or section 9-460 appears in the
802 same position as that in which the vacated candidacy appeared except
803 as provided in section 9-426 or 9-453s. If no candidate is chosen to fill
804 such vacancy as so provided, the clerk shall cause the name of the
805 candidate whose candidacy has been vacated to be obscured in such
806 manner that such name is no longer visible.

807 (e) [The] Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the
808 Secretary of the State [shall examine each absentee ballot required to be
809 filed pursuant to this section and if a ballot contains an omission or
810 error, the Secretary shall order] from ordering the municipal clerk to

811 reprint a corrected absentee ballot or to take such other action as the
812 Secretary may deem appropriate in the case of an absentee ballot that
813 contains an omission or error.

814 Sec. 20. Section 9-256 of the general statutes is repealed and the
815 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

816 [The registrars of voters of each municipality shall, not less than ten
817 days prior to the commencement of the period of early voting at an
818 election, file with the Secretary of the State a sample ballot identical with
819 those to be provided for each polling place under section 9-255. The
820 Secretary of the State shall examine the sample ballot required to be filed
821 under this section, and if such sample ballot contains an error, the
822 Secretary of the State shall order] Notwithstanding the provisions of
823 subsection (b) of section 9-250, as amended by this act, the Secretary of
824 the State may order the registrars of voters to reprint a corrected
825 [sample] ballot or to take other such action as the Secretary may deem
826 appropriate in the case of any ballot that contains an omission or error.

827 Sec. 21. Subsection (a) of section 9-140b of the general statutes is
828 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
829 *passage*):

830 (a) An absentee ballot shall be cast at a primary, election or
831 referendum only if: (1) It is mailed by (A) the ballot applicant, (B) a
832 designee of a person who applies for an absentee ballot because of
833 illness or physical disability, or (C) a member of the immediate family
834 of an applicant who is a student, so that it is received by the clerk of the
835 municipality in which the applicant is qualified to vote not later than the
836 close of the polls; (2) it is returned by the applicant in person to the clerk
837 by the day before [a regular election, special] the election or primary or
838 prior to the opening of the polls on the day of [a] the referendum; (3) it
839 is returned by a designee of an ill or physically disabled ballot applicant,
840 in person, to said clerk not later than the close of the polls on the day of
841 the election, primary or referendum; (4) it is returned by a member of
842 the immediate family of the absentee voter, in person, to said clerk not
843 later than the close of the polls on the day of the election, primary or

844 referendum; (5) in the case of a presidential or overseas ballot, it is
845 mailed or otherwise returned pursuant to the provisions of section 9-
846 158g; or (6) it is returned with the proper identification as required by
847 the Help America Vote Act, P.L. 107-252, as amended from time to time,
848 if applicable, inserted in the outer envelope so such identification can be
849 viewed without opening the inner envelope. A person returning an
850 absentee ballot to the municipal clerk pursuant to subdivision (3) or (4)
851 of this subsection shall present identification and, on the outer envelope
852 of the absentee ballot, sign his name in the presence of the municipal
853 clerk, and indicate his address, his relationship to the voter or his
854 position, and the date and time of such return. As used in this section,
855 "immediate family" means a dependent relative who resides in the
856 individual's household or any spouse, child, parent or sibling of the
857 individual.

858 Sec. 22. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There shall be, in any municipality
859 with a population of at least one hundred forty thousand, an election
860 monitor for the municipal election in 2025 and the state election in 2026
861 to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in the management
862 of election administration procedures and the conduct of said elections
863 in such municipality. The office of the Secretary of the State shall
864 contract with one or more individuals to serve in such capacity as
865 election monitor until December 31, 2026, unless such contract is
866 terminated for any reason by the Secretary of the State prior to said date.
867 Such election monitor shall: (1) Not be considered a state employee; (2)
868 be compensated in accordance with such contract; and (3) be
869 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of his
870 or her duties. Costs related to the service of such election monitor shall
871 be paid from moneys appropriated to the Secretary for such purpose.
872 Any such municipality shall provide for such election monitor any office
873 space, supplies, equipment and services necessary to properly carry out
874 the duties and responsibilities of the position. As used in this section,
875 "population" means the estimated number of people according to the
876 most recent version of the State Register and Manual prepared pursuant
877 to section 3-90 of the general statutes.

878 (b) An election monitor appointed under subsection (a) of this section
879 shall: (1) Oversee the municipal primary and election in 2025 in such
880 municipality, including, but not limited to, absentee ballots, early
881 voting, same-day election registration and voting at polling places on
882 the days of the primary and the election; (2) oversee the state primary
883 and election in 2026 in such municipality, including, but not limited to,
884 absentee ballots, early voting, same-day election registration and voting
885 at polling places on the days of the primary and the election; (3) oversee
886 each special election in 2025 and 2026, if any; (4) conduct inspections,
887 inquiries and investigations relating to any duty or responsibility under
888 title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by any official of the
889 municipality or appointee of such official; (5) have access to all records,
890 data and material maintained by or available to any such official or
891 appointee; (6) issue periodic reports on a schedule agreed to by the
892 Secretary of the State; and (7) immediately report to the Secretary any
893 irregularity or impropriety in the performance of any duty or
894 responsibility under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by
895 any official of the municipality or appointee of such official. Nothing in
896 this section shall be construed to prohibit the State Elections
897 Enforcement Commission from taking any action authorized under
898 section 9-7b of the general statutes.

899 (c) The Secretary of the State shall, using moneys appropriated
900 pursuant to this section, develop and conduct a town-wide bilingual
901 public awareness campaign in such municipality to educate members of
902 the public regarding title 9 of the general statutes and such members'
903 rights thereunder.

904 Sec. 23. Section 9-50d of the general statutes is repealed and the
905 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

906 (a) (1) Whenever voter registration information maintained under
907 this title by the Secretary of the State or any registrar of voters is
908 provided pursuant to any provision of the general statutes, disclosure
909 of a voter's date of birth shall be limited to only the month and year of
910 birth, unless such voter registration information is requested and used

911 for a governmental purpose, as determined by the Secretary, in which
912 case the voter's complete date of birth shall be provided. As used in this
913 section, a governmental purpose shall include, but not be limited to, jury
914 administration.

915 (2) Voter registration information described in subdivision (1) of this
916 subsection (A) may only be used for election-related, scholarly,
917 journalistic, political or governmental purposes, and (B) shall not be
918 used for any personal, private or commercial purpose, including, but
919 not limited to, (i) harassment of any voter or voter's household, (ii)
920 advertising, solicitation, sale or marketing of products or services to any
921 voter or voter's household, and (iii) reproduction of such information in
922 print, broadcast visual or audio or display on the Internet or any
923 computer terminal.

924 (3) The Secretary of the State may adopt regulations, in accordance
925 with the provisions of chapter 54, concerning the permissible uses of
926 voter registration information.

927 (b) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, any motor
928 vehicle operator's license number, identity card number or Social
929 Security number on a voter registration record shall be confidential and
930 shall not be disclosed to any person.

931 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, if a voter
932 submits to the Secretary of the State a signed statement that
933 nondisclosure of such voter's name from the official registry list is
934 necessary for the safety of such voter or the voter's family, the name and
935 address of such voter on his or her voter registration record shall be
936 confidential and shall not be disclosed, except that an election, primary
937 or referendum official may view such information on the official registry
938 list when such list is used by any such official at a polling place on the
939 day of an election, primary or referendum. Such signed statement shall
940 be sworn under penalty of false statement, as provided in section 53a-
941 157b.

942 Sec. 24. Section 9-3 of the general statutes is repealed and the

943 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

944 (a) The Secretary of the State, by virtue of the office, shall be the
945 Commissioner of Elections of the state, with such powers and duties
946 relating to the conduct of elections as are prescribed by law and, unless
947 otherwise provided by state statute, the Secretary's regulations,
948 declaratory rulings, instructions and opinions, if in written form, and
949 any order issued under subsection (b) of this section, shall be presumed
950 as correctly interpreting and effectuating the administration of elections
951 and primaries under this title, except for chapters 155 to 158, inclusive,
952 and shall be executed, carried out or implemented, as the case may be,
953 provided nothing in this section shall be construed to alter the right of
954 appeal provided under the provisions of chapter 54. Any such written
955 instruction or opinion shall be labeled as an instruction or opinion
956 issued pursuant to this section, as applicable, and any such instruction
957 or opinion shall cite any authority that is discussed in such instruction
958 or opinion.

959 (b) During any municipal, state or federal election, primary or
960 recanvass, or any audit conducted pursuant to section 9-320f, the
961 Secretary of the State may issue an order, whether orally or in writing,
962 to any registrar of voters or moderator to correct any irregularity or
963 impropriety in the conduct of such election, primary or recanvass or
964 audit. Any such order shall be effective upon issuance. As soon as
965 practicable after issuance of an oral order pursuant to this subsection,
966 the Secretary shall reduce such order to writing, cite within such order
967 any applicable provision of law authorizing such order and cause a copy
968 of such written order to be delivered to the individual who is the subject
969 of such order or, in the case that such order was originally issued in
970 writing, issue a subsequent written order that conforms to such
971 requirements. The Superior Court, on application of the Secretary or the
972 Attorney General, may enforce by appropriate decree or process any
973 such order issued pursuant to this subsection.

974 (c) Whenever, during the ninety days preceding the day of an election
975 or primary, one or more electors have alleged aggrievement under this

976 title, the Secretary of the State may commence a declaratory judgment
 977 action under section 52-29 for a determination as to whether such elector
 978 or electors have been so aggrieved and for an order to ensure election
 979 administration procedures are properly executed and electors' rights are
 980 adequately protected under this title.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	9-322a
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-261(b)
Sec. 4	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-236
Sec. 5	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-388
Sec. 6	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-391(c)
Sec. 7	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-400
Sec. 8	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-452
Sec. 9	<i>from passage</i>	9-404b(d)
Sec. 10	<i>from passage</i>	9-410(c)
Sec. 11	<i>from passage</i>	9-453e
Sec. 12	<i>from passage</i>	9-453j
Sec. 13	<i>from passage</i>	9-140(k)
Sec. 14	<i>July 1, 2025</i>	New section
Sec. 15	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	New section
Sec. 16	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-250
Sec. 17	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-437(j)
Sec. 18	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-135a(a)
Sec. 19	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-135b
Sec. 20	<i>January 1, 2026</i>	9-256
Sec. 21	<i>from passage</i>	9-140b(a)
Sec. 22	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 23	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	9-50d
Sec. 24	<i>from passage</i>	9-3

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Sections 5(b)(1), 7(c)(1) and 8(b)(1), "Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection," was deleted for accuracy; in Section 6(c)(2)(A), "Except as provided in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision," was deleted for accuracy; in Section 14(d), "not less frequently than" was changed to "not less than" for clarity; in Section 15, "section 1 of this act" was changed to "section 14 of this act" for accuracy; in Section 18,

"section 9-135a, as amended by this act" was changed to "this section" for consistency with standard drafting conventions; in Section 19(a), "thereof" was changed to "of such ballot" for clarity; in Section 22(a), "Such municipality" was changed to "Any such municipality" for accuracy; in Section 22(b)(7), "described in this subsection" was changed to "under title 9 of the general statutes to be carried out by any official of the municipality or appointee of such official" for consistency; and in Section 23(a)(3), "use" was changed to "permissible uses" for clarity.

GAE *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Secretary of the State	GF - Cost	250,000	250,000
Secretary of the State	GF - Potential Cost	See Below	See Below
Judicial Dept. (Probation)	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill makes a variety of changes to the states election statutes and results in the fiscal impacts outlined below.

Section 4 expands an existing class C misdemeanor related to behavior at or near polling places, results in a potential cost to the Judicial Department for probation and a potential revenue gain to the General Fund from fines. On average, the marginal cost for supervision in the community is less than \$600¹ each year for adults and \$450 each year for juveniles. Few, if any, violations are expected.

Section 22 requires the Secretary of the State (SOTS) to hire and install an election monitor for Bridgeport and to conduct a bilingual voter information campaign at a cost of \$250,000 in FY 26 and FY 27. The

¹ Probation marginal cost is based on services provided by private providers and only includes costs that increase with each additional participant. This does not include a cost for additional supervision by a probation officer unless a new offense is anticipated to result in enough additional offenders to require additional probation officers.

Election Monitor² will oversee covered elections, conduct investigations as required, and report any irregularities. The public information campaign³ will inform voters in Bridgeport of their rights under Title 9 in both English and Spanish.

Section 24 empowers SOTS to commence a declaratory judgment action in court under certain circumstances resulting in a potential cost to the state. The exact cost will depend on the number of declaratory judgements pursued.

The remaining sections of the bill make a variety of changes that result in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation, actual violations, and declaratory judgements pursued.

² The election monitor is expected to cost \$150,000 in FY 26 and FY 27.

³ The public information campaign is expected to cost \$100,000 in FY 26 and FY 27.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1516*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE'S
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO VOTING AND ELECTIONS IN
THIS STATE.***

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Requires officials in all municipalities, instead of those in municipalities with multiple voting districts, to meet to amend errors in election night returns and submit an amended return if necessary

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Requires certain entities to notify the secretary of the state about certain election-related actions and violations

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§§ 5-8 — ENDORSEMENT AND NOMINATION PETITION
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§§ 16-20 — BALLOT FILING WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE

Adjusts the requirements for filing ballots with the secretary of the state for review

§ 21 — TECHNICAL CHANGE

Makes technical changes to an absentee voting statute

§ 22 — BRIDGEPORT ELECTION MONITOR

Requires the secretary of the state to hire and install an election monitor for Bridgeport and conduct a town-wide bilingual public awareness campaign to educate the public on their rights under the state's election laws

§ 23 — PROHIBITED VOTER INFORMATION DISCLOSURES

Restricts the disclosure of voter information for certain uses and authorizes the secretary of the state to adopt regulations

§ 24 — DECLARATORY JUDGMENTS FOR AGGRIEVED ELECTORS

Authorizes the secretary of the state to initiate declaratory judgment actions on behalf of aggrieved electors if within 90 days of an election or primary

SUMMARY

This bill makes a variety of changes to the state's election laws as described in the section-by-section analysis below.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Various; see below.

§ 1 — AMENDING AND REPORTING ELECTION RETURNS

Requires officials in all municipalities, instead of those in municipalities with multiple voting districts, to meet to amend errors in election night returns and submit an amended return if necessary

For towns with more than one voting district, the law requires (1) head moderators, town clerks, and registrars to meet by 9:00 a.m. on the third day after a regular election to identify any errors in the election night returns and (2) head moderators to file an amended return, if necessary, by 1:00 p.m. on that day with the secretary of the state, town clerk, and registrars. The bill conforms the law to existing practice by requiring all towns to do so, instead of just those with multiple voting districts.

Additionally, the law requires the town clerk of a municipality with multiple voting districts to submit a consolidated listing of the official voting returns to the secretary of the state within 21 days after state elections. The returns must be broken down by voting district with the total number of (1) votes cast for each candidate, (2) names on the registry list, and (3) names checked off as having voted. As above, the bill explicitly requires all town clerks to submit these returns.

As under existing law, a clerk in a multi-voting district town must certify to the secretary that he or she examined these returns for discrepancies between the total number of votes cast for a candidate and the sum of the votes cast for that candidate in all voting districts.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

Background — Related Bill

sHB 7228, favorably reported by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, among other provisions, changes the recanvass requirements for multi-voting district municipalities and makes the secretary of the state responsible for the petition process instead of municipal registrars of voters.

§ 2 — NOTIFICATION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION-RELATED CASES

Requires certain entities to notify the secretary of the state about certain election-related actions and violations

The bill requires a court (presumably only state courts) to notify the secretary if an action before it alleges a violation of certain laws on the right to vote or a pattern, practice, or policy of discrimination against any protected class (i.e. a class based on race, color, or language minority group, as referenced in the federal Voting Rights Act (VRA)). This applies to violations of the state's Voting Rights Act, the federal VRA, state or federal civil rights laws, or the U.S. Constitution's 14th or 15th Amendment.

The bill also requires a municipality's corporation counsel to notify the secretary of the state if it has been the subject of any court order or government enforcement action due to violations as described above

within one month from the bill's passage, an order's issuance, or an action's commencement, whichever is latest.

Under the bill, a "government enforcement action" is any denial of administrative or judicial preclearance by the state or federal government, pending litigation filed by a state or federal entity, final judgment or adjudication, consent decree, or other similar formal action.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 3 & 4 — CURBSIDE VOTING

Makes various changes to the curbside voting requirements including (1) allowing curbside voting for all voters with an incapacity, not just those with a temporary one; (2) designating an official space; (3) establishing certain prohibitions to protect a voter's privacy and rights; and (4) requiring the secretary to adopt related regulations

Under current law, if a voter cannot access his or her polling place due to a temporary incapacity, the registrars of voters or the assistant registrars of voters must take a ballot out to the voter. After showing any required identification, the voter may mark their ballot and return it to the registrars to be cast. The bill (1) eliminates the requirement that the voter's incapacity be temporary in order to use curbside voting and (2) requires the registrars of voters to designate a specific area for curbside voting to occur.

Separately, the bill prohibits any person within a marked radius of 20 feet of an elector being brought a ballot curbside from (1) soliciting on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate or any question on the ballot or (2) loitering, peddling, or offering any advertising matter, ballot, or circular. (Unlike a similar exemption for conducting these activities 75 feet from a polling place entrance, the bill does not specify how this radius should be marked. Further, in practice, this radius would change depending on how many voters are using curbside voting (e.g., no voters, one voter, or multiple voters) or where the voters position themselves within the designated area.)

Additionally, no person may be in a vehicle being used by a person casting a ballot in the designated area unless they are casting a vote or driving the voter. Further, a candidate may never be in the vehicle

unless he or she is casting his or her own vote.

The bill requires the secretary of the state to adopt any regulations she deems necessary to implement these provisions. She must include a model plan that municipalities may adopt.

A violation of these provisions, including the removal of or injury to any marker the bill requires, is a class C misdemeanor, punishable by up to three months in prison, up to a \$500 fine, or both.

As with similar prohibitions under state law, these provisions do not prohibit (1) certain school-connected organizations from holding bake sales or other fundraising activities on election day other than where the election booths are located in a school; (2) election officials from distributing “I Voted Today” stickers; or (3) registrars from jointly permitting nonpartisan activities in a room other than where the election booths are located.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

Background — Related Bills

SB 1514, favorably reported by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, implements identical curbside voting provisions.

§§ 5-8 — ENDORSEMENT AND NOMINATION PETITION CORRECTION PROCESS

Creates a process for candidates to correct endorsement certificates and certificates of candidacies for nomination; authorizes the secretary of the state to make corrections and keep a record of them

Existing law requires candidates who are endorsed by a party to file a signed certificate with the secretary of the state stating he or she was endorsed, among other information. Individuals who seek endorsement as the party’s candidate in a primary must also file a certificate with the secretary that they qualify to run in the primary, among other things.

The bill generally allows candidates to correct endorsement certificates and certificates of candidacies for nomination. Specifically, if a timely-filed certificate contains an error or omission that would

invalidate it, the candidate, or an individual authorized to act on his or her behalf, generally may correct the issue by appearing in person at the secretary of the state's office by 4:00 p.m. on the 19th day after he or she was endorsed (or by 4:00 p.m. on the 57th day before an election for minor party nominations). Certificates may not be corrected if they are not timely filed or, for certificates of candidacies for nomination, not properly attested or signed as required by law.

If the candidate or individual does not correct the certificate, it is deemed invalid and the party is deemed to have neither made nor certified the endorsement or candidacy for nomination, whichever applies.

The bill (1) authorizes the secretary to amend certificates in order to correct errors or omissions and (2) requires her to maintain a record of any amendment she makes. The bill specifies that it does not require the secretary to affirmatively attempt to identify errors or omissions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

§§ 9-13 — PETITION CIRCULATOR INELIGIBILITY

Specifies that a person may not circulate certain petitions or absentee ballots for a certain period if convicted of an election crime

The bill prohibits people from circulating certain petitions or applications for a certain period of time if they have been convicted of an election crime. The prohibition lasts (1) while the person is on probation or parole and (2) for 12 years after a person's release from confinement, probation, or parole. The secretary of the state or town clerk, as appropriate, must reject any petition page filed by an ineligible person under these provisions.

An ineligible person may not (1) distribute absentee ballot applications; (2) circulate nominating petitions on behalf of petitioning candidates seeking congressional, statewide, legislative, or municipal office at a regular or special election; or (3) circulate primary petitions on behalf of major party candidates for congressional, statewide, legislative, or municipal office or president (in a presidential preference

primary). For nominating petitions, the bill adds this stipulation to the statement that the circulator must sign on each petition page.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 14 & 15 — ELECTION-RELATED TRANSLATIONS

Establishes the Translation Advisory Committee to evaluate translated municipal election-related materials and sets membership and eligibility requirements

Translation Advisory Committee (§ 14)

The bill creates a Translation Advisory Committee within the secretary of the state's office for (1) validating the translation of election-related materials for accuracy, (2) ensuring they meet the intended audience's needs in a culturally responsive and linguistically appropriate way, and (3) making recommendations to the secretary and municipal officials on related matters. The secretary may adopt regulations to carry out these purposes.

The secretary must appoint its members by August 1, 2025, from those who apply and submit a writing sample. The committee's members must:

1. be state residents,
2. have experience in municipalities served by translated election-related materials (see below),
3. be proficient in reading and writing in English and at least one other language dialect spoken in Connecticut that federal or state law requires election-related materials to be translated to, and
4. have experience in either (a) election administration (such as serving as a poll worker) or (b) bilingual educational settings or community assistance programs.

Under the bill, members serve a four-year term, or until their successor is appointed and has qualified, and may not be compensated or receive mileage reimbursement. The committee must meet (1) at least quarterly and (2) as frequently as needed to timely approve translated

election-related materials before elections, primaries, and referenda.

Starting by January 15, 2027, the committee must biennially submit a report on its proceedings to the secretary, including any recommendations for improving its performance.

Submission of Election-Related Materials (§ 15)

The bill requires each municipality required by law to make election-related materials available in non-English languages to (1) use professional translators when translating these materials and (2) submit these materials to the Translation Advisory Committee as soon as practicable, but no later than 65 days before an election, primary, or referendum. Under the bill, a “professional translator” means a person with (1) an academic certificate or degree in translation from an accredited higher education institution or (2) certification as a translator from a professional association or other accrediting organization.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026, except provisions creating the committee are effective July 1, 2025.

Background — Language Translation Under the Voting Rights Act

The federal Voting Rights Act generally requires certain municipalities to provide language assistance during elections for certain language minority groups based on specified English proficiency population thresholds. In Connecticut, 10 municipalities are currently federally required to provide this assistance (in Spanish).

The state’s voting rights act also requires municipalities to provide language-related assistance based on specified population metrics. According to the secretary of the state’s website, under the law, an additional 23 municipalities are currently required to provide language-related assistance (in Spanish).

§§ 16-20 — BALLOT FILING WITH THE SECRETARY OF THE STATE

Adjusts the requirements for filing ballots with the secretary of the state for review

Current law requires municipalities to file with the secretary (1) a sample election ballot 10 days before an early voting period and (2) an

absentee ballot after they are printed. Current law allows the secretary to order the reprinting of corrected ballots or absentee ballots.

The bill requires registrars to file all official election and primary ballots with the secretary of the state for her approval at least 10 days before the early voting period begins. It prohibits using any of these ballots unless they have been approved.

The bill also requires this filing by the clerk for absentee ballots before they are printed. Further, the absentee ballots may not be printed unless they have been approved.

As under current law, these provisions do not prohibit her from ordering actions she deems appropriate for election or absentee ballots in case of any ballot errors or omissions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2026

§ 21 — TECHNICAL CHANGE

Makes technical changes to an absentee voting statute

The bill makes technical changes to an absentee voting statute.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 22 — BRIDGEPORT ELECTION MONITOR

Requires the secretary of the state to hire and install an election monitor for Bridgeport and conduct a town-wide bilingual public awareness campaign to educate the public on their rights under the state's election laws

The bill requires the secretary of the state to hire and install an election monitor in Bridgeport as well as develop and conduct a town-wide bilingual public awareness campaign to educate the public on their rights under state election law. (The bill requires the secretary to use funds appropriated under the bill to conduct the campaign, but it does not appropriate any funds.)

Specifically, the secretary must contract with at least one individual to serve as an election monitor in any municipality with a population of at least 140,000, according to the most recent State Register and Manual

(i.e. Bridgeport). The election monitor's purpose is to detect and prevent irregularity and impropriety in how the municipality manages the election administration procedures and conducts the elections. The elections covered under the bill include the 2025 municipal primary and election, the 2026 state primary and general election, and any special election in 2025 and 2026.

The monitor must (1) oversee the covered elections, including absentee ballots, early voting, election day registration, and election and primary day polling place voting; (2) conduct inspections, inquiries, and investigations of any duty or responsibility required by state election law and carried out by a municipal official or his or her appointee; (3) issue periodic reports to the secretary of the state; and (4) immediately report any irregularity or impropriety discovered to the secretary. Toward that end, the bill also requires that the monitor have access to all records, data, and material maintained by or available to the municipal officials or appointees.

The bill requires the secretary of the state to contract with the election monitor until December 31, 2026, unless the secretary terminates the contract for any reason before then. Under the bill, the election monitor must not be considered a state employee, but must be compensated as required by the contract and reimbursed for necessary expenses.

The municipality must provide the election monitor with office space, supplies, equipment, and services necessary to properly carry out his or her duties. Costs related to the monitor's service must be paid from the funds appropriated to the secretary for the position. (The bill does not appropriate funds for this purpose.)

The bill specifies that these provisions do not prohibit the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) from exercising its authority. By law, SEEC, among other things, investigates alleged election law violations, inspects campaign finance records and reports, refers evidence of violations to the chief state's attorney or the attorney general, and levies civil penalties for election violations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 23 — PROHIBITED VOTER INFORMATION DISCLOSURES

Restricts the disclosure of voter information for certain uses and authorizes the secretary of the state to adopt regulations

The secretary of the state and registrars of voters collect and maintain voter registration information for various purposes, including voters' names, addresses, birthdates, and certain identification numbers. The bill limits disclosure of this information to uses for election-related, scholarly, journalistic, political, or governmental purposes. It specifically prohibits disclosure for personal, private, or commercial purposes (such as voter harassment; advertising or marketing; or reproduction via print or audio or visual display, including the internet). (The bill is silent on how to determine the intended use.) The bill also authorizes the secretary to adopt regulations on the use of voter registration information.

Under existing law, unchanged by the bill, driver's license numbers, identity card numbers, and Social Security numbers are always confidential and prohibited from disclosure. Also, voters may submit a signed statement requesting that certain information not be disclosed to protect the safety of the voter or his or her family.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

§ 24 — DECLARATORY JUDGMENTS FOR AGGRIEVED ELECTORS

Authorizes the secretary of the state to initiate declaratory judgment actions on behalf of aggrieved electors if within 90 days of an election or primary

The bill allows the secretary to commence a declaratory judgment action in court in certain circumstances if an elector or electors have been aggrieved under the state's election laws. The action must seek an order to ensure election administration procedures are properly executed, and the electors' rights are adequately protected under the state's election laws. The action may be initiated if one or more electors have made a complaint within 90 days of an election or primary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

Background — Related Bill

sHB 7230, favorably reported by the Government Administration and Elections Committee, requires generally all election-related complaints be brought in the judicial districts of Hartford or Bridgeport.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 14 Nay 5 (03/26/2025)