

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Substitute Bill No. 7242

* H B 0 7 2 4 2 G A E 0 3 2 7 2 5 *

AN ACT STUDYING EFFORTS TO INCREASE VOTER PARTICIPATION AND AUTHORIZING MUNICIPAL PILOT PROGRAMS TO PROMOTE SUCH EFFORTS.

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

1 Section 1. (Effective July 1, 2025) (a) There is established a task force to 2 study (1) efforts to achieve one hundred per cent voter participation in 3 this state by January 1, 2030, (2) means of enhancing civic engagement 4 generally in this state, (3) experiences of jurisdictions that have enacted 5 policies to require citizens to vote as a civic duty, (4) potential 6 implementation options in pursuit of achieving such one hundred per 7 cent voter participation goal, (5) needs of municipal officials, including, 8 but not limited to, registrars of voters and town clerks, in administering 9 elections in which one hundred per cent of voters participate, and (6) 10 budgetary resources that may be required to achieve such one hundred 11 per cent voter participation goal.

- 12 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:
- 13 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 14 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

(3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House ofRepresentatives;

17 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

(5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House ofRepresentatives;

- 20 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate;
- 21 (7) The Secretary of the State, or the Secretary's designee; and
- 22 (8) Two persons appointed by the Governor.

(c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
(2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
of the General Assembly.

(d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
than August 1, 2025. Any vacancy shall be filled by the appointing
authority.

(e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than
September 1, 2025.

(f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to elections
shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

37 (g) Not later than February 1, 2026, the task force shall submit a report 38 on its findings and recommendations, including potential legislation to 39 appropriate funds or provide other resources to municipalities for the 40 purposes of increasing voter participation, to the joint standing 41 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters 42 relating to elections, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a 43 of the general statutes. The task force shall terminate on the date that it 44 submits such report or February 1, 2026, whichever is later.

45 Sec. 2. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2025) Subject to the provisions of title 9 46 of the general statutes and section 7-192a of the general statutes, any 47 municipality may, within existing resources, establish a pilot program 48 to promote the goal of achieving one hundred per cent voter 49 participation in such municipality. Such pilot program may include 50 efforts to enhance civic engagement, including, but not limited to, the 51 development and conduct of a voter outreach and education campaign 52 within such municipality.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following
sections:Section 1July 1, 2025New sectionSec. 2July 1, 2025New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 2, "the achievement of" was changed to "the goal of achieving" for clarity.

GAE Joint Favorable Subst.