



General Assembly

## ***Substitute Bill No. 1163***

*January Session, 2025*



### ***AN ACT CONCERNING QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED TO SERVE AS MODERATORS AT ELECTIONS AND PRIMARIES.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 9-229 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (d) If the person designated as moderator is unable to serve for any  
5 reason, a certified alternate moderator shall serve as moderator. If such  
6 certified alternate moderator is not called upon to serve as moderator,  
7 he shall serve in another capacity as an election official on election or  
8 primary day. If any town or voting district lacks a moderator due to the  
9 death, disability or withdrawal of a certified moderator or alternate  
10 moderator, or due to the disqualification of a moderator for any reason,  
11 including failure to attend an instructional session as required by this  
12 section, the registrars of voters shall appoint a new moderator for such  
13 town or voting district in the manner provided in this section, except  
14 that the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has,  
15 in a court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or  
16 nolo contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,  
17 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. Such  
18 new moderator shall attend an instructional session and a certification

19 session conducted in accordance with the provisions of this section. If  
20 all such sessions have been conducted at the time of appointment of the  
21 new moderator, the new moderator shall receive instruction from the  
22 registrars who appointed the new moderator.

23 Sec. 2. Section 9-169 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
24 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2026*):

25 The legislative body of any town, consolidated town and city or  
26 consolidated town and borough may divide and, from time to time,  
27 redivide such municipality into voting districts. The registrars of voters  
28 of any municipality taking such action shall provide a suitable polling  
29 place in each district but, if the registrars fail to agree as to the location  
30 of any polling place or places, the legislative body shall determine the  
31 location thereof. Polling places to be used in an election shall be  
32 determined at least thirty-one days before such election, and such  
33 polling places shall not be changed within said period of thirty-one days  
34 except that, if the municipal clerk and registrars of voters of a  
35 municipality unanimously find that any such polling place within such  
36 municipality has been rendered unusable within such period, they shall  
37 forthwith designate another polling place to be used in place of the one  
38 so rendered unusable and shall give adequate notice that such polling  
39 place has been so changed. The registrars of voters shall keep separate  
40 lists of the electors residing in each district and shall appoint for each  
41 district a moderator in accordance with the provisions of section 9-229,  
42 as amended by this act, and such other election officials as are required  
43 by law, and shall designate one of the moderators so appointed or any  
44 other elector of such town to be the head moderator for the purpose of  
45 declaring the results of elections in the whole municipality, except that  
46 the registrars shall not appoint as moderator any person who has, in a  
47 court of competent jurisdiction, been convicted of or pled guilty or nolo  
48 contendere to any (1) felony involving fraud, forgery, larceny,  
49 embezzlement or bribery, or (2) criminal offense under this title. The  
50 registrars may also designate a deputy head moderator to assist the  
51 head moderator in the performance of his duties provided the deputy  
52 head moderator and the head moderator shall not be enrolled in the

53 same major party, as defined in subdivision (5) of section 9-372. The  
54 selectmen, town clerk, registrars of voters and all other officers of the  
55 municipality shall perform the duties required of them by law with  
56 respect to elections in each voting district established in accordance with  
57 this section. Voting district lines shall not be drawn by a municipality so  
58 as to conflict with the lines of congressional districts, senate districts or  
59 assembly districts as established by law, except [(1)] (A) as provided in  
60 section 9-169d, and [(2)] (B) that as to municipal elections, any part of a  
61 split voting district containing less than two hundred electors may be  
62 combined with another voting district adjacent thereto from which all  
63 and the same officers are elected at such municipal election. Any change  
64 in the boundaries of voting districts made within ninety days prior to  
65 any election or primary shall not apply with respect to such election or  
66 primary. The provisions of this section shall prevail over any contrary  
67 provision of any charter or special act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	January 1, 2026	9-229(d)
Sec. 2	January 1, 2026	9-169

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*